



# BALTIC SEA REGION UNIVERSITY NETWORK

## STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

### Draft Minutes

**Date:** Thursday, 27 January 2022, 8:00-9:00 CET

**Place:** online/Zoom

| Members                                                                                                     | Substitutes                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Kari Hyppönen, <b>President, Chairman</b>                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <del>Belarusian State University</del><br>Konstantin Kozadaev<br>Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs           | <del>Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno</del><br>Aleh Ramanau<br>First Vice-Rector                                                                                                                                    |
| <del>Estonian University of Life Sciences</del><br>Mait Klaassen<br>Rector                                  | -                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| University of Turku<br>Mika Hannula<br>Vice-Rector for Partnerships and Strategic Engagement                | <del>LAB University of Applied Sciences</del><br>Turo Kilpeläinen<br>President                                                                                                                                             |
| <del>Berlin School of Economics and Law</del><br>Andreas Zaby<br>President                                  | -                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| University of Latvia<br>Jānis Stonis<br>Director of Institutional Research                                  | Riga Technical University<br>Jans Šlihte<br>Deputy Rector for Digital Transformation                                                                                                                                       |
| <del>University of Warsaw</del>                                                                             | Gdansk University of Technology<br>Dariusz Mikielwicz<br>Vice-Rector for Organisation and Development                                                                                                                      |
| St. Petersburg State University of Economics<br>Dmitry Vasilenko<br>Vice-Rector for International Relations | <del>The North-West Institute of Management of the Russian Federation Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration</del><br>Nataliya Muyzinik<br>Head of the Department of International Cooperation |

**Secretariat:**

**1. Opening of the meeting**

The meeting was opened by Chairman, Kari Hyppönen.

**2. Adoption of the agenda**

Agenda circulated to SC on 20 January 2022 was adopted.

**3. Minutes of the previous meeting**

Draft Minutes of the SC meeting held online in Zoom on 17 December 2021 were approved.

**4. Chairman's announcements**

- Chairman attended online DECODE 2nd webinar of the DECODE project “Embedding sustainability in academia: Deans as change makers” on 13 January. Chairman will attend online the ceremonial meeting of the International Advisory Council in honor of the 30th anniversary of the ISEI BSU on 27 January.
- A new issue of BSRUN Bulletin dedicated to the cooperation and partnerships in the Baltic Sea Region was circulated in December 2021 among BSRUN members, AVRIR members and participants of BSRUN events held in 2021.
- A new person will start working at LU Secretariat as of February 2022.
- Membership fee bills will be sent out later together with the announcement of BSRUN planned activities. The University of Latvia and UNECON have already received the bills.

Vice-President Dmitry Vasilenko paid a visit to Belarusian State University and Belarus State Economic University. He told the new rector of BSEU about BSRUN and encouraged them to cooperate actively. There will be a new admin contact at BSEU. BSU is eager to continue cooperation especially in Business, Economics and Management.

## **5. Composition of the Steering Committee**

As UW didn't appoint a representative to SC despite Chairman's encouragement, SC decided that the ordinary member will come from GUT instead of UW as of 2022. According to the item 6.3.5 of BSRUN Rules&Regulations, SC has the right to make changes to the composition of SC between Plenary Meetings in member states when there are changes in membership. Dariusz Mikielwicz suggested that a representative of either the University of Bialystok or the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn could join SC as a substitute. He will work on this issue.

## **6. BSRUN budget of 2021 and 2022**

SC approved the final budget of 2021 and the budget of 2022 (Annex 1).

## **7. BSRUN future events**

- Gundars Bērziņš had submitted his ideas for Cooperation of Business, Economics and Management (BEM) universities and faculties (Annex 2). Since Gundars Bērziņš didn't manage to attend the meeting, this issue will be discussed and a planning group will be established at the next meeting.
- Dmitry Vasilenko reported that online seminar on Embedding SDGs into the Universities' DNA is planned to be organised by QS World Merit (Zoya Zaitseva) on 10 February to share international experience of responsible education institutions (Annex 3).
- Dmitry Vasilenko reported that a hybrid seminar on Campus Environment Development is planned to be held on 30 March in cooperation with IKBFU (Annex 3).
- Dariusz Mikielwicz proposed to discuss the event on Mergers/Federalisation/Integration (23 or 24 May) at the next SC meeting and take the final decision about the format of the event.
- The event in Turku could be organised on 16-17 June. Chairman proposed a new title for the event: Partnerships and Strategic Engagement. Mika Hannula informed that they could present a story of success of UTU Faculty of Technology and responsibilities of the Director for Partnerships and Strategic Engagement and reorganisation of the central administration of UTU.

- Institutional Research and Rankings (Jānis Stonis) is postponed till autumn and will be discussed later.

Chairman informed that the University of Latvia is ready to host the Plenary Meeting on and around 20 October 2022. According to BSRUN Rules&Regulations, if members want to make any changes to the Rules&Regulations, they have to inform SC in writing at least three months before the PM (until 20 July 2022). The proposals concerning the President and the Secretariats are not binding and can also be submitted till the PM.

**8. Date of the next meeting**

SC agreed to hold the next meeting online on 3 March at 10:00 CET.

**9. Any other business**

There were no other topics for discussion.

**10. Closing of the meeting**

Chairman closed the meeting at 9:00 CET.