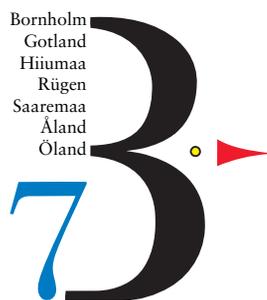


The B7 meets in other Baltic Sea Regions

The B7 organised its fourth Board Meeting this year, 8-9 September, in Gdansk, Poland. The city of Gdansk was chosen to gain a better perspective of the whole Baltic Sea region and to further develop the cooperation with other BSR organisations. On the programme was a visit to the Union of the Baltic Cities (UBC) Secretariat. The B7 met with Mr. Pawel Zaboklick, his colleagues with the UBC Secretariat and Councillor Mr. Maciej Lisicki. The UBC gave the B7 an overview of their current work and their strategies for the future. Both organisations emphasised the importance of the organisations in the BSR working together for greater impact.

The board also met with Deputy Mayor of Gdansk Mr. Marcin Szpak. Mr. Szpak spoke on the regional development of the city of Gdansk in a most positive manor. The most important issues for Gdansk at the moment are to improve its infrastructure, roads and public transportation, the water system and the waste management. The government is also focusing to revitalise the so called “problem areas” in urban Gdansk. These



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are important issues that have been neglected prior so there is a lot to do, says Mr. Szpak.

The board also had time for a guided tour around the beautiful historical old city of Gdansk. The city has been rebuilt to its old state after the war and the neglect of the communist era.

The Gdansk programme was put together with the assistance of Mrs. Barbara Zaleska, the B7's personal contact in Gdansk. Mrs. Zaleska works with the University of Gdansk, wrote her master thesis about the B7-cooperation and is now looking to do a doctoral thesis on the subject. It was most helpful to have a "local" supporting us, thank you Barbara!

Hanna
B7 Secretariat

