

Joint Declaration/Memorandum of Understanding
on Cooperation between
Helsinki-Uusimaa Region (Finland) and
Land Brandenburg (Federal Republic of Germany)

In view of the common history in Europe, especially the challenges of social, digital and energetic transformation, as well as in view of the current geopolitical situation and the aspiration to strengthen interregional cooperation in the Baltic Sea region,

Helsinki-Uusimaa Region

and

Land Brandenburg

express their intention to deepen their common contacts and to intensify the existing cooperation <within their respective responsibilities> bilaterally as well as on the European level. The cooperation will be developed mainly through direct contacts between the public and private cooperation partners and supported by the public administrative authorities.

The cooperation is directed, among others, to the topics of

- Regional development in capital regions; in particular, exchange on the inclusion of all sub-regions in the growth dynamics of metropolitan regions in order to exploit societal innovations, increase development opportunities and create equal living conditions;
- Coordinating possible common positions towards decision makers on the European level, especially when it comes to the Baltic Sea region;
- Baltic Sea cooperation, and in particular, deepening cooperation within the "Baltic Sea States Subregional Co-operation" (BSSSC) network;
- Developing the concepts of place-based innovation ecosystems in both regions, in particular, in cooperation with universities and non-university research institutions focusing, among others, on innovation and start-up support;

- Spatial planning, urban development, transport; in particular, intensification of cooperation within the framework of the Scandria@Alliance and the network "European Metropolitan Regions and Areas" (METREX);
- Collaborating within and implementing European projects, particularly, in the framework of INTERREG, Horizon Europe, etc.

The measures to be taken in regard to the above will be reserved for separate agreements between the corresponding project partners in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region and in the Land Brandenburg.

This declaration is an expression of the political will of both sides to intensify their cooperation. It does not establish any legal obligations or legal claims.

Signed in Potsdam on ... in two copies, each in German, Finnish and Swedish language with all three language versions being equivalent

For Land Brandenburg

For Helsinki-Uusimaa Region

Dr. Dietmar Woidke
Minister President

Tuija Telén
Regional Mayor