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Embassy of Latvia in Sweden



RĪGAS EKONOMIKAS AUGSTSKOLA
STOCKHOLM SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS IN RIGA

Center for Strategy
and Competitiveness – CSC

Invitation to a seminar on

THE BALTIC SEA REGION IN EUROPE -

Regional cooperation for continued success

Thursday January 17, 2008 at the Stockholm School of Economics

The Baltic Sea Region has changed enormously over the past decades, both politically and economically, and is today one of the most competitive areas in the world. Regional cooperation has played a key role in this success. But what will its role be in the future? What forms of cooperation are best suited to handle future challenges? What should be the relation to the European Union?

The Embassy of Latvia in Sweden, the Council of the Baltic Sea States, the Stockholm Institute of Transition Economics (SITE) and Center for Strategy and Competitiveness (CSC) at the Stockholm School of Economics have the pleasure of inviting you to a seminar where these issues will be discussed by leading policy makers, experts and academics. The seminar is part of the Project *Balticness* organized by the Latvian CBSS Presidency 2007/2008.* The seminar is open and attendance is free but registration is required and participation is on a first come first serve basis.

Speakers include: **Māris Riekstiņš**, Foreign Minister of Latvia; **Per Unckel (tbc)**, Governor of Stockholm County; **Peter Egardt**, President, Stockholm Chamber of Commerce; **Žanete Ozoliņa**, Professor, Latvian University; **Hans Brask**, Director, Baltic Development Forum; **Alf Vanags**, Director of BICEPS, SSE Riga; **Andris Strazds**, SSE Riga.

The concluding **panel discussion** is moderated by Dr **Christian Ketels**, Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness, Harvard Business School, and CSC, SSE.

Date: **Thursday, January 17, 9.45-12.00.**

Place: **Stockholm School of Economics**, Sveavägen 65, room **K.A.W.**

Please reply: Latest **January 14** to: **gun.malmquist@hhs.se**, Phone: 08-736 96 72

The seminar will be followed by a buffet lunch in the Ohlin room on the 5th floor of the SSE.

* Project "Balticness", being one of the central activities of the Latvian presidency in the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS)¹ in 2007/2008, is a year long series of public events taking place in all 11 Baltic Sea region capital cities to promote the notion of the Baltic Sea Region, 'Balticness' and the Baltic Sea as the life artery for the people living around it. The project will present a traveling photo exhibition "...where the Baltic Sea and Baltic people meet...", a round-table discussion seminars in the universities on the issues of regional importance and jazz concerts by the acclaimed Latvian saxophone player Denis Pashkevich and his band "Riga groove Electro" together with local jazz musicians. <http://www.am.gov.lv/en/cbss/Balticness/>