

A CALL FOR STORIES:

Nothing about us without us!

Involving the youth in the decision-making, fostering young people's participation in civic and democratic life and supporting the youth empowerment are today high on the UBC agenda. The youth want to be talked with, not to!

The UBC Youthful Cities Commission promotes youth co-operation in the Baltic Sea Region, works towards youth involvement, exchange and participation in the UBC member cities. It was active in the last three EUSBSR Fora co-organizing the seminars and conferences about youth involvement and participation.

The main topic was how to include young people in decision-making. They should have genuine possibilities to affect their lives in the communities and be important partners in policy implementation – but young people themselves should also be active in participating in decision-making and working for a positive political and societal change.

The overall message from the youth participants was that the youth shouldn't be dealt with as something separate but as a natural part of everything that is planned in the cities. The city policy cannot be realized without the youth. There is no US and THEM – only WE!

The next Bulletin will provide a space for sharing best practices on youth involvement and empowerment on the local and regional levels in the BSR and for discussing different approaches to active youth involvement in all ten Baltic Sea countries.

Nothing about us without us

The Editorial Board would like to invite the cities to send their stories on the youth participation with a specific focus on youth representation – projects and solutions to ensure representation of all youth in the cities.

Your stories might describe one or more of the following focus points:

- in what way does your city include youth in the decision making processes – right from kindergarten to adulthood?
- how does your city work towards making the youth feel responsible for the community and the society? how does it recognize the youth needs and expectations?
- what does your city do to use the youth potential and creativity?
- how to support the youth empowerment?
- how to promote entrepreneurship among the young people?

As usual, apart from the main theme, we are looking forward to receiving stories on interesting events and daily news from our member cities.

Please forward this message to your city officials and workers who work with youth issues.

Looking forward to your reply,



Paweł Żaboklicki
UBC Secretary General

GUIDELINES

- Deliver the story by e-mail to: anna.dargiewicz@ubc.net in MS WORD format. Please expect confirmation of reception. Lack of confirmation means that the message is not delivered.
- Each member city may submit two articles - one related to the cover theme and one to the chapter "News from Member Cities". All stories shall be sent in English.
- Each article may have max 400 words, no more than 1 page A4, font Arial 12pt. The editorial board sometimes needs to shorten the stories in order to include more stories into the Bulletin. It is also important to include the author's name and contact details for any follow-up questions related to the story.
- Please make all efforts to include 1–2 good quality photos to illustrate the article (JPG format, min. 300 ppi, one e-mail - one picture, the file should not exceed 3 MB).
- The deadline for stories to the Bulletin is **30 September 2018**. Please respect this timetable as we are unable to publish the stories received after this deadline.

If you have interesting issues to report, please do not hesitate to send them.

The bulletin will be published online.