

## **W1. How to prevent & fight unemployment among youth**

One of the tragic outcomes of the euro crisis is the high youth unemployment rate in Europe in general and in the Baltic Sea Region in special. More than half of the young people in Greece and Spain are looking for work. Many countries in the Baltic Sea Region are affected by high youth unemployment between 20-30%. Europe is facing a “lost generation” which experiences long periods of unemployment or unstable jobs during their first working years, with serious long-term consequences.

The Workshop has given an overview of the current situation in Europe and the Baltic Sea Region and shown some very good practices from UBC member cities. The lively discussion has brought up possible ways out of the crisis.

In detail the following cases were presented:

### **How developing entrepreneurial mindsets in education can reduce youth unemployment**

Mr. Dr. Christian Weinberger

Senior Advisor Entrepreneurship & SME Policy, DG Enterprise and Industry, European Commission

### **Youth and creative economies**

Susanna Veevo

Adele Vaks

Commission on Education

### **Ungdomstornet – Independence from income support**

Stefan Nybom

City of Umeå

### **Horisont – Young people integration**

Ann-Karin Bohl

City of Karlstad

The main finding of the workshop was that youth unemployment can be effectively combated by a cooperation between cities, businesses, social partners and institutions. The role of the city should be the one as an active moderator.