



**KAUNO MIESTO SAVIVALDYBĖS
MERAS**

**KAUNAS CITY MUNICIPALITY
MAYOR**

Mr. Per Bødker Andersen
President of the Union of the Baltic Cities

2017-04-21 No. (33.200)2-1419
To No.

RE: KAUNAS APPLICATION TO HOST THE UBC GENERAL CONFERENCE IN 2019

Dear Mr. Per Bødker Andersen,

I would like to express our sincere interest and commitment to host the XV General Conference of the Union of the Baltic Cities in Kaunas in 2019.

Kaunas has enjoyed the active membership in the Union of the Baltic Cities since 1994. We have undertaken and carried out many activities, projects and works with other members of the UBC, and we are absolutely sure that in this way we have contributed to the improvement and development of the Baltic Sea Region in many various fields. The General Conference in Kaunas would give a perfect chance to promote and show the potential of the Union to the citizens of Kaunas as well as other Lithuanian cities.

I am absolutely sure that the participants of the member cities of the UBC will enjoy our beautiful city. Kaunas can boast of a long and rich history which is reflected in many different ways in the city's life. First mentioned in the written historical sources in 1361, Kaunas always played an important part in the history of the region: it was granted Magdeburg Rights in 1408 and saw both flourishing and turbulent times afterwards, then later in the 20th century it suddenly acquired a new importance on the map of Europe in the interwar period with its status as the provisional capital of the country. The architecture built at that time and inspired by the Modern Movement of the interwar period is the cultural pearl of Kaunas that is on the UNESCO's tentative list for nomination to World Heritage Status.

Now Kaunas is the second-largest city in Lithuania with the population of nearly 300 thousand. It is the city that is reviving now and undergoing many positive changes in all the layers of the city's life – urban infrastructure, social welfare, education and culture – let alone the fact that Kaunas has been recently designated as the European Capital of Culture in 2022!

I do hope that you will favourably consider our proposal to host the UBC General Conference in 2019. And I do assure you that we have the most sincere commitment to organize the Conference on the highest level.

Should you have any queries regarding our application, please contact Mr. Mantas Jurgutis, Kaunas City Council Member (e-mail: mantas.jurgutis@kaunas.lt).

Sincerely Yours,

Mayor of Kaunas

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