## XVII UBC General Conference



17 May 2023

## Invitation to the XVII UBC General Conference, Palanga, Lithuania, 24-26 October 2023 'BALTIC SEA CITIES SUPPORTING UKRAINE'

Dear Mayors and Member City representatives,

We have a great pleasure of inviting you to attend the XVII General Conference of the Union of the Baltic Cities to be held in Palanga, Lithuania, on 24-26 October 2023.

## The theme of the conference will be "Baltic Sea cities supporting Ukraine"

UBC has always been about connecting, of making decisions together, even through struggling times. Despite over 30 years' of experience the UBC has, these past years have tested us as an organization, with first the global pandemic and then Russia's brutal war against Ukraine and its people.

The conference in Palanga will bring us together to discuss how to integrate the Ukrainian and other refugees from war-torn countries. We hope to come up with ideas on how to support Ukrainian cities and their eventual reconstruction. Finally, the role of the UBC in the process of the future EU accession of Ukraine will be debated. Moreover, renewable energy / decarbonisation, youth involvement, digital transformation are inter alia on the conference agenda.

The conference presentations and discussions will hopefully provide us with some new ideas and solutions and inspire the UBC and its member cities to cooperate with a new impetus.

We heartily encourage you to take part in the General Conference. We are convinced that Palanga charming seaside atmosphere will be inspiring for all participants and will contribute to the success of the event.

## **General Assembly on 26 October 2023**

The General Assembly of the UBC will take place on the 26<sup>th</sup> of October 2023. The General Assembly shall, inter alia, elect the Presidium, consisting of the President and four Vice-Presidents, the Executive Board member cities for a two-year period, the Board of Audit members for a two-year period and Secretariat location for a four-year period.

Member Cities wishing to nominate candidates for the posts of President and four Vice-Presidents shall do it in written and signed by the Mayor or other official representative of a Member City. Nominations of cities to the Executive Board should be submitted officially by each country.

All proposals (Presidium, Executive Board, Board of Audit, Secretariat) should be sent to the Union Secretariat in Gdańsk by 15 September 2023.

Dear esteemed Mayors,

We would also like to emphasize the importance of participation of young people in the General Conference, therefore we would very much encourage you to include at least 1-2 young people in your delegation.

Please see the programme of the General Conference attached.

For more information and registration, please visit <a href="http://ubc.palanga.lt">http://ubc.palanga.lt</a>

Welcome to the XVII UBC General Conference in Palanga!

Šarūnas Vaitkus

Mayor of Palanga

Mantas Jurgutis

President of UBC