



BALTĀS ASAMBLĒE
BALTĪJAS ASAMBLĒJA
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 **Benelux**
PARLEMENT

JOINT DECLARATION

**BUREAU OF THE BENELUX PARLIAMENT
AND PRESIDUM OF THE BALTIC ASSEMBLY**

**DECISION ON PRIORITIES OF COOPERATION
FOR 2017 - 2018**

Bureau of the Benelux Parliament and Presidium of the Baltic Assembly,

highlighting the need for further enhancement of the cooperation between the Benelux Parliament and the Baltic Assembly in a determined and pragmatic way for the benefit of citizens of all member states;

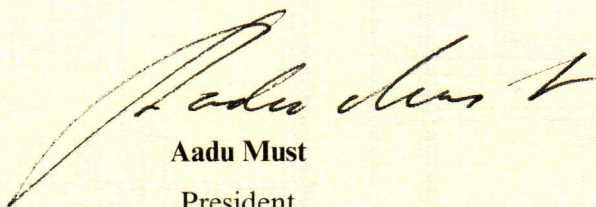
welcoming the continued close and mutually reinforcing cooperation in areas of shared interest in order to enhance deeper European integration, increase coordination of activities on the EU level, develop relations with the EU's Eastern neighbours, facilitate better coordination of policies, and take effective actions in areas of mutual interest;

emphasising that the Benelux Parliament and the Baltic Assembly shall mobilise a broad range of tools and make the most efficient use of resources to address the challenges of the broader European region;

underlining that the leading goal of cooperation of both organisations is to increase growth and welfare, facilitate cross border cooperation in areas of mutual interest, promote an active dialogue with the EU institutions and jointly address challenges for our countries;

have defined the following priorities of cooperation between both organisations for 2017 – 2018 :

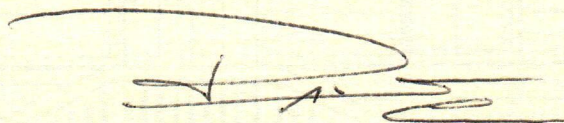
- European energy market (energy supply, security and renewable energy);
- Role of regional cooperation in a new Europe;
- Development of regional networks with the EU Eastern Partnership countries;
- Defence and security (strategic communication, migration, terrorism, strengthening of media);
- Health care and social policy, e-health and implementing the EU's directive on cross-border healthcare;
- Sustainable transport (alternative fuels, logistic flows in transport);
- Circular economy;
- Cross-border work and labour mobility;
- Professional qualifications and traineeships across borders;
- Undertake measures in order to achieve the climate objectives (COP 21).



Aadu Must

President

of the Baltic Assembly



André Postema

President

of the Benelux Parliament