



PRESIDIUM OF THE BALTIC ASSEMBLY AND BUREAU OF THE BENELUX PARLIAMENT

DECISION ON PRIORITIES OF COOPERATION FOR 2019 – 2021

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

emphasising that the Baltic Assembly and the Benelux Parliament shall mobilise a broad range of tools and make the most efficient use of resources to address the challenges of the broader European region and **underlining** a need to continue further expansion of existing partnerships and development of new ones;

acknowledging that Baltic and Benelux countries need to continue developing common and secure political, economic, social, educational and scientific regional community;

emphasizing that Baltic and Benelux countries share values, aspirations and interests and are profoundly committed to elaborating joint solutions for challenges and problems;

recalling the need to strengthen parliamentary and governmental cooperation of the Baltic and Benelux countries to deepen their already strong political and economic relations;

highly appreciating close reciprocity between the Baltic Assembly and the Benelux Parliament in coordination of common positions and actions aimed at strengthening partnerships and boosting competitiveness for growth and welfare;

underlining that close regional cooperation between the Baltic Assembly and the Benelux Parliament ensures strong and united ties among countries and delivers practical results for the people of countries;

stressing that common positions, decisions and projects of the Baltic and Benelux countries send a strong message of regional partnership and cooperation to the rest of the world;

have defined the following priorities of cooperation between both organisations for 2019 - 2021:

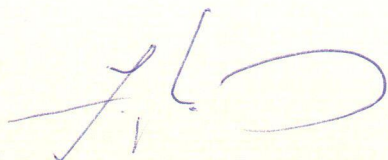
- Circular economy;
- Labour mobility, vocational education and training (automatic recognition of qualifications);
- Mutual recognition of higher education diplomas and cooperation between universities in Baltic States and Benelux countries;
- Security and defence cooperation, cooperation with the EU Eastern Partnership countries;
- European energy market, sustainable mobility – alternative fuels;
- Common transport and infrastructure projects, cross-border rail connections;

- Digital Market – preparing young people for the digital world, the impact of artificial intelligence on the labour market;
- Meeting the climate targets; exchange of best practices - organic agriculture;
- Human trafficking;
- Violence against women.

Jānis Vucāns

President

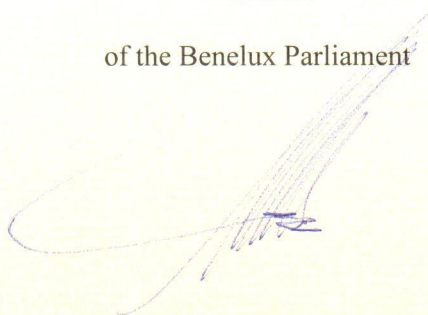
of the Baltic Assembly



Gusty Graas

President

of the Benelux Parliament



Luxembourg, 23 March 2019