



BALTIC SEA TRADE UNION NETWORK

# **This is BASTUN**

- 1) Baltic Sea Trade Union Network**
- 2) 21 trade union confederations from 10 countries**
- 3) Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Russia**
- 4) Around 11 million organized workers**

# Overview

- Coordinated labour markets and liberal labour markets (new and old EU countries)
- Excessive migration in the Baltic Sea Region
- Economic crisis



# Common Challenges

- Negative chain reaction: race to the bottom
- Imbalance between economic freedoms and rights
- Dumping working conditions and wages
- Informal employment
- Demographic imbalances, brain drain, labour shortages
- Weak social dialogue and corporate social responsibility
- Need for transnational forums, comprehensive information and resources

# Path forward

- The Baltic Sea Region should be a model for the rest of Europe in terms of sustainable labour markets and labour policies
- Social dimension: one aspect of competitiveness
- Race to the top: the quality of the labour markets should be levelled upwards
- Cooperation between social partners and political decision makers (labour market regulators)
- Resources for implementation (for example EU Baltic Sea Strategy)
- Accessible and comparable information on Baltic Sea labour markets

# BSLN

# Baltic Sea Labour Network

**Working together for sustainable labour markets**

*INTERREG IVB Project, Baltic Sea Region, 2008–2011*

Joint Conference of European and Social Committee

22-23 October 2009, Helsinki, Finland

Mika Häkkinen, BSLN Communication Manager

## Working together for Sustainable Labour Markets

- Transnational cooperation project of 26 partners from 9 countries in the Baltic Sea Region, 2.7 million Euros
- Projects' focus countries are Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia and Poland
- BSLN looks for solutions to impacts of the economic crisis and mobility of labour in the Baltic Sea labour markets by using active labour market policies and social dialogue
- The *BSLN is a flagship project of the EU Baltic Sea Strategy*

## BSLN Consists of

- ***A network of knowledge*** for experts, researchers and academics to provide a comprehensive picture of the challenges facing the Baltic Sea labour markets
- ***A forum of development*** for decision and policy makers to combine knowledge and ideas in order to come up with strategies, policies and practical solutions
- Resulting of these networks **Pilot projects** and the “***Pan-Baltic Labour Policy Agenda***”



## Project structure: Who we are



# Project structure: What we do



# Contact

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