

Invitation

Dear youth aged 18-25 in the Baltic Sea Region¹,

The Baltic Youth Camp is a three-day festival where youth representatives from the Baltic Sea Region gather to explore friendship, culture and politics through workshops, small seminars and social activities. We welcome you to the first Baltic Youth Camp gathering June 8-11 in Gdansk, Poland! Join us and explore cultural identity and friendships in the Baltic Sea Region. Raise your voice and learn how to influence politics, share your viewpoints on cultural and political topics, meet politicians and stakeholders face to face, join in several interesting workshops on art, technology, sustainability and heritage and enjoy excursions, sports and music. Together we will nourish mutual understanding and solidarity and bring the voice of the youth into the EU Strategy of the Baltic Sea Region.

The camp will offer a forum for debate and discussions where youth can discuss issues of importance for the future of the region and raise awareness around its sustainable development. The 2030 agenda and its sustainable development goals (SDG) will be highlighted with a special focus on SDG 12 – Responsible consumption and production. We will look at the circular and sharing economy as a part of the solution to achieve SDG goal 12.

Throughout the camp there is designated time for the youths to work on their own Baltic Sea Youth Declaration. This declaration will bring forward what the youths want to say and will be presented on the last day of the youth camp for invited politicians and stakeholders. There is also a chance to meet and discuss their ideas with the politicians. Some 30 of the youths from the Youth Camp will stay for the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region which June 12-13. At a plenary session on June 13 the youths, yet again, get to present their ideas to the about 800 participants of the Annual Forum.

If you are between 18-25 and live in the Baltic Sea Region- apply now! Accommodation and food are covered by the Youth Camp – and your travel expenses are reimbursed! So, there is no reason not to apply to join. We have 100 slots and will do a selection to get a gender balanced and heterogenous and motivated group of youngsters of all ages from all over the Baltic Sea Region.

Apply now and read more at <u>https://www.balticyouthcamp.org/</u> Registration deadline is April 15.

On behalf of the Baltic Sea Youth Camp team,

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¹ Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia and Sweden