



Liina Vahtras
Minister of
Economy and Industry
Republic of Estonia

Edvinas Grikšas
Minister of the
Economy and Innovation
Republic of Lithuania

Viktors Valainis
Minister of
Economics
Republic of Latvia

7 October 2026
No. 1/1026-243

Follow-up to Baltic Assembly recommendations on strategic investment cooperation and the OECD research on cross-border FDI and SME linkages

Dear Ministers,

On behalf of the Baltic Assembly, we would like to express our assurances of highest consideration to the Baltic Council of Ministers.

On 10-11 September 2026, the joint meeting of the Education, Science and Culture Committee and the Economics, Energy and Innovation Committee of the Baltic Assembly was held in Vilnius. The discussions between parliamentarians, government representatives and experts revolved around the creative economy and tourism competitiveness, as well as promoting responsible and innovative artificial intelligence in education and research.

During the meeting, we also assessed the **implementation of the recommendations** of the Baltic Assembly and concluded that, in several cases, a lack of progress can be observed. We have consistently emphasised the importance of closer cooperation between Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia in strengthening the competitiveness, resilience and attractiveness of the Baltic region. In this context, particular attention has been given to coordinating strategic economic priorities, attracting smart investment, strengthening the internationalisation of Baltic companies, and facilitating industrial transformation.

The Baltic Assembly has called on the Baltic governments:

- to agree on joint priorities or specialisation of the Baltic States regarding the strategic economic sectors for encouraging smart investments in the region;
- to start elaborating a common strategy to motivate the Baltic companies to invest in foreign markets, considering the necessity to attract foreign human capital for Baltic companies without significantly increasing immigration to the Baltic States;
- to put in place a common platform for sharing experiences between the Baltic States on how to captivate companies and attract private investments for industrial transformation.

The previously received information on the implementation of the recommendations from the Governments suggests that cooperation in these areas remains fragmented and largely network-based, without an established common Baltic platform or a cohesive joint strategy for attracting investment and supporting industrial transformation.

In this regard, the OECD-European Commission project “Strengthening cross-border FDI and SME linkages in the Baltic States” is of particular relevance. The Baltic Assembly considers that this work could provide an important evidence base for identifying opportunities to strengthen linkages between foreign direct investment and Baltic SMEs, defining areas with pan-Baltic growth potential, and developing more coordinated approaches to investment attraction.

The Baltic Assembly would appreciate the assessment of the Ministries of whether the OECD findings provide a sufficient basis for identifying common or complementary strategic sectors with pan-Baltic growth potential, and whether Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia intend to agree on joint priorities or areas of specialisation for attracting smart and sustainable investment to the Baltic region.

Furthermore, we would welcome information on whether, in light of the OECD findings, the Baltic States envisage developing new joint initiatives to strengthen FDI-SME linkages, including measures that would enable local SMEs to benefit more systematically from foreign investment, international value chains, innovation cooperation and access to foreign markets.

The Baltic Assembly believes that the value of the OECD research should ultimately be measured by its translation into practical cooperation. We therefore encourage the Governments to consider how its conclusions can be transformed into concrete joint initiatives, with clearly identified priorities, responsible institutions and, where appropriate, a timetable for implementation.

We would be grateful to receive a joint assessment of these matters, including information on any initiatives already agreed or under consideration within the Baltic Council of Ministers or other relevant formats.

We would highly appreciate receiving clear and detailed answers to the questions and an update on the implementation of the recommendations by **6 November 2026**.

Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Chair of the Economics,
Energy and Innovation
Committee of the
Baltic Assembly

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Marek Reinaas'.

Marek Reinaas
Republic of Estonia

Vice Chair of the Economics,
Energy and Innovation
Committee of the
Baltic Assembly

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Tomas Martinaitis'.

Tomas Martinaitis
Republic of Lithuania

Vice Chair of the Economics,
Energy and Innovation
Committee of the
Baltic Assembly

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Kaspars Briškens'.

Kaspars Briškens
Republic of Latvia

Contact person: Agnija Antanoviča, agnija.antanovica@baltasam.org