

## **Invitation to participate in the Nordic-Baltic Social and Health Care Evacuation Plan Project**

To the,

Ministry of Social Affairs of Estonia,  
Ministry of Health of Latvia,  
Ministry of Welfare of Latvia,  
Ministry of Health of Lithuania and  
Ministry of Social Security and Labour of Lithuania

In light of the increasingly challenging security environment and the deteriorating threat picture in our region, the need for joint planning for social and health care evacuations has gained in both relevance and urgency. The Nordic Public Health Preparedness Group (Svalbard Group) has therefore continued to advance joint regional preparedness cooperation.

On this basis, the Svalbard Group, through the project lead in the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health of Finland and the National Board of Health and Welfare in Sweden, invites the Republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to participate in the Nordic–Baltic Social and Health Care Evacuation Plan Project.

The project is conducted under the mandate of the Nordic Council of Ministers and aims to strengthen preparedness in the social and health care sectors by developing a common Nordic–Baltic framework for the evacuation of patients and social care clients.

We attach great importance to the participation of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, and your ministries expertise will be crucial to the success of this endeavour. Should your ministry wish to confirm its participation in the main phase of the project, we would kindly ask you to:

1. Designate a national contact point for the project; and
2. Nominate one to two representatives to the project group

and communicate this to the co-chairs of the project Yrjö-Pekka Halme (yrjo-pekka.halme@gov.fi) and Victor Magnusson (victor.magnusson@socialstyrelsen.se) by 31.5.2026. Expertise in national social and health care systems, evacuation planning, and Nordic–Baltic preparedness cooperation would be of particular relevance.

We remain at your disposal for any questions you may have and look forward to continuing our close cooperation in strengthening the resilience of our social and health care systems in the Nordic–Baltic region.

On behalf of the,

Ministry of Social Affairs and  
Health in Finland

National Board of Health and  
Welfare in Sweden



Taneli Puumalainen

Head of Department

Ministry of Social Affairs and Health in Finland