



Conference of the Baltic Assembly

HEALTH AS AN INVESTMENT IN BALTIC SECURITY AND FUTURE

12 December, Riga (Latvia)
Saeima of the Republic of Latvia
Jēkaba str. 6/8, Baltic Hall

Thursday, 11 December	
	Arrival and accommodation of the delegations Pullman Riga Old Town <i>Jēkaba str. 24</i>
19:00	Dinner for the members of the Baltic Assembly
Friday, 12 December	
09:00	Registration and morning coffee
09:30	Opening — H.E. Ms Daiga Mieriņa, Speaker of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia, <i>TBC</i> — Mr Jānis Vucāns, President of the Baltic Assembly — Ms Antoņina Nenaševa, Chair of the Health, Welfare and Family Committee of the Baltic Assembly
10:00	Keynote presentation “The impact of healthcare on demographics and national security in the Baltic States” — Dr Malina Müller, Head of Health Economics of the WifOR Institute, <i>TBC</i>
10:30	<i>Moderator: Elina Vroblevska, Lecturer at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Rīga Stradiņš University</i> Panel 1 – Social and economic value of health The panel discussion aims to answer the following questions: 1) How does the burden of disease affect the economy and employment in the Baltic States? 2) How to calculate the public value of healthcare? 3) How to integrate public value into policy decisions? The discussion will also feature health as a security factor from an international perspective (the NATO and EU approach to health security). Panel discussion — Ms Irja Lutsar, Vice Chair of the Health, Welfare and Family Committee of the Baltic Assembly, Estonia, <i>TBC</i> — Mr Saulius Čaplinskas, Vice Chair of the Health, Welfare and Family Committee of the Baltic Assembly, Lithuania, <i>TBC</i> — Ms Karina Palkova, Ombudsperson, Latvia, <i>TBC</i> — Dr Malina Müller, Head of Health Economics at the WifOR, <i>TBC</i> — Mr Karl-Henrik Peterson, Interim CEO of the Estonian Health Insurance Fund, <i>TBC</i> — Mr Oļegs Krasnopjorovs, Chief Economist at the Bank of Latvia, <i>TBC</i>

	Discussion with the audience
11:50	Coffee break and networking
12:20	<i>Moderator: Elīna Vroblevska, lecturer at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Rīga Stradiņš University</i> Panel 2 – Path to socially responsible health policy The panel discussion aims to answer the following questions: 1) How to turn data into policy instruments? 2) How to strengthen Baltic cooperation and data governance? 3) How to integrate public value approaches into budget and pricing decisions? 4) What hinders the introduction of innovative approaches in policy? What approaches work in the Baltic States (e.g. financing mechanisms)? The discussion will also feature a debate on demographics, maternal and youth health as a strategic investment in national security. — Mr Hosams Abu Meri, Minister of Health, Latvia, <i>TBC</i> — Ms Karmen Joller, Minister of Social Affairs, Estonia, <i>TBC</i> — Ms Marija Jakubauskienė, Minister of Health, Lithuania, <i>TBC</i> — Ms Maija Āboliņa, Director of the Department of the State Audit Office, Latvia, <i>TBC</i> — Mr Juris Beikmanis, Chairman of the Board of the Latvian Alliance for Rare Diseases, <i>TBC</i> Discussion with the audience
13:40	Summary and roadmap Summary by the chair of the conference

Additional for the participants of the conference

Expected results of the discussions:

1. Increased awareness among policymakers of the public value approach in health and welfare policy
2. Policy recommendations based on disease burden data in the Baltic States
3. Strengthened cooperation between the Baltic States in the use of data and access to health innovations
4. A roadmap for future steps to make health innovation a driver of economic growth
5. Emphasis on the link between health and security:
 - Physical and psychological health of conscripts as the foundation of national defence
 - Mother and child health as the cornerstone of demographic security
 - Health as a factor in long-term economic stability and national security

Discussion questions for the audience:

- How can the state balance its defence and health budgets, viewing health as part of security?
- Can investments in public health be as strategically important as military spending for long-term sustainability?
- How can health innovations help young people and conscripts maintain their physical and mental resilience?