



# MACRO-REGIONALISATION – LESSONS FROM THE BALTIC SEA REGION

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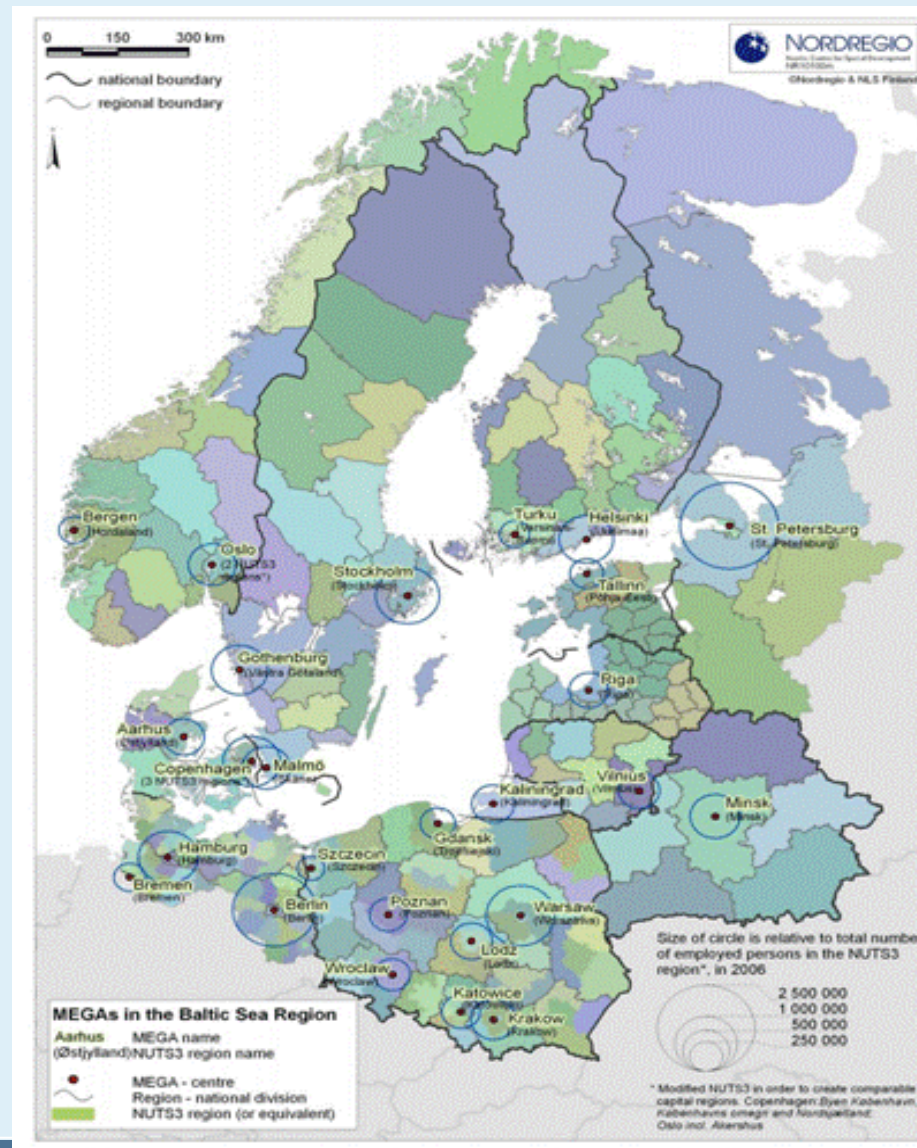
# BALTIC SEA IN THE COLD WAR



# BLACK SEA TODAY



# THE BALTIC SEA REGION TODAY



# THE BALTIC SEA – A PILOT OF MACRO-REGIONALISATION

## ➤ WHAT IS BALTIC SEA MACRO-REGION:

➤ A TERRITORIAL ENTITY "LINKED BY THE BALTIC SEA THAT INCLUDES ENTIRE MEMBER STATES, PARTS OF MEMBER STATES AND PARTS OF THIRD COUNTRIES". "THE BALTIC SEA REGION IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF A MACRO-REGION – AN AREA COVERING A NUMBER OF ADMINISTRATIVE REGIONS BUT WITH SUFFICIENT ISSUES IN COMMON TO JUSTIFY A SINGLE STRATEGIC APPROACH". COM(2009) 248 final, p.5)

## ➤ NO NEW MONEY, NO NEW INSTITUTIONS!!!

## ➤ BALTIC SEA STRATEGY IS AN INTERNAL STRATEGY OF THE EU

➤ EIGHT EU-MEMBER STATES, TWO DIRECT ADJACENT AREAS (RUSSIA AND NORWAY), INDIRECT ADJACENTS (UKRAINE, BELORUSSIA, ARCTIC REGIONS)

## ➤ CHALLENGE AND AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE BALTIC SEA IN SETTING THE MODEL FOR MACRO-REGIONALISATION

➤ FOLLOWED BY DANUBE STRATEGY, OTHERS TO FOLLOW?

# WHY MACRO-REGIONS?

- EU ENLARGEMENT: GEOGRAPHICAL HOMOGENITY LOST,
  - SUPPORTS MACRO-REGIONALISATION
- POLITICAL IMPASSE IN INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS
  - LONG PROCESS FOR LISBON TREATY
  - SUBGROUP COOPERATION AS A REACTION
  - INTER-GOVERNMENTALISM IN INCREASE
- NEED FOR MORE FLEXIBILITY
  - DIFFERENTIATED INTEGRATION EMERGING AS A MODEL
- *TERRITORIAL DIFFERENTIATION A NEW ELEMENT*
  - *THE BALTIC SEA REGION AS A PILOT*

# "POLITICAL SPACE" NEEDED

- RECOGNITION AND ACCEPTANCE OF POLITICS AND POLITICAL COMMITMENT A NECESSITY
  - SETTING PRIORITIES
  - SHAPING AGENDA
    - *NOT YET ADEQUATELY ESTABLISHED IN THE BALTIC SEA*
    - *CHALLENGE FOR REGIONS!!*
- GENERATE A POLITICAL SPACE OF INSTITUTIONS, FORUMS, POLICY INSTRUMENTS AND NETWORKS OF PRIVATE AND PUBLIC ACTORS
  - REFORM AND EMPOWER EXISTING INSTITUTIONS
  - *ENVIRONMENT THE MAIN FOCUS IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION*
  - *MORE FOCUS NEEDED IN ECONOMY, SECURITY, MARITIME POLICY*
- ENHANCE AND INVOLVE TRANSNATIONAL POLITICAL FORCES FOR LEGITIMACY
  - ESTABLISH AND OBSERVE EFFECTIVE RULES OF ACCOUNTABILITY

# DELIVERY CHAIN - THE KEY CHALLENGE

## ➤ THE DELIVERY CHAIN:

*POLITICAL COMMITMENT - POLITICAL LEADERSHIP - POLITICAL OWNERSHIP*

## ➤ POLITICAL COMMITMENT AS A PRECONDITION

➤ *DECISIONS OF POLITICAL LEADERS TO USE THEIR POWER, INFLUENCE AND PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT TO ENSURE VISIBILITY, LEADERSHIP, RESOURCES AND POLITICAL SUPPORT*

➤ REQUIRES POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

## ➤ STAKEHOLDERS ACTIVELY ENGAGED INTO THE GOVERNANCE

➤ **REGIONS IN KEY POSITION!**

➤ **PARADIPLOMACY OF REGIONS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT**

➤ PARADIPLOMACY: INSTRUMENT OF SUB-STATE ACTORS TO PARTICIPATE AND INFLUENCE INDEPENDENTLY OF STATES IN INTERNATIONAL ARENA TO PURSUIT THEIR SPECIFIC INTERESTS

## ➤ EXTERNAL DIMENSION OF REGIONALISATION

➤ INCORPORATING ADJACENT NON-EU REGIONS, SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE GLOBALLY

# CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE

- SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE
  - THE REGION MUST SEE THE VALUE TO BE ABLE TO SPEAK OUT INTERESTS AND ENSURE THAT THE VOICE IS HEARD IN BRUSSELS, IN OTHER MEGA-REGIONS, IN ADJACENT AREAS AND IN GLOBAL RESTRUCTURING: "G-STATION" DEMANDS COMMON VOICE
  - NEEDS INSTITUTIONALISATION
  - GIVE NEW LIFE FOR EXISTING INSTITUTIONS
- IDENTITY
  - DO MACRO-REGIONS NEED COMMON IDENTITY?
- HOW TO INCORPORATE ADJACENT REGIONS?
- MUST SHOW ADDED VALUE TO THE REGION AND TO THE UNION
- THE NEXT INEVITABLE (?) STEP: FROM MACRO-REGIONS TO MEGA-REGIONS
  - "PLACES WITH LARGE MARKETS, SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC CAPACITY, SUBSTANTIAL INNOVATION AND HIGHLY SKILLED TALENT AS WELL AS LARGE OVERALL POPULATIONS" (RICHARD FLORIDA)