

BALEX wishes Happy Holidays!

The holidays are getting closer, and we at BALEX want to thank you all for the fruitful collaboration this year.

This autumn, the main event of BALEX was a seminar with the topic “Future of Baltic Sea Region Cooperation – Focus on the Council of the Baltic Sea States”. The event was organised in Turku on November 23.

Otherwise, BALEX has been busy with developing new projects and finalising the ongoing projects and publications. At the moment, we are working with a publication on shipwrecks, a paper on sea-based measures in the Baltic Sea and finalising the BaltReg project.

New people have joined the BALEX team, as new Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Turku, **Anne Kumpula**, became the other co-chair and Assistant Professor **Mika Viljanen** a member of the Steering Group. We also welcome Finland’s new Ambassador for Baltic Sea Issues, **Helena Tuuri**, as the new member of the Advisory Board.

In this newsletter, you will find more information about BALEX activities. Information about BALEX can also be found on Twitter, www.twitter.fi/BALEXStudies, and on our website www.balex.fi.

ENVISIONING THE FUTURE OF BALTIC SEA REGION COOPERATION



On November 23, BALEX organised a seminar “Future of the Baltic Sea Region Cooperation – focus on the Council of the Baltic Sea States” in cooperation with [EUSBSR HA Neighbours](#). The seminar gathered experts from around the region and brought up the topics of multi-level governance, regional identity, opportunities and challenges of cooperation in the region, as well vision for the Baltic Sea Region beyond 2020. The discussion evolved around one of the regional actors, the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS) and CBSS Vision report issued in May 2018 by a team of independent experts from across the region known as CBSS Vision Group.

The main outcomes of the seminar can be found on our [website](#). Furthermore, you can watch a [video compilation](#) and [photos](#) from the seminar.

More information about the event programme can be found here:

<http://tinyurl.com/BSRCooperationCBSS>

NEW MEMBERS TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE AND ADVISORY BOARD

New people have joined the BALEX team, as the prior dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Turku, **Jussi Tapani**, started as judge at the Supreme Court of Finland. BALEX welcomed the new Dean, **Anne Kumpula**, as the new co-chair of the Steering Group. At the same time, Assistant Professor **Mika Viljanen** joined the Steering Group as a new member.

Also BALEX Advisory Board has welcomed a new member, as **Helena Tuuri** succeeds **Erja Tikka** as Finland's Ambassador for Baltic Sea Issues. All new members are warmly welcome to the BALEX family!

BALEX wants to thank both Jussi and Erja for their valuable contribution to our work!

RESEARCH PROJECTS AND UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS

The BaltReg project came to a close in the fall of 2018. The project was very successful and was completed more or less as planned, hence contributing to significant new knowledge about how the Baltic Sea is regulated and governed in different substantive areas and on the inter-relationship between the regulatory layers. All in all the project resulted in two textbooks on the law and the Baltic Sea (one [in Finnish](#) and an updated English version to be out soon at LIT Verlag, authored by Timo Koivurova, Henrik Ringbom and Pirjo Kleemola-Juntunen) and two edited book volumes: [Regulatory Gaps in Baltic Sea Governance](#), Springer 2018, edited by Henrik Ringbom, and a special issue of Marine Policy, entitled [Regulating the Baltic Sea: A Case Study in Multi-Level Environmental Governance](#), 2018, edited by Henrik Ringbom and Marko Joas.

A publication on shipwrecks, based on last year's BALEX seminar on the [legal framework of environmentally hazardous wrecks](#), is under way and will be published in collaboration with Finnish Environment Institute Syke.

Another academic paper on sea-based measures in the Baltic Sea is also in the making. The paper is based on [the assessment](#), led by the Ministry of the Environment,

of the contribution of the Baltic Sea's internal nutrient reserves on eutrophication and the legal, political and institutional aspects of potential mitigation measures.

Next spring, BALEX will concentrate on the topic 'Climate change and the Baltic Sea region'. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have ideas of cooperation under this theme!

NEW IDEAS FOR COLLABORATION PROJECTS ARE WELCOMED

BALEX's main idea is to become a hub to connect the researchers of and the experts in Baltic area legal matters and to connect this expertise with the concrete needs of the Baltic Sea region; its countries, regions and cities, students, officials, NGO's and other players. BALEX is constantly looking for new research projects and is also willing to offer its legal expertise for assignments related to the Baltic Sea region and to participate with a legal perspective in on-going research projects. The expertise of BALEX and its actors can also be utilised as background information in news, external topical events and smaller research projects. BALEX warmly welcomes new associates, scientific partners and other partners in cooperation. Feel free to contact us with any ideas or suggestions!

With all inquiries related to BALEX and suggestions for collaboration, please contact our personnel!



Saara Ilvessalo

LL.M., BALEX Coordinator

+358 400 809 822

saara.ilvessalo@centrumbalticum.org

BALEX wishes all partners and collaborators

Happy Holidays!

