**Working group 3**

**Bringing out the voice of youth at the NGO forum**

**Make your voice heard in the decision-making processes of the Baltic Sea region! Take part in the youth working group at XII BS NGO Forum in Turku, Finland.**

The aim of the working group is to clarify youth’s role and expectations in the Baltic Sea environment, to activate a dialogue between generations and to prepare a message for the decision-makers. The message will be presented in the end of the event. Working language during the whole process will be English.

**The activity of the working group is divided into two parts:**

1. **A discussion in social media during the month of May about at least the following subjects:**
   * The equality between countries
   * Healthy environment
   * Education
   * Skilled migration and brain drain
   * The realisation of multiculturalism
   * The future of non-governmental organisations

In addition to these subjects, the participants may bring up other topics that are important to them.

Who do we expect to participate in the discussion? Anyone under the age of 25 may participate in the discussion. We wish that there were one or two participants between the ages of 18 and 25 from each member state, who commit to participate in the discussion for the whole month of May (act as ”co-admins” with Finnish admins), and who could also take part in the delegation of their country in Turku.

1. **Working in Turku:**

In Turku we expect participants between the ages of 18 and 25, who are active members of their communities and who care about the shared region of the Baltic Sea. A maximum of 3 young adults from each country’s delegation can participate in the group work. If there are more than 3 people from one country interested in participating, you may ask for possible extra places from the contact person of the working group. Participating in discussions in social medial during May is not obligatory.

The most important task of the working group is to summarize the discussion started in social media into a message aimed at the decision-makers. The participants of the working group may also take part in the work of other groups.

**Registration:** Please follow the general registration instructions on your national focal point’s website. Participants of the youth working group will have an especially unique experience at the BS NGO Forum. The working methods of the group are inclusive and diverse. The group’s working hours are on Monday 2nd of June from 13:00 to 15:30 and on Tuesday 3rd of June from 11:00 to 13:00. The participants may register for other activities of the forum outside of the group’s working hours.

There will also be two additional youth events in Turku open to all forum participants.

Contact person: Merike Kesler (merike.kesler@opinkirjo.fi)