



Länsstyrelsen  
Västerbotten



Swedish  
Chairmanship  
2017-2019



## Minutes Joint Working Group of Youth

Stockholm

2018-06-19

### Participants

Lotta Jarvenius Rössner	Swedish agency for youth and civil society
Hanne Sofie Roaldsen	Troms County Authority
Mikael Bergström	County Administrative Board of Västerbotten
Susanna Lantz	Länsstyrelsen Västerbotten
Ivan Zhernakov	Government of Arkhangelsk region
Minna Mustonen	Regional Council of Kainuu
Trine Grytøyr	Nordland fylkeskommune
Tiina Moisala	Regional Council of North Karelia
Tim Andersson	Barents Regional Youth Council (BRYC)
Tomas Hallberg	International Barents Secretariat
Roman Gokkoev	International Barents Secretariat
Eva Ekmevag	Swedish Ministry of Foreign affairs
Anna Enemark	Council of Baltic Sea States (CBSS)

### Could not participate

Seija Astala	Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture
Tommy André Knutsen	Norwegian Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion
Nina Merete Austad	Finnmark Fylkeskommune
Grigoriy Kovalev	Government of Arkhangelsk region
Elizaveta Vassilieva	Norwegian Barents Secretariat
Tatiana Egorova	Indigenous peoples

**Chair:** Lotta Jarvenius Rössner

### Start of the meeting

Anna Enemark welcomed us to CBSS office.

### Presentation of participants

All participants were introduced.

### Outcomes from the 25 year anniversary in Luleå

The conference in Luleå was one of the main activities of the 2-year Swedish presidency. The national chair was pleased to see not only grown-ups discussing youth issues but also youngsters.

It was stressed by the national chair to not only have a conference but also find what the next steps are. The JWG will have a key role realizing these outcomes

and the next steps to produce an end-product with recommendations. The recommendations as described in the report from the Luleå conference are due in the spring of 2019.

Last week, the national chair and the chair of the working groups had a meeting in which it was proposed that the JWGY would take contact with all other working groups and discuss youth issues. They are waiting for you to get in contact and find synergies.

Decision: Mikael and Susanna will contact each of the working group chairs and find out when their next meeting is. Afterwards, each working group will be distributed among the working group members. The one geographically closest to the next other WG meeting will receive the task to attend the meeting and inform about the outcomes of the Luleå conference. On-line alternatives could be an option if that enhances the reachout to meet with all the WGs.

Susanna and Mikael will prepare a document to use while in contact with the groups. The document will be based on the report from the Luleå conference and focus on practical issues where the interests of both the JWGY and the other working groups coincide.

#### **Mandate, Discussion based on proposal from the chair.**

Background information: The first draft was written before we had the report from the Luleå conference. The report from the Luleå conference has now been distributed to all members of the working group.

The chair has distributed an original proposal, and then received comments from the working group members.

There have not been any comments on the actual activities, but a suggestion is that possible finance opportunities should be added to the activities proposed.

As suggested by the International Barents secretariat a reference to the Luleå conference should be added under the first point.

Point 3. It should be clarified that the meetings of the working group on youth are preferably held in the chair country of BEAC. However, in case back-to-back events will bring synergies to place the meetings also outside of the chair country, this could also be an alternative.

Point 4, decision-making.

No other group has a requirement on the number of the working group members required to make decisions. The chair's proposal is to delete everything except the first sentence, i.e. "All decisions shall be made by consensus and be included in the minutes of the meeting."

Point 9.

Proposal to add a sentence regarding communication: When we are communicating regarding youth issues in social media we should use #barentsyouth.

Decision: With these proposed changes we will send out a new version and make the final changes. Afterwards the mandate will be presented for approval by the CSO and the regional committee.

**BRYC: presentation of plan for 2018-2019. (Tim Andersson)**

Presentation of the action plan for 2018. BRYC is working with three main objectives: the engage, spread and stabilize.

BRYC will focus on our own projects in 2018, and participate to other events when possible.

There are three events planned for the autumn of 2018.

The BRYC annual event

9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> of November in Kirkenes with a visit and activity at Murmansk business week, which starts on the 14<sup>th</sup>. The annual event is expected to attract approx. 100 people.

The theme is: Barents culture days. External funding is required.

Career development

Purpose: to help students and young graduate students to launch a career after their finished education. Possible activities include workshop, meetings with professionals and lectures on the labor market in Barents

Barents gaming event

Gaming and gaming culture is a fast-growing trend. The Barents region has a great potential in both technology and know-how. BRYC plans to organize a hackathon or a gaming event that makes Barents visible to the outside, as well as attracting other types of youth. External funding required.

Other issues

- Updated website to use a new platform.

**Good example: Youth perspective in the Council of Nordic States. (Lotta Rössner)**

In the spirit of reaching out to other working groups Lotta shared a good example from the Nordic council of ministers. They have produced a brochure with inspiration on how to work with children and youth issues, especially for those not used to this type of work.

The brochure is called: Are you wearing the right glasses? – a youth perspective from the Nordic council of Ministers.

Link to the brochure (in multiple languages):

<http://norden.diva-portal.org/smash/record.jsf?pid=diva2%3A933516&dswid=-6530>

Lotta also briefly presented one of the current chairmanship projects within the Nordic council of ministers, Nabo, run by the Swedish agency for youth and civil society, which is a three-year project focusing on social inclusion for young people in the different Nordic countries. Also, young people from the Nordic Barents region will be participating in focus groups within this project.

### **Youth perspective in the Council of Baltic Sea States (Anna Enemark)**

There is a political backing and interest for youth work and youth policy cooperation in the Baltic sea region. Several years ago, there was a CBSS youth secretariat in Kiel in Germany, and also a working group on youth in the Baltic sea region. Both the secretariat and the working group ut it has been closed since a few years.

CBSS is Looking for ways to develop the youth work, especially in cooperation with BRYC. Examples of cooperation may be Youth exchange, festival, camps. There are many parallel issues here which both can benefit from, and CBSS could also be a channel to spread information about BRYC upcoming open activities if there is interest for this. At the very least some information exchanges and an ambition to invite each other to events that could be relevant. Joining forces in part could be of benefit and outreach and increase visibility in both regional cooperation foras.

### **Climate change awareness project – Vera Meshko**

EuropeAid within the EU had a call open om “Raising awareness of climate change among young people of Northern Dimension regions. The Swedish Karelian Business and information Center in Petrozavodskis taking the lead for developing this project to offer climate change trainings for young people in Russia. Currently they have submitted a concept note for a project in June. In September there will be an invitation to submit a full proposal in case this idea is selected, and awarded projects can be approved by the end of the year. Vera will keep relevant actors informed, especially the Russian representatives from the different regions of the development of the project and whether it will get funding.

### **CSO meeting and the communication strategy (Eva Ekmeahag, Roman Gokkoev)**

The CSO had their 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting in Skellefteå, Västerbotten. The CSO meetings always has a theme and in Skellefteå it was sustainability. The group visited

Skellefteå Kraft, and got a guided tour of the sustainable wooden city of Skellefteå.

#### The communication strategy

The idea is to make the cooperation known to the outside world. To increase visibility and reach out to media and people living in and outside the regions using key target audiences, such as youth.

The CSO has suggested a few objectives, and how to reach out and hope this will be helpful to all the working groups.

As of June 15<sup>th</sup> the communication strategy is adopted. All working groups have received the document but it is also available on the Barents cooperation website.

#### • **Next meeting**

There is a proposal to organize a video meeting and update on the progress in the working group in September. Susanna will send out a doodle with suggested dates.

8 nov 2018 proposal of a meeting back to back with the BRYC annual event (9-10/11 nov). Kirkenes, Norway.

**End of meeting.**