

***Russian Chairmanship of  
the Barents Euro-Arctic  
Council  
2015-2017***

*The Russian Chairmanship of the BEAC aims at effective continuity of the Council's activities and further enhancement of multilateral cooperation for the benefit of the Barents region.*

*Our main objective is to promote sustainable social and economic development of the North, establish modern infrastructure, enhance the region's competitiveness and investment attractiveness while making a rational use of its scientific, innovative and resource capabilities, complying with environmental standards and taking into consideration the interests of indigenous peoples.*



**Motto**

***‘Working for Innovative, Smart  
and Sustainable Barents Region’***



***Guiding principles***

***‘Trust, Transparency, Tradition’***

*The key topics of the Russian  
Chairmanship of the Barents  
Euro-Arctic Council in 2015-2017*

- Transport and logistics*
- Environment and climate*
- Culture and tourism*

## *Transport and logistics cooperation*

- *Development of effective, safe and sustainable cross-border transport and logistics networks. All-regional approach to planning and implementation of transport initiatives*
- *Adoption of the Joint Barents Transport Plan which implies establishment of 12 cross-border corridors covering 3 means of transport: motor, railway and sea transport*
- *Establishment of the East-West air connection in the European North. Making use of commercial advantages of the Northern Sea Route*

*Key event: Meeting of Ministers of Transport of the BEAC member states in Arkhangelsk and Meeting of Steering Committee of the Barents Euro-Arctic Transport Area (BEATA) (Arkhangelsk, June 2016)*

# *Environment and climate cooperation*

- *Further elimination of environmental ‘hot spots’ in the Barents Euro-Arctic region.*
- *Cooperation in water resources conservation, clean production and ecologically sustainable consumption, along with ecological education and dissemination of best environmental practices.*
- *Implementation of phase II of the Barents Protected Area Network project (BPAN)*
- *Further implementation of the BEAC Climate Change Action Plan adopted at the meeting of Ministers of Environment of the BEAC member states (Inari, Finland, 4-5 December 2013)*

*Key event: Meeting of Ministers of Environment of the BEAC member states in Sortavala, Karelia (24-25 November 2015)*

# *Culture and tourism cooperation*

- *Enhancement of cultural and creative industries as a tool for dynamic social and economic development of the Barents Euro-Arctic region*
- *Promotion of cultural diversity, exchanges and multicultural dialogue with a view to increase communication between people. Preserving of cultural and ethno cultural heritage in the Barents region*
  - *Strengthening of Barents identity, promotion of ‘the Barents brand’.*
- *Development of a format and nominating procedures for the Barents scholarship in culture*
- *Establishment of favorable conditions for ecologically, socially and culturally sustainable tourism in the Barents region*
- *Intensifying of cooperation in tourism industries, extending of the Barents tourism potential to the highest international standards*

*Key event: Meeting of Ministers of Culture of the BEAC member states in Moscow*  
*(Summer 2016)*



## *Other spheres of cooperation*

*- economic and business cooperation (including development of Barents Forest Sector Network)*

*- energy*

*- healthcare*

*- science and education*

*- youth policy*

*- emergency and rescue*

*- customs services*

*- increasing regional cooperation between indigenous peoples, ensuring their rights and interests, providing them with proper living and working conditions, including conditions for traditional activities*

# *Other key events*

- *International Conference on Preserving Life and Health at the Workplace  
(Petrozavodsk, I Half 2016)*
- *International Exercise “Barents Rescue 2017”  
(Petrozavodsk, September 2017)*
- *Meeting of the Heads of Customs Services of the BEAC member states  
(Moscow, September 2017)*
- *Forest Forum “Forest adaptation in the Barents Region to climate changes.  
Climate policies of the BEAC member states  
in the forest sector”  
(Arkhangelsk, III-IV Quarter 2017)*

*The Russian Chairmanship intends to further increase synergy between the BEAC and other regional councils in the North (Arctic Council, Council of the Baltic Sea States, Nordic Council of Ministers), as well as Northern Dimension partnerships, at the same time preserving these formats' identity and independence*

# *Thank you for attention!*

*Chair of the Committee of Senior Officials of the BEAC:*

*Sergey Petrovich*

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation*

*Tel.: +7 499 244 26 97*

*E-mail: [spetrovich@mid.ru](mailto:spetrovich@mid.ru)*

*[www.beac-russia.com](http://www.beac-russia.com)*

*Facebook: [Russia in BEAC](#)*

*Twitter: [@Russia\\_in\\_BEAC](#)*