

BONUS BALTSACE Summer School report

The BONUS BALTSACE summer school took place from 29 August to 2 September 2016 in Klaipeda, Lithuania with additional financial support from VASAB (Vision and Strategies around the Baltic Sea). BONUS BALTSACE researchers, invited MSP experts as well as 15 PhD students and early-career professionals gathered for jointly exploring the topic of transboundary Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) in the Baltic Sea.

The researchers and invited MSP experts gave a state-of-the-art update on the academic discourse and provided empirical insights on transboundary MSP. In addition, science-based tools and approaches and their potential application to address trans-boundary integration in MSP were presented and reflected upon.

The students, coming from diverse academic and professional backgrounds as well as from different countries of the BSR and beyond, presented their own experience in transboundary MSP or related fields of interest. Furthermore, they were tasked to reflect upon transboundary challenges in the BSR in teams and defend their findings in front of the whole group.

After the five days the students took home not only new insights on transboundary MSP, but also expanded, international networks of professionals and academics engaged in MSP research and practice. The BONUS BALTSACE researchers benefited from the interesting perspectives and reflections provided by the students, which will serve as inspiration for their further work on the project's case studies and tools.

