Drones are already used today in multiple areas, such as agriculture, construction, healthcare and in delivery services. With great advances on the technical side, the EU, its citizens, and its law-makers, now stand at an opportune moment to shape how the technology will be used in the future.

Drones represent an opportunity to contribute to sustainable and integrated mobility across regions by providing less pollution, less congestion and safer mobility solutions. They can be also a means to better connect urban, sub-urban and rural areas. The regions have a role to play in the development of drones, in light of their competences for regional planning in urban and rural areas.

The EU needs to ensure the safe and efficient development of a drone ecosystem. So reads the introductory remarks in the European Communication for “A Drone Strategy 2.0 for a Smart and Sustainable Unmanned Aircraft Eco-System in Europe”, tabled by the European Commission in late 2022. It sets out a vision for the further development of the European drone market.

This Transport Working Group meeting will explore:

- How that ecosystem will develop and what it means for regional development. What are the opportunities and challenges, both technologically, socially, and regulatory, facing regions in building up such an ecosystem?
- How can regions work proactively to enable innovation, ensure safety, and attract stakeholders?
- What are existing regional initiatives for drones in the Baltic Sea Region (benefits, challenges)?

Target audience: Regional politicians and civil servants from the Baltic Sea Region.
# AGENDA

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| 09.00-09.05 | **Introductory remarks**  
Mr Jan Owe-Larsson (Region Östergötland), Vice-Chair of the BSC Transport Working Group |
| 09.05-09.35 | **The EU Drone Strategy 2.0 and beyond – initiatives from the EU Commission**  
Mr Jukka Savo, Policy Officer, Aviation Safety Unit, European Commission (DG MOVE)  
Discussion |
| 09.35-09.50 | **The Role of Local Authorities in the Emerging Urban Air Mobility Ecosystem**  
Mr Vassilis Agouridas, Coordinator of the UIC2 – The urban air mobility initiative for cities and regions by CIVITAS  
Discussion |
| 09.50-10.05 | **From technology to planning - a proactive approach implementing drones from the perspective of cities and regions - Example from Region Örebro**  
Ms Karin Wallin, Region Örebro County  
Discussion |
| 10.05-10:20 | **Preparing cities for sustainable Urban Air Mobility**  
Ms Renske Martijnse- Hartikka, CITYAM Finland  
Discussion |
| 10.20-10.50 | **BSC Members internal discussion**  
- Update from the Member Regions on recent transport developments (plans, strategies, infrastructure projects and investments, regulatory schemes etc.)  
- Update from Ms Karin Jacobs, CPMR Director for Transport and Energy at the CPMR General Secretariat  
- Update about the Joint Scandria Alliance and BSC Transport Working Group meeting hosted by Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council, 6-7 November, Helsinki. More information [here](#) |
| 10.50-11.00 | **Concluding remarks**  
Mr Pekka Komu (Päijät-Häme), Vice-Chair of the BSC Transport Working Group |