



BASRAN  
Baltic Sea Action Network

## Let BASRAN inspire you

Nine countries have a coastline onto the Baltic Sea. Most of their inland water bodies belong to the catchment area of the Baltic Sea, which means the waters end up in the Baltic Sea from very far as well.

Rotary is active in all these countries and thanks to our combined activities many problem areas have been identified. Many rectification projects are already underway with each country contributing and a number of these projects are already being monitored by BASRAN. We must work together to save the Baltic Sea.

Main goals of BASRAN:

1. To build Rotarian and public awareness about the condition and the importance of the Baltic Sea.
2. To initiate real projects which show that the Baltic Sea can be saved.
3. To learn from each other, from scientific experts, national institutions and collaborating partners in all these countries.
4. To coordinate and accelerate the work by Action Committees.
5. To grow Network membership to improve Rotary's reach and visibility.

*Mark Krawczynski - Chair of BASRAN, Baltic Sea Regional Action Network (from October 2021)*

## BASRAN Board 2021-2022

Mark Krawczynski, Chair	D2231, Warszawa City RC, Poland
Ilkka Torstila, secretary	D1420, Ekenäs RC, Finland
Hannele Kauranne, secretary	D1420, Helsinki Finlandia Hall RC, Finland
Rasmus Felby	D1470, Hasle-Rønne RC (Bornholm), Denmark
Ludwig Kalthoff	D1900, RC passport Eco Planet, ESRAG Europe
Tomasz Michalik	D2231, Białystok RC, Poland
Ulf Rosen	D1420, Tallinn RC, Estonia
Martin Weigel	D1940, RC Greifswald, Germany
Gun-Marie "Guje" Östedt-Axelsson	D2370, Stockholm-Skanstull RC, Sweden
Mingaile Subaciute	D1462, Lituanica International RC, Lithuania
Michael Sobczak	D2231, Lodz RC, Poland
Paulina Konopka	D2231, RAC Warsaw City, Poland



Mark



Ilkka



Guje



Tomasz



Ulf



Hannele



The focus of BASRAN is the Baltic Sea and its catchment area. We are not trying to solve all environmental problems of our planet. But we certainly try to cover as many problems affecting the Baltic Sea as possible, problems that are within our reach as Rotarians, together with collaborating organizations and scientific institutions.

Map of Europe showing the year of the first recorded plague in each country. The map is color-coded by region: Scandinavia (purple), Central/Eastern Europe (red), Western Europe (orange), and Southern/Eastern Europe (yellow). Years range from 1223 in Belarus to 1600 in Morocco.

Country	Year
Finland	1385
Sweden	2275
Norway	2250
Denmark	1440
Netherlands	1560
Belarus	1223
Poland	2231
Belgium	1363
France	1348
Germany	1349
Italy	1347
Spain	1348
Portugal	1348
Greece	1347
Turkey	1347
Russia	1392
Ukraine	1399
Latvia	1410
Estonia	1420
Lithuania	1462
Albania	1479
Yugoslavia	1499
Croatia	1520
Slovenia	1520
Czech Republic	1547
Slovakia	1547
Hungary	1549
Romania	1565
Bulgaria	1576
Greece	1576
Turkey	1576
Libya	1589
Morocco	1600

- The Network was established by two Finnish Rotary Districts, 1410 and 1420 in 2019
- At present we cover all nine Baltic Sea coastal countries with about 450 followers
- No membership fees are needed to participate in the Network activities
- All you need is to send your contact information (e-mail address) to [hannele.kauranne@gmail.com](mailto:hannele.kauranne@gmail.com) and you'll be invited to the Webinars/Seminars and receive Newsletters (twice yearly) and join our Action Committees
- BASRAN is a coordinating body that helps Rotary Clubs and Districts to focus their activities to improve the impact on the state of the Baltic Sea
- BASRAN's goal is to connect the Rotarians around the Baltic Sea in 9 coastal countries to a joint initiative to save the Baltic Sea
- BASRAN's aim is to focus the activities on most relevant and effective measures adopting advice that are based on scientific evidence
- BASRAN urges Clubs and Districts in each Baltic Sea country to find the best suitable research institute to collaborate with
- BASRAN collects and transmits best practices and information within the Network

From the year 2019 the Network had a Steering Committee with members from Finland, Sweden, and Estonia. At the Annual meeting October 2nd, 2021, a new Board was nominated, with members from almost all 9 Baltic Sea countries. The rest will be nominated as soon as possible. At the same meeting the Chair and the Secretariat was passed from Finland to Poland. Also new Action Committees were decided upon. Descriptions of Action Committees are listed below

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## BASRAN Action Committees

BASRAN's Board has decided to set up Action Committees relating to the main activity areas as described below. Most of these will create opportunities for Rotary to work with local communities and institutions. This will maximise the effect of our work together and strengthen Rotary' public image.

1. **Awareness raising and environmental education** among Rotarians as well as other people, schoolchildren etc.



Briggen Tre Kronor

2. **The Network and Administration.**
  - Secretary work, including organizing Seminars/Webinars

3. **BASRAN Public Image, Promotion and PR, Communications**
  - including recruiting new supporters to the Network, web pages, social media, communications, Newsletters

4. **Water treatment plants and plans**
  - how to promote access to decent water treatment plants in places where they do not yet exist
  - OR how to promote your own nearwater protection plans (lakes, rivers, ponds etc.)

5. **Harmful substances** in the deep/seabed.
  - Raising awareness in a positive way

6. **Eutrophication monitoring and reducing excessive runoff**
  - eutrophication is the biggest problem in the Baltic Sea!

7. **Beach cleaning and macro and micro-plastics**

We suggest 4-6 persons per committee. Each will elect its Spokesperson. Action Committees should have members from a few of our member countries. Committees can have their own web meetings and post-Covid in person meetings whenever needed. Committees would report at our Board and/or Member Meetings.

**How to join an Action Committee?** Just send your message to [hannele.kauranne@gmail.com](mailto:hannele.kauranne@gmail.com)

## Recent activities

Please find our recent scientific webinar, "Cross-border cooperation for Saving the Baltic Sea. Second Member Meeting October 2, 2021" at with three Keynote speakers and six Show Case projects around the Baltic Sea at [basran.eu](http://basran.eu)

## Save the dates!

- Rotary Forum in Turku/Åbo, Finland 4-6 February 2022  
<https://rotary.fi/d1410/turku-rotary-forum-2022/>
- BASRAN Scientific Webinar in February-March 2022. More information about theme and speakers in preparation. Follow [basran.eu](http://basran.eu)



- Economy and Environment in Harmony - RI Presidential Conference 18-20, Venice March 2022  
<https://www.rotaryconferencevenice.org/en>
- RICON 2022 Houston, Texas June 4-8, 2022, <https://convention.rotary.org/en/houston>
- Briggen Tre Kronor Sailing, Summer 2022
- Mielno Meeting, Baltic Festival in Poland, Summer 2022
- Multi Zone Rotary Summit in Reykjavik, Iceland 13-18 September 2022
- BASRAN Scientific Seminar/Webinar and the Annual Meeting in Helsinki, Finland October 1, 2022
- Rowing for the Baltic Herring, Silakkasoutu in Helsinki, Finland October 2, 2022

### Season's Greetings!

Wishing you happy holidays and a Happy New Year for 2022 with Health, Peace, and Inspiration!



Gulf of Finland archipelago in December. Photo: Håkan Malmllund, Borgå Västra RC.

Yours in Rotary

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