

IX Baltic Sea NGO Forum 2010

Workshop III, Strengthening of the NGO Sector

Power in Transition II

The workshop has examined the current NGO situation in the region.

The workshop establishes that the will to democratization and involvement of the civil society is not followed up by a matching determination in the political practice.

The workshop therefore urges the Council of The Baltic Sea States to prepare a survey that shows how the civil societies and their organizations are being involved into the decision processes on local and national level in the region and how public authorities and civil society organisations in common are contributing to the development of the societies, are identifying problems and developing models for solutions.

The survey must be followed by an outline of examples of best practices from the individual countries showing how the existing laws and regulations on citizens' involvement have been realized. In this connection also the gender perspective and the situation for marginalized groups must be illustrated.

Such a survey can be seen as a natural continuation of CBSS survey from 2003: "Power in Transition: The Legislative and Executive Branches of Power at the turn of the 21st Century".