



RIIGIKOGU OF THE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA



SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF LITHUANIA



RIKSDAG OF THE
KINGDOM OF SWEDEN

Ms Sigríður Á. Andersen
Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee
Althingi of the Republic of Iceland

March 2021

Ms Anniken Huitfeldt
Chair of the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee
Storting of the Kingdom of Norway

Mr Ilkka Kanerva
Chairman of the Defence Committee
Eduskunta of the Republic of Finland

Mr Naser Khader
Chairman of the Defence Committee
Folketing of Kingdom of Denmark

Mr Juris Rancāns
Chairman of the Defence, Internal Affairs and Corruption Prevention Committee
Saeima of the Republic of Latvia

Dear Chairs,

The Nordic-Baltic corner of Europe stands out as a role model in terms of regional security and cooperation. Despite our challenging geography given the land, sea, and air borders we share with Russia, and a rich variety of histories, cultures, and membership of multinational organisations among our countries, we have found a way to navigate these difficulties in pursuit of our collective security and defence goals. Today, the Nordic and Baltic nations are net security contributors in both their own regions and beyond. This productive collaboration has been fostered through the Nordic and Baltic Eight (NB8), a long-standing multilateral cooperation format.

However, the changing security situation due to hybrid and cyber threats alongside the pandemic and other global security trends impel us to intensify our dialogue within the NB8 format. We would therefore like to propose reviving the idea of holding meetings of the chairs of the Security and Defence Committees of the Parliaments of the Nordic Countries and the Baltic States. In the context of the current pandemic, we invite you to hold such a meeting through cutting-edge digital means in April–May 2021.

We believe that the continuity of the NB8 cooperation shall remain a key priority on our foreign and security policy agenda.

Yours sincerely,



Enn Eesmaa Chairman
National Defence
Committee
Riigikogu of the Republic
of Estonia



Laurynas Kasčiūnas Chairman
National Security and Defence
Committee
Seimas of the Republic of
Lithuania



Pål Jonson Chairman
Committee on Defence
Riksdag of the
Kingdom of Sweden