

Program
16 April 2026, Rostock

Status: 10.04.2026

From 9:00 a.m. **Registration**
Stadhalle Rostock, Südring 90, 18059 Rostock

10:00 a.m. **Opening by Manuela Schwesig**
Prime Minister of the State of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany

Welcome Address
Dr. Anna-Kaisa Ikonen
Minister of Local and Regional Government, Finland

Viesturs Kleinbergs
Mayor of Riga, Latvia

Keynote
“Why digital sovereignty determines the ability of companies and states to act”.

Gerd Chrzanowski
General Partner of the Schwarz Group, Neckarsulm, Germany

Interactive motivating session with Heike Drechsler Bryggare
two-time Olympic champion and multiple world champion

11:00 a.m. **Podium Talk**
„Security, Innovation, Sustainability: for a sustainable Baltic Sea Region“

- Dr. Wolfgang Blank, Minister of Economics, Infrastructure, Tourism and Labour MV
- Julia Braune, Managing Director „Germany Trade & Invest“, Berlin
- Klaus-Jürgen Strupp, President Chamber of Commerce and Industry Rostock
- Dr. Julian Pawlak, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP), Berlin
- Eyk-Uwe Pap, CEO Baltic Taucherei- und Bergungsbetrieb Rostock GmbH
- Dipl.-Ing. Wolf Münchmeyer, CEO AIRSENSE Analytics GmbH, Schwerin

Moderation: Karolin Kandler, Journalistin

The plenary session will be interpreted simultaneously (GE / EN).

12.00 p.m. **Lunch and Networking**

- B2B Matchmaking
- StartUp & Company-Area
- Meeting-Point: Embassies and Chambers of Commerce Abroad
- „Invest in MV“ and economic development agencies in discussion

02.00 p.m.

Parallel Sessions:

All sessions will be conducted in English.

Session 1

Maritime Security and Protection of Critical Infrastructure in the Baltic Sea Region

- Ports as critical infrastructure
- Shipping & Navigation safety
- Physical infrastructure in the Baltic Sea

Session 2

Innovations for the Sustainable Use of the Baltic Sea

- Underwater noise
- Ammunition recovery
- Focus: Seawater desalination

Session 3

Aligning Corporate Success with Employee Well-being

- The correlation between economics performance and employee well-being

04.00 p.m.

Networking

- B2B-Matchmaking
- StartUp & Company-Area
- Meeting-Point: Embassies and Chambers of Commerce Aboard
- „Invest in MV“ and economic development agencies (WfG) in discussion

From 05.00 p.m. **Get-together** with Refreshments

Closing remarks

Dr. Wolfgang Blank, Minister of Economics, Infrastructure, Tourism and Labour