

**Bernd Henningsen, Tobias Etzold,  
Krister Hanne (eds.)**

## **The Baltic Sea Region: A Comprehensive Guide**

**History, Politics, Culture and Economy of  
a European Role Model**

The Baltic Sea Region, at the crossroads between East and West, North and South, has long been marked by cultural, ethnical and ideological borders. Overcoming a history of conflict and separation, since the end of the Cold War the countries surrounding the Baltic Sea established widely valued formats of regional cooperation based on shared challenges and opportunities. In comparison with larger regions, however, the Baltic Sea Area is still a blank spot on the global map. This volume's intention is to fill this spot with colour and facts. It provides students, young researchers and other interested parties with basic knowledge of the region. The volume offers a comprehensive introduction into its history, politics, economy and culture, taking into account the various countries' commonalities and differences. By introducing concepts of regionalism and region-building, as well as analysing the structures of regional cooperation the authors and editors demonstrate the Baltic Sea Area's model function as a European macro-region.

2017, ca. 350 pp., 10 b/w fig.,  
18 b/w tab., 2 col. maps, PPB, € 29.00,  
978-3-8305-1727-6

**eBook PDF** € 26.00; 978-3-8305-1748-1  
(The Baltic Sea Region – Nordic Dimensions –  
European Perspectives, Bd. 17)

ISSN Print: 2366-9063

ISSN Online: 2366-9071

The Baltic Sea Region: Northern Dimensions – European Perspectives  
Die Ostseeregion: Nördliche Dimensionen – Europäische Perspektiven



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# The Baltic Sea Region:

## Northern Dimensions – European Perspectives

The Baltic Sea Region is often cited as a model region. Indeed the catchphrases used to describe it since the early 1990s may seem overused: the ›New Hansa‹, the laboratory of Europe, the nucleus of the new Europe, etc. Yet since the historical changes which took place between 1989 and 1991, the region has become one of Europe's most dynamic. While there has been a tendency to stress common ground – including an all-embracing ›Baltic Sea identity‹ – at the same time disparities have become apparent.

This series of publications opens up a forum, which, dedicated to the Baltic Sea Region, will analyse the processes and structures underlying the various catchphrases. The contributions, which highlight the political, economic, societal and cultural importance of the Baltic Sea Region, are an interdisciplinary dialogue among scholars with a shared interest in the region.

The papers in each volume are published in German and/or English. The series, which aims specifically to provide a forum for young researchers, includes both anthologies and monographs which will present the results of the latest research on the region.

ISSN Print: 2366-9063

ISSN Online: 2366-9071

### Under the general editorship of

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