**Collaboration with HIV organizations in the Baltic countries 2016-2019.**

***Approved at HIV-Nordic Annual meeting, 10.October 2015, Stockholm Sweden.***

In the Baltic countries there is a HIV epidemic with another demographic than in the Nordic countries. The risk groups are injecting drug users, mother to child and MSM. The infection rate is somewhere 19 times higher than in the Nordic region.

Healthcare and organization work in the HIV field are scarce in this countries, much because of stigma around the disease, not much capacity in healthcare for preventive work and the political situation in the countries. The NGOs and organizations that are working have difficulties doing effective advocacy work towards health authorities and politicians.

Hiv-Nordic and our member organizations are good at organization work, advocacy towards authorities and politicians, and capacity building within NGOs.

Hiv-Nordic will over the next three years start collaboration with organizations in the Baltic countries where the goal is to strengthen the NGOs in advocacy work and capacity building.

The goal is to have collaboration with one organization in each country, but we have to see where our competence is most needed or can be most useful. We need to do a search before starting the collaboration.

We have earlier made good information brochures for the Nordic countries, and this can be some of what we can offer to the Baltic organizations, about how to make political arguments and do good advocacy work.