

A new scene for Baltic ports

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During the last **Baltic Ports Conference**, held in Gdynia on 7-8 September 2022, we launched a new report: *Baltic Sea region – a new scene for Baltic ports*. Several months have passed since Russia's aggression against Ukraine. The war primarily means the suffering of the Ukrainian society, bringing mass destruction also to civil transport infrastructure. It additionally blocks seaports and vastly limits trade opportunities.



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The West had introduced sanctions against Russia and Belarus, limiting the trade of selected commodities and services. Consequently, Russia introduced counter-sanctions and started cutting gas supplies to Europe. European countries, including the Baltic ones, found themselves in a new energy situation, which is forcing them to look for

new fuel supply directions. Some decided to implement projects to increase their energy security, e.g., setting up LNG import terminals. In the area of security, Sweden and Finland have decided to join NATO. At the same time, NATO is increasing its presence on the so-called eastern flank.

In the presented report, we want to outline this new complex scene that mixes

many economic and political factors. The Baltic ports function on such a complicated and volatile stage. We hope that reading the report will allow for a better understanding of the situation in the Baltic Sea region. We invited experts and analysts from Interlegal, the Center for Eastern Studies, the University of Gdańsk, and Actia Forum to carry out the report. ■