

Background and Introduction

Scandinavian and central European regions are characterized by a long history of exchange in trade and commerce, the establishment of transport infrastructures and traffic services as well as the regional development. Since more than ten years – in fact with the “Berlin Declaration” of 2007 as a milestone – the regions showcase a continuous cooperation in several strategic projects. The recent Scandria®2Act project, from May 2016 to April 2019, has a transnational approach and follows an initiative and action plans of regions located along the Baltic Sea Region and stretches to the TEN-T Core Network Corridor Scandinavian-Mediterranean.

The main objective of Scandria®2Act is to improve and foster the sustainable and multimodal transport of freight and passengers and the interaction with spatial development in order to increase the connectivity and competitiveness of corridor regions whilst reducing environmental impacts caused by freight and passenger transport. The present available results of the project indicate the need and importance of an integrated communication approach for further cooperation between various partners and stakeholders, so that there is only “ONE-VOICE” to the outside.

The Scandria®2Act Core Group members aim to continue their strategic cooperation beyond the Scandria®2Act project period. In order to achieve this, the partners agree upon setting-up an organisation, aiming at securing a long-term transnational interregional partnership and cooperation. The founding partners of the agreement represented by:

- **name**, Region Örebro County
- **name**, Skåne Region
- **name**, Helsinki-Uusimaa Region
- **name**, Eastern Norway County Network
- **name**, Akershus County Council
- **name**, Turku Science Park representing **XXXX**
- **name**, Joint Spatial Planning Department Berlin-Brandenburg

support and agree upon establishing the Scandria®Alliance for Territorial Cooperation along the Scandinavian–Mediterranean Transport Corridor (Scandria®Corridor). The partners agree as follows:

Article 1. Constitution of the Agreement

This agreement aims to set-up a permanent organisation.

Article 2. Name

The name of the organisation shall be “**Scandria®Alliance**”.

Article 3. Geographical scope

The geographical scope covered by Scandria®Alliance is the Scandria®Corridor made by the regions around the Baltic Sea and along the Scandinavian–Mediterranean Core Network Corridor, and outlined in the map in Annex.

Article 4. Objective of the Agreement

The organisation has the objective to bring together the representatives of the regions located along the Scandria®Corridor, in particular, the regional authorities, municipalities and other public authorities, who are responsible for transport activities, or their nominated representatives, and share the principle of a harmonized spatial planning and development along the above mentioned corridor (Article 3.) and related regions, in light of this, intend to define, develop and promote common interests.

Article 5. Vision and Mission of Scandria®Alliance

The vision of the Scandria®Alliance is to implement a sustainable and multimodal transport system by 2030 in the Baltic Sea Region and along the Scandinavian–Mediterranean Core Network Corridor. The following missions will be met to ensure this vision:

- address the transport and infrastructure developments and their contribution towards interregional economic development;
- facilitate transfer of knowledge, sharing experiences and good-practices;
- evaluate existing action plans and initiate measures as well as support in policy formulation in line with the vision;
- ensure innovation deployment across its members
- serve as a central forum to promote and foster jointly core interests;

- act as a counterpart to the European Coordinator of the TEN-T Core Network Corridor Scandinavian-Mediterranean;
- ensure governance and coordination of activities;
- connect regions with corridors and with each other for better cohesion;
- create programs and submit proposals designed to further strengthen the sustainable and multimodal transport system.

Article 6. Membership & Subscription

Article 6.1. Scandria®Alliance Core Members

The founding members of Scandria®Alliance are the core members of Scandria®2Act project, represented by regions and other public authorities. These are

- Region Örebro County,
- Skåne Region,
- Helsinki-Uusimaa Region,
- Eastern Norway County Network,
- Akershus County Council,
- Turku Science Park representing xxx
- Joint Spatial Planning Department Berlin-Brandenburg.

Article. 6.2. Membership Criteria

Membership of Scandria®Alliance is open to all regional authorities, municipalities and further public authorities responsible for transport activities or their representatives, in line with spatial planning and development at regional level along the Scandria®Corridor.

The membership may be further expanded by, first, completing the remaining regional “gaps” within the northern part of the Scandria®Corridor between the urban nodes “corner stones” with Helsinki/East Finland, Oslo/East Norway and Berlin-Brandenburg, and secondly by extending the regional scope to the central and southern part of the Corridor.

In addition to that, managers of seaports, airport, road and rail infrastructures, chambers of commerce, and other organisations situated in the Baltic Sea region and along the Scandinavian-Mediterranean Core Network Corridor can also join the Scandria®Alliance as Associate Member.

Members and Associate members can join the Scandria®Alliance upon application with approval of the Assembly.

Article 6.3. Associate Members

Will be further elaborated.

Article 7. Organs and competences

The organs of Scandria® Alliance are as follows:

- The General Assembly
- The Chairperson of the General Assembly
- The Steering Committee
- The **Chairperson/ "Secretary General"** of the Steering Committee
- Work Groups - Ad hoc Experts

Article 7.1. General Assembly

The general assembly is the decision-making body of Scandria®Alliance and is composed of one person per Member.

The persons representing the Member shall be appointed by the Member **holding a political mandate OR** with the **senior administrative level**.

The general assembly is responsible for the adoption of the general strategy and the biannual workplan.

The general assembly elects a chairperson who may be represented by a senior administrative of his organisation in case of prevention.

The chairmanship shall rotate among the members regularly at least every **two** years.

The assembly shall meet on a regular basis **every two years**. If more meeting are recommended, this shall need the agreement of **1/3** of the members. The meetings shall take place **every two years at the conference** where the region or municipality is holding the chairmanship.

Further responsibilities:

- developing and adapting the general strategy and work plans in line with the national political objectives and the Scandria®Alliance vision;
- Amending the Statutes
- Electing and dismissing the chairperson
- Amending the geographical scope
- Disapproval and/or approval of any member
- Dissolve the Scandria®Alliance (need the agreement of 4/5 of the members)
- XX

Article 7.2. Chairperson of the General Assembly

The chairperson is appointed out of the membership by the general assembly every two year at the transnational conference. The chairperson represents the Scandria®Alliance towards third parties at regional, national and European level within the limits of his/her responsibility.

Article 7.3. Steering Committee

The members of the steering committee are appointed by the general assembly. They are civil servants from the highest or second administrative level of the members. They shall generally meet at least twice a year. Meetings shall be chaired by the "Secretary General" or Chairman of Steering Committee. The chair is a representative of the same organisation chairing the General Assembly.

Main tasks:

- Representing the Scandria®Alliance
- Determining the agenda for meetings of the general assembly
- Setting up Working Groups
- XX

Article 7.4. Chairperson OR "Secretary General" of the Steering Committee

To be further elaborated

Article 7.5. Working Groups – Ad hoc Experts

The Scandria®Alliance has Working Groups to take forward the key thematic issues and projects identified by the Scandria®Alliance General Assembly or Steering Committee. Each Working Group shall have its own experts.

Main tasks of the Working Groups:

- Follow the agenda drawn by the Steering Committee or General Assembly;
- Monitor relevant market trends, policy developments at EU and national level;
- Formulate policy positions and statements
- Actively participate in Working Group events, workshops and trainings
- Organise joint thematic events addressing different but relevant thematic issues
- Lead management of EU-funded projects (steer, manage, implement and monitor)

The members of the Working Group shall meet on a regular basis. However, this depends on the work demand and project volume.

In case of ad hoc work is needed, the steering committee is entitled to assign further experts.

Article 8. Transnational Conference

The transnational conference is the main communication platform of the Scandria®Alliance to the outside. The transnational conference brings together all members of the General Assembly, members of the steering committee, associate members and further actors along and around the Scandria®Corridor, where ideas and interests are shared and knowledge is transferred.

The conference shall be held biannually by and within the host region. The host region shall be chosen on a rotating basis, to be determined at the conference. The conference will mainly convene regional representatives, local authorities, national governments and EU institutions and further stakeholders interested in the subject.

Article 9. Thematic scope

Against the background of the Scandria®2Act Project, the thematic scope focuses on decarbonisation of transport, “clean fuels” deployment and development of multimodality for both passenger and freight taking into account the interaction with spatial development.

Main Thematic scope:

- Governance (e.g. European / National transport policies);
- Logistics (e.g. unit-trains, innovative transshipment technologies);

- Railways (e.g. freight and passenger rail infrastructure projects, interoperability);
- Green Corridor (e.g. alternative fuels and propulsion technologies like biogas or e-mobility);
- Economic cooperation (e.g. cluster cooperation);
- Development of urban nodes.

The thematic scope may be further developed by a decision of the General Assembly.

Article 10. Financing

Each member bears the costs in relation to its active participation in Scandria®Alliance work. This means, that each member contributes to the following:

- Salary and people staffing who will be involved in the activities of Scandria®Alliance;
- Travelling and accommodation costs of its representatives and all its involved experts participating in meetings, workshops and conferences;
- Logistics cost in meeting, workshops and conferences hosted by that member;
- Costs of the assembly meetings which shall take place at the respective host region holding the (rotating) chairmanship.
- Share in joint activities such as launching studies or support activities if agreed upon by the steering committee

Article 11. Duration

The Scandria®Alliance is set-up for unlimited duration, otherwise the majority of the members submit the motion to withdraw and to dissolve the Scandria®Alliance.

The withdraw of single members does not terminate the association of the remaining members.

Article 12. Language

The official language of Scandria®Alliance is English.

Article 13. Liability



Article 14. Final Provisions