



BALTIC SEA CALL TO ACTION

Newsletter October 2025

Summary

- **Do you have contacts in other Baltic Sea states? Let us know.**
- **The fishing quotas in the Baltic Sea will be decided on October 27–28.**
- **Finnish discussions.**
- **Environmental organizations write an open letter to participants in Baltic III.**
- **Meetings with politicians in the Environment and Agriculture Committee.**
- **Articles in Hufvudstadsbladet.**
- **Thank you for all your contributions to our work.**

Spread

Feel free to share those parts of the newsletter that may be especially interesting for your members in your own newsletters or on your websites. Or perhaps create a link to our newsletter in your own newsletters. If we can together raise awareness and interest in the Baltic Sea's and the herring's vulnerable situation, we can also help improve it.

Fishing quotas in the Baltic Sea will be decided October 27–28

The fisheries ministers around the Baltic Sea will have decided the fishing quotas for 2026 before you receive our next newsletter. But before then, we will be working hard to influence those making the decisions so that the outcome is as good as possible for the Baltic Sea's herring and sprat. We feel that our arguments are being heard in Sweden but are less certain if they have affected the positions of the other Baltic Sea countries. However, the EU Commission's quota proposal gives us some hope. We are waiting for the decision with excitement.

Talks with Finnish Members of Parliament

Our plan is to expand our network with organizations and decision-makers in the other Baltic Sea countries, and especially with Finland, since they fish the most herring in the Baltic Sea. We want to try to reach a consensus on the critical situation in the Baltic Sea and its herring/sprat. We have previously established contact with the John Nurminen Foundation, which is strongly committed to the health of the Baltic Sea in many ways. We have also had several conversations with fishers from Åland.

We have now also had good talks with two Finnish Members of their Parliament, whom we wish to keep anonymous for now. Both were interested in what we had to say and want to help us get further contacts in Finland. What they found particularly interesting was how the low amount of herring in the central Baltic Sea causes thiamine deficiency in salmon, which in turn negatively affects the survival of salmon fry. Contact has therefore been made with responsible officials at the Finnish Government Office to get their comments on

this. We described the research results on this in September's newsletter. We naturally hope this can help change Finland's view on herring and sprat fishing in the Baltic Sea.

And here your help can be important.

If you yourself have interesting contacts, both associations and private individuals, in any of the other Baltic Sea states who you think can help us, please let us know. We must do what we can to spread engagement in the issue of the survival of herring and sprat in the Baltic Sea.

Contact with politicians in the Environment and Agriculture Committee

We have now been in contact with most of the representatives in the committee and discussed with them various aspects of herring and sprat fishing in the Baltic Sea. In these conversations, we have, among other things, encouraged them to contact their sister parties in Finland and to promote the herring issue internationally.

Article 1 in Hufvudstadsbladet

Helena Charchafche, with whom we from the Baltic Sea Call to Action have had good conversations, is running a campaign to stop industrial fishing for herring in the Baltic Sea. She had a very good article published in the Finnish and Swedish-language national newspaper Hufvudstadsbladet a couple of weeks ago. Read it here: [Krympt kvot viktigast](#). Highly recommended.

Article 2 in Hufvudstadsbladet

Inspired by Helena's initiative, we have also written and had an article published in Hufvudstadsbladet. The title of the article "Lack of herring makes salmon in the Baltic Sea sick" says most of what the article is about. You can find the article here: [Brist på strömming gör laxen i Östersjön sjuk](#).

Environmental organizations write open letter to participants in Baltic III

In connection with the EU conference Baltic III, several environmental organizations from Sweden and the other countries around the Baltic Sea have written two open letters. One to EU Commissioners Costas Kadi and Jessika Roswall and one to the Swedish ministers Peter Kullgren and Romina Pourmokhtari. In the open letters, the organizations write that further efforts are needed to reverse the negative development in the Baltic Sea. The need for stronger measures regarding fishing is especially emphasized. The letters can be read here: [Open letter to the two EU commissioners](#) and [Öppet brev till svenska ministrar](#).

Contributions to the Baltic Sea Call to Action's work

We thank you for all your contributions to our work. Your generous contributions make it easier for us to conduct our work, especially updates and translations of the website into other languages and the email function we use to send out our newsletters.

On our <https://www.ostersjouppropet.se/Svenska/st-d-oss-genom-bidrag> you can make a voluntary contribution via Swish. We will still fund the work of the call to action with our own money, but we are grateful for voluntary contributions that help us continue our work to save the herring/sprat in the Baltic Sea. Thank you in advance for all contributions, large and small.

Something new is coming

A little delayed, but in about a couple of weeks we will present something completely new in an Extra Newsletter. We don't want to say more now but keep your eyes open. When it comes, we would appreciate your help in spreading it in your networks.

We continue to grow!

When we include the number of members and employees in the supporting associations, other organizations, companies, and individual private persons, we are now **just over 164,000**, of which **just over 1,900 are private individuals**.

This month, we have gained **5 new associations and companies** supporting the call to action, bringing the **total to 128**. The new ones are:

- **Hagbyåns-Halltorpsåns vattenråd**
- **Ljungbyåns vattenråd**
- **Nämdö Green Archipelago**
- **Djurö Byalag**
- **Skårefiskarnas Intresseförening**

Please continue to spread our Baltic Sea Call to Action among friends, acquaintances, and everywhere! The more supporting members we represent, the greater weight we have when we meet decision-makers at various levels.

Baltic Sea Contract

The cooperation with the Baltic Sea Contract continues. They work with the entire situation of the Baltic Sea and also the vulnerable situation of the herring. In our plan to expand our network with organizations and decision-makers in the other Baltic Sea countries, we will have a joint meeting with BASRAN in November. BASRAN is an organization of Rotary clubs around the Baltic Sea that are engaged in issues concerning the (un)health of the Baltic Sea.

Some of you have probably signed the Contract with the Baltic Sea Contract. If you haven't already, please go here: <http://www.ostersjokontraktet.se>

Recommended Links

Here are some interesting links for those who want to know more about herring/sprat fishing in the Baltic Sea. To limit the length of the newsletter, several interesting previous links have been removed. If you want to see them, go to our previous newsletters, which you can find under "Aktuellt" on our website www.ostersjouppropet.se.

- [Baltic Waters: Symboliska fiskeförbud duger inte](#)
- [Baltic Breakfast: Two failed models](#)
- [Baltic Waters: Viktiga signaler från EU kommissionen om fiskekvoterna 2026](#)
- [Östersjöcentrum: EU kommissionens förslag - Ett steg i rätt riktning](#)
- [Baltic Waters: Internationella förebilder visar vägen mot hållbara fiskbestånd i Östersjön](#)

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