

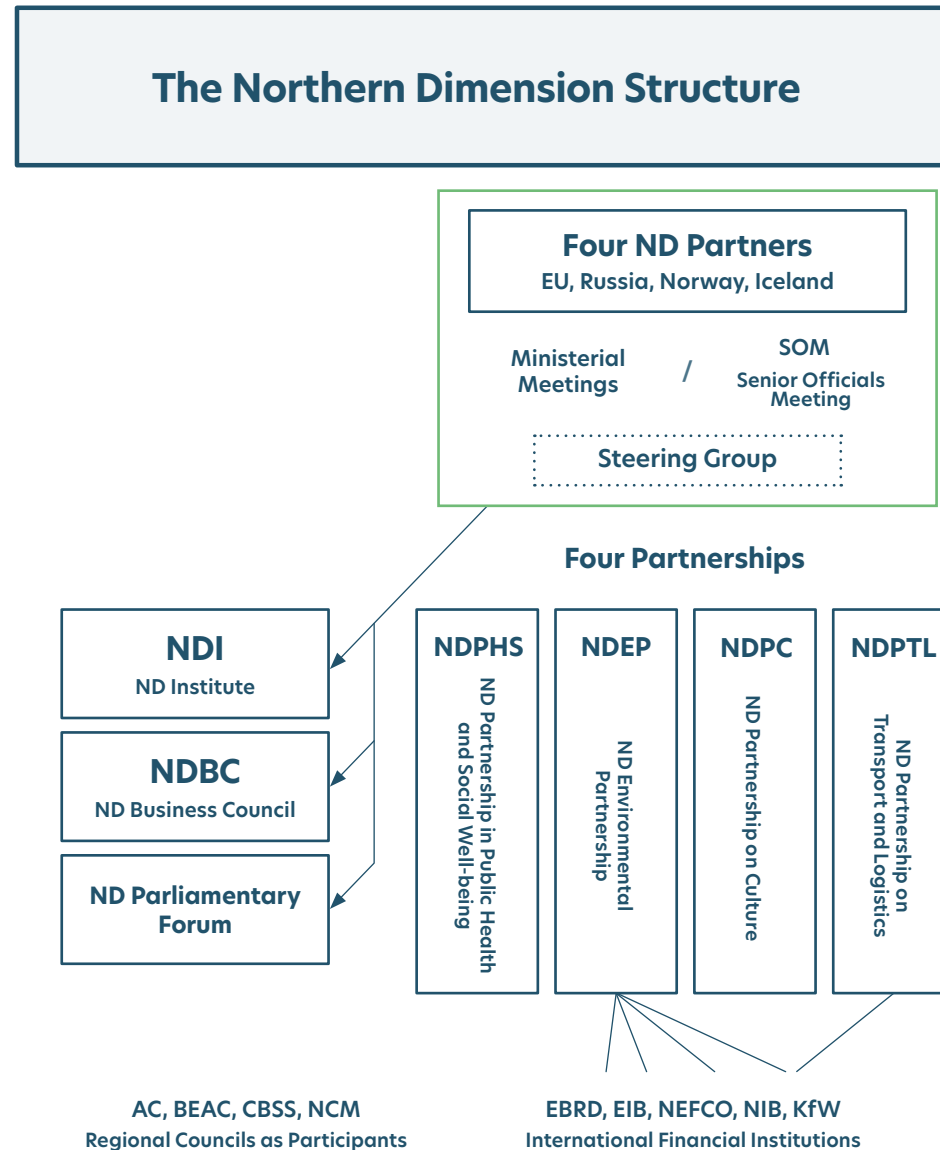
# Exploring the Northern Dimension

## History of the Northern Dimension

- Established as EU's external policy with its own action program in 1999 under Finland's first EU presidency.
- Designed as a joint policy of the whole EU, not only of its Northern members.
- Builds on and strengthens existing regional cooperation in the European North, i.e. the Arctic, Barents and Baltic Sea regions, and Northwest Russia.
- Initial themes of cooperation were environment and energy, and health. Later expanded to cooperation in other sectors as well.

## Northern Dimension Today

- After its renewal in 2006, a common policy of the EU, Russia, Norway and Iceland.
- Provides a framework for political dialogue and practical cooperation.
- Four thematic partnerships: Environment; transport and logistics; culture; and public health and social well-being.
- Supporting structures: "academic partnership" ND Institute, "business partnership" ND Business Council, and the Northern Dimension Parliamentary Forum.



# Main Achievements of the Northern Dimension and Its Partnerships

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## Northern Dimension Environmental Partnership (NDEP), est. 2001

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- Has catalyzed environmental and nuclear waste projects in Russia and Belarus worth of over 1 bn Euro.
- NDEP seed money leverages up to 20-fold local and national funding for wastewater treatment and other environmental projects.

## Northern Dimension Partnership in Public Health and Social Well-being (NDPHS), est. 2003

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- Has active thematic expert groups generating successful projects in cooperation with NGOs and other stakeholders.
- Organizes continuous exchange of information and good practices, also in sensitive topics such as HIV/AIDS or prison health.

## Northern Dimension Institute (NDI), est. 2009

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- A university network and think tank that serves the thematic partnerships and policy-making with evidence-based knowledge, and raises awareness about the ND in the wider society.
- Knowledge exchange and dissemination platforms include annual ND Future Forums, NDI Policy Briefs and NDI Background Papers.

## Northern Dimension Partnership on Transport and Logistics (NDPTL), est. 2009

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- Works on topics that are vital for the European economy, including new transport routes and Europe-Asia connections.
- Catalyzes external funding for logistics infrastructure projects such as the Gdansk Deepwater Container Terminal extension.

## Northern Dimension Business Council (NDBC), est. 2009

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- Connects businesses in the ND area with each other and with governmental decision-makers via annual Business Forums in St. Petersburg and thematic working groups.
- The ND Business Council's Working Group for ecology initiated the establishment of the Water Excellency Center network.

## Northern Dimension Partnership on Culture (NDPC), est. 2010

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- Has extended traditional cross-border cooperation in culture to culture exports and creative industries.
- Provides cooperation platforms and networking opportunities, including the annual Culture Forum in St. Petersburg.

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