



The International Student City of Copenhagen

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The idea to build an international student city in Copenhagen deserves the strongest possible support in a time when international outlook is more important than ever if European societies shall be able to face the global challenges. In particular I would like to support the establishment of a “Baltic House” in the ISCC.

More than 3.000 students from the three Baltic countries have chosen Denmark as the basis for their studies, and most of them are in the Copenhagen area. A special “Baltic House” will give new possibilities to strengthen the contacts and commitments between the young Balts and their Nordic and European neighbors.

The bonds between Denmark and the Baltic countries are strong: In February 1991, when the three Baltic countries were hit by Soviet aggression after their declarations of independence, Denmark established protocols of cooperation stating that our recognition of the independence of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania from 1921 was still valid; and following the events in August 1991 Denmark was the first country to reestablish diplomatic relations with them, sending an ambassador.

Very broad people-to-people contacts grew out of the new possibilities created and a growing number of young Balts came to Denmark to study. Many of them went back to take up important positions in their home countries; among them two former students became foreign ministers.

The three Baltic countries are now members of the European Union and of NATO, and in both organizations they have become important and trusted partners. We have reached a stage where we can learn from each other, and this is where a “Baltic House” can create new possibilities.

I sincerely hope that you will find support for your plans. And that we can some day celebrate the opening of a “Baltic Students House” in Copenhagen.

Hellerup, March 1st, 2015

Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, Former Minister for Foreign Affairs