

RESOLUTION
ON THE BALTIC STATES INTEGRATION INTO THE EUROPEAN UNION

The Baltic Assembly:

recognising that the Baltic Assembly Session takes place in the eve of crucial decisions regarding the enlargement of the European Union, which will shape a new Europe and create the foundations of future stability and prosperity on the continent;

being aware of the fact that the timing is particularly crucial for the Baltic States which aim at becoming full members of the European Union and NATO;

noting that Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania have made considerable efforts in order to qualify for the EU enlargement at the earliest possibilities, which has led to successful democratic and economic reforms;

welcoming the recognition by the EU of the achievements of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania;

appreciating that the European Commission has carried out a significant work in analysing the situation in the applicant countries and produced a report on democratic and economic developments in these countries;

welcoming the EU Commission's recommendation to start accession negotiations with Estonia;

confirming our belief in successful participation of the Baltic States in the Euro-Atlantic integration;

acknowledging that the Baltic States are to increase their efforts to implement the requirements of the Acquis, necessary for the accession, and will continue to speed up the harmonisation of legislation and reforms in the relevant areas;

being convinced that the deepening of the co-operation between the Baltic States remains an important and complementary process to the EU enlargement, which facilitates the preparation of the Baltic States for the accession to the EU;

welcoming the continuing review process of the latest information received from the associate member countries in preparation for the accession.

The Baltic Assembly calls on the parliaments and the governments of the European Union member states to support the position that the real negotiations should be started also with Latvia and Lithuania as soon as possible.