

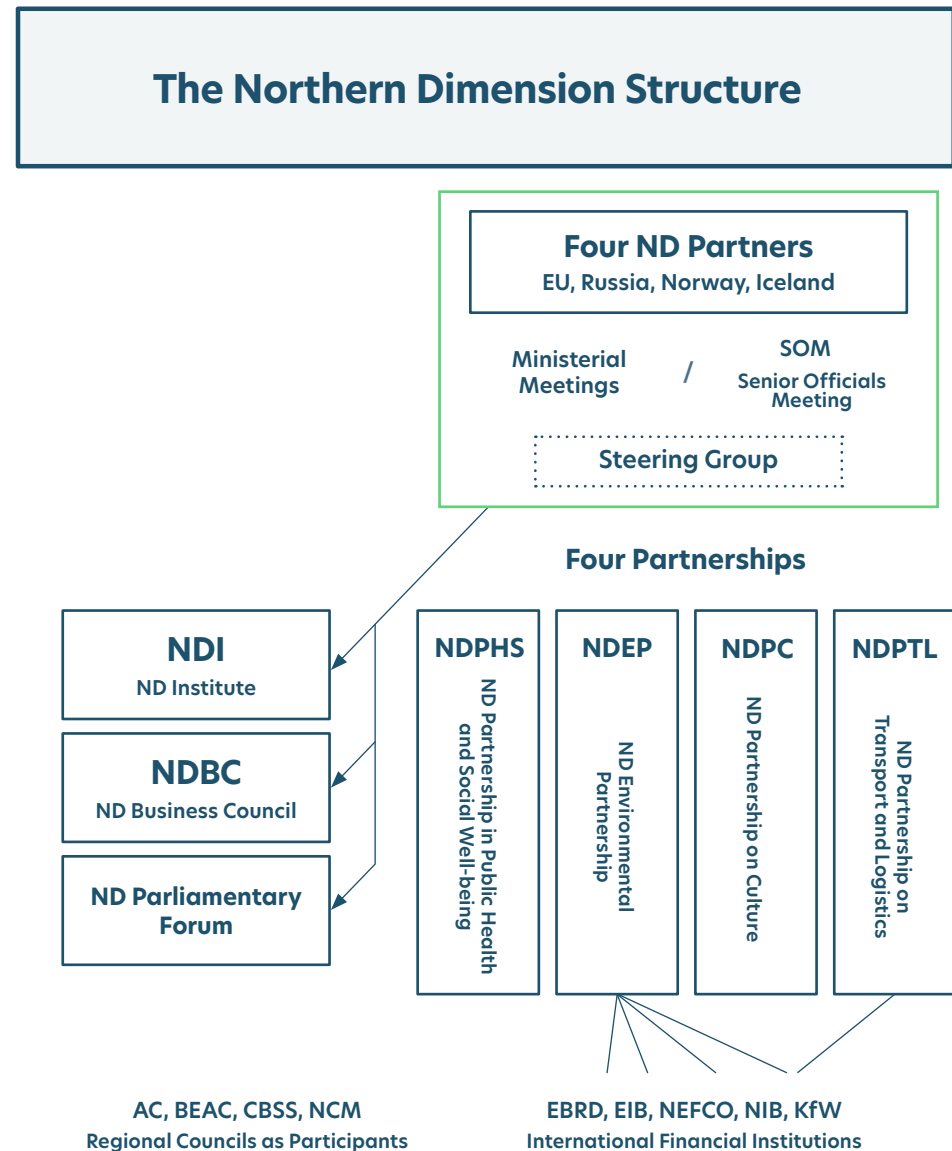
Exploring the Northern Dimension

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

Northern Dimension Environmental Partnership (NDEP), est. 2001

- 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

- 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

- 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

- 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

- 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

- 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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