

BaltCF condemns Russia's invasion and warfare

We are deeply shocked by Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine and the human suffering this war is causing. We hope that it will end as soon as possible.

As an environmental NGO, we support projects in the whole Baltic Sea Region. The geographical scope of our activity includes the Baltic Sea catchment in Ukraine and in Russia. The ongoing warfare in Ukraine will – apart from the immeasurable killing, suffering and displacement of civilians – cause irreparable environmental damage.

BaltCF currently does not fund any projects in Ukraine. Many environmental activists from Ukrainian NGOs and GOs have been forced to flee their homes and stop their activities. We will consider extended financial support as soon as projects in Ukraine will be possible again.

Russian NGOs have always been important partners for our Baltic Sea conservation work. We are in contact with our Russian project partners and will continue to support them. Anything else would be counterproductive for the environmental health of the Baltic Sea and a fatal signal to the Russian civil society, which is already heavily affected by the current situation.

BaltCF, established in 2014, is the result of a lawsuit of WWF Germany and Friends of the Earth Germany (BUND) against the first Nord Stream pipeline. It was created as a means of compensating for the damage done by the pipeline project. Until 8 March 2022, Nord Stream AG sent one representative each to the Board of Directors and to the Board of Trustees of our foundation.

Since 9 March 2022, following demands by the environmental NGOs that steer the foundation, both Nord Stream representatives gave up their mandates. However, as environmental NGOs have always held a clear majority of members and votes in both boards, these resignations will not affect BaltCF's activities.