Conclusions of the Meeting of representatives of the Committees on European Affairs of National Parliaments of Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, and Poland

Krakow, 29 March 2009

Representatives of the commissions for European affairs of Riigikog of the Republic of Estonia, Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Saeima of the Republic of Latvia, Sejm and Senate of the Republic of Poland, who met in Krakow on 29 March 2009:

EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

express their conviction that Eastern Partnership would contribute to the consolidation of stability and economic development of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine as well as closer relations between those states and the EU through a political association, progressing economic integration with the EU and the adoption of European values and standards;

regard it as necessary to ensure an adequate level of financing the Eastern Partnership guaranteeing the implementation of the goals inscribed therein in the current financial perspective;

express their conviction for the necessity to taking the joint initiatives to carry out the Eastern Partnership;

STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA

regard the Strategy for Baltic Sea as the possibility of release the potential of the area to enhance the effectiveness and the competitiveness as well as to improve of its natural environment;

unanimously state that the Strategy for the Baltic Sea should be regarded as an initiative aimed at improving the effectiveness of the implementation of European policies aimed at deepening cooperation between the states of the region and strengthening integrity of whole the European Union;

perceive the necessity of basing the Strategy on the principle of sustainable development with the simultaneous preservation of the freedom in the selection of concrete instruments and mechanisms due to the diverse climatic, soil, and hydrological conditions and the predominating type of agricultural production;

FINANCIAL CRISIS

unanimously regard the crisis on the international financial markets as unprecedented and call on the European Union to continue to implement the agreed recovery measures as a matter of urgency in order to stimulate economic growth and employment and counteract the consequences of the crisis for the economy as a whole;

draw the attention to the importance of having the sustainable public finances;

warn against the danger of protectionism at the same time encouraging the European politicians to continue their efforts in strengthening the society's confidence in the financial institutions and in the restoration of normal functioning of the financial system;

ENERGY SECURITY

draw the attention to the necessity of improving the effectiveness of using energy and increasing the share of energy from renewable sources in the final energy balance and growth of the security of supplies of fuels and energy, diversification of technologies and directions of energy supplies as well as the development of infrastructure for the competitive fuel and energy markets;

underscore the importance of ensuring gas supply security and solidary actions of the member states on both the regional and community level;

express anxiety in connection with the construction of the Nord Stream gas pipeline, which constitutes an ecological threat owing to the chemical weapons storage area on the Baltic Sea bed and the concentration of hazardous substances, as well as the threat for maritime transport; in connection with the above-mentioned, underline the necessity to implement the recommendations of the European Parliament resolution of 8 July 2008 P6_TA(2008)0336 on the Environmental Impact of the Planned Gas Pipeline in the Baltic Sea;

declare themselves in favour of the construction of the Amber pipeline, which consider necessary for the integration of isolated Baltic Sea region into European gas system and offering the possibility for the implementation of the project on the Uniform European Market area, characterised by a uniform transmission tariff and equal treatment of investors.