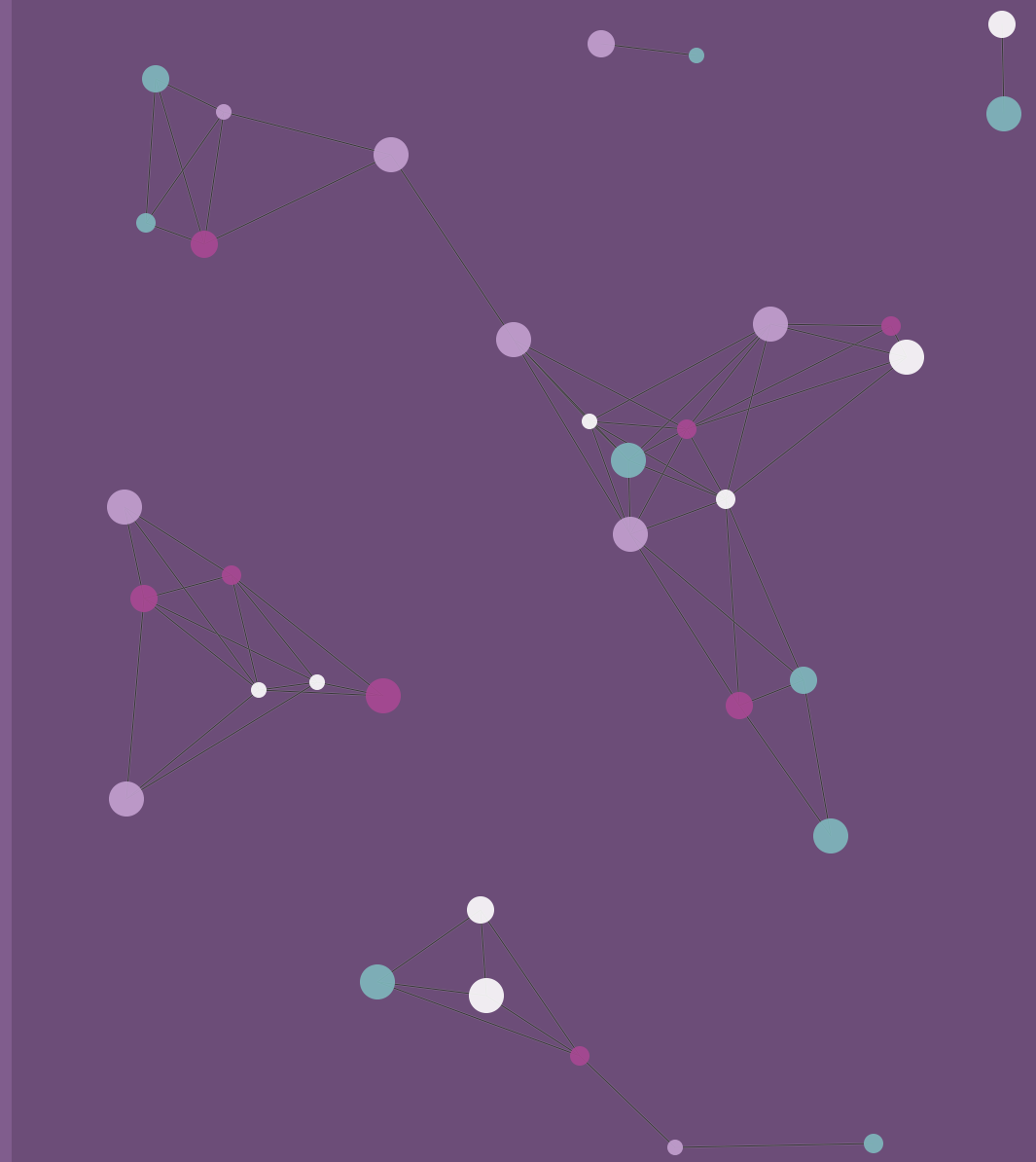
BALTIC SEA REGION YOUTH FORUM

How the BSRYF works

An independent body of young people in the Baltic Sea Region, supported by the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS).

Members | Working Groups | CYR | Steering Group



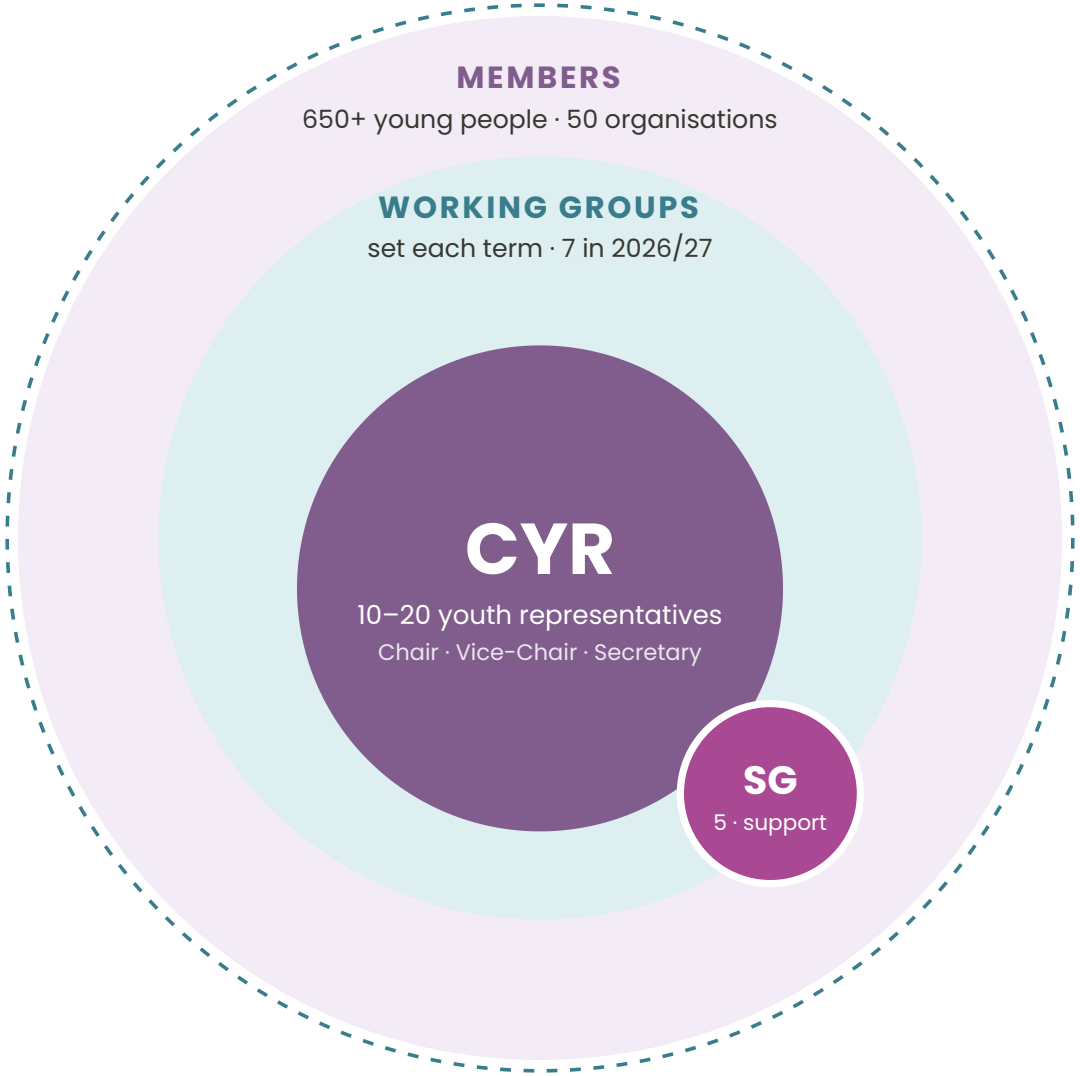
Baltic Sea Youth · cbss.org/youth · Updated October 2026

BALTIC SEA REGION YOUTH FORUM

SUPPORTED BY THE CBSS

THE BIG PICTURE

One forum, four connected layers



Members

Individuals aged 16–30 and youth organisations, including all national youth councils of the region. They elect the leadership every year.

Working Groups

Where most of the work happens. Topics are set for each term (seven in 2026/27); groups write papers, run events and represent the Forum.

Committee of Youth Representatives

Runs the Forum together with the Working Groups. Its Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary lead day-to-day decisions.

Steering Group

A supporting body of three CYR members and two partner organisations. It drafts the Impact Report.

CBSS Secretariat

Around it all: administrative and technical support, coordination and elections, while the Forum stays youth-led.

THE BSRYF YEAR

A yearly rhythm, renewed by elections

1 · SPRING

Election Meeting

All members meet online, vote on guiding documents and elect the CYR and the Steering Group organisations.

2 · 1 JULY

New term begins

The newly elected CYR and Steering Group take office for one year.



4 · EVERY MONTH

CYR meets online

On the third Friday at 18:00 CET to hear Working Group updates and take decisions.

3 · SEPTEMBER – JUNE

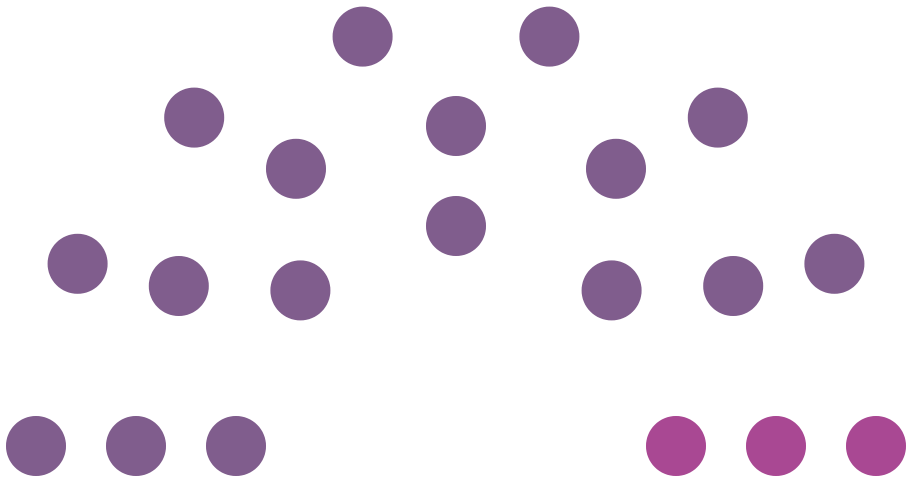
Working Groups run

Open call in late summer; groups work through the term, about 1–2 hours a week.

Every two years: the BSRYF Impact Report, prepared by the Steering Group with the CBSS Secretariat and including a youth survey. Next edition: spring 2027.

COMMITTEE OF YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES · CYR

The heart of the Forum



10–20

youth representatives

CYR member Also sits in the Steering Group (3)

Runs the Forum

Together with the Working Groups, it shapes the Forum's direction, positions and activities.

Elected every year

10–20 young people aged 16–29, elected by the members at the Election Meeting.

Leads day to day

The CYR management (Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary) is in charge of day-to-day decisions. Officers take on specific tasks, such as EUSBSR and Interreg.

Links to everything else

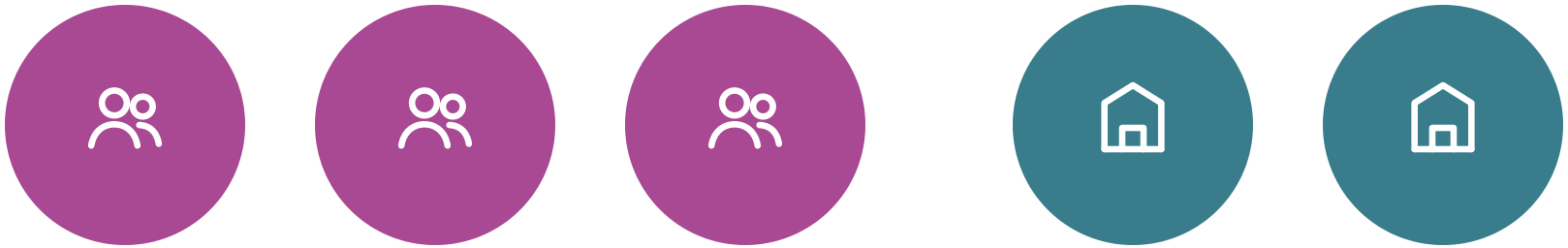
Appoints three members to the Steering Group and leads each Working Group.

Meets every month

Online, on the third Friday of the month at 18:00 CET.

STEERING GROUP · SG

A supporting role



3 CYR members

appointed by the CYR

2 partner organisations

elected by the members

Supports the Forum

Backs up the CYR and the Working Groups, who run the Forum and its day-to-day work.

Mandate: the Impact Report

Drafts the biennial BSRYF Impact Report with the CBSS Secretariat, including a survey of young people in the region.

Partner organisations 2026/27

Finnish National Youth Council (Nuorisoala)
Regional Youth Council Schleswig-Holstein (LJR)

WORKING GROUPS

Term 2026/27 only · September 2026 – June 2027

The Working Groups of the 2026/27 term

- **Artificial Intelligence**
- **Digital Literacy & Democracy**
- **Environment & Climate Change**
- **Finance for Youth**
- **Defence & Preparedness**
- **Energy & Transport**
- **Youth Advocacy**

Lead
a CYR member

+

Co-lead
a member from outside the CYR

+

Members
aged 16–29, from the Baltic Sea Region, recruited by open call

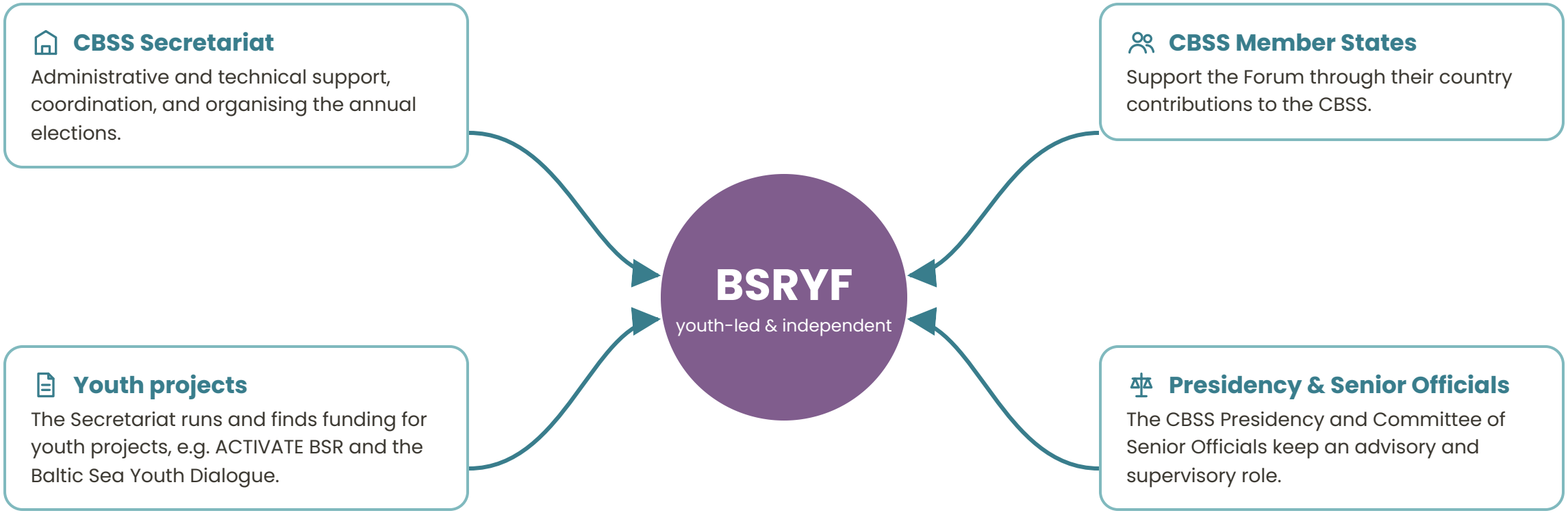
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Results
reports, policy papers, podcasts, events and seats in EUSBSR steering groups

> Working Groups are set up for one term at a time. Before each term, the CYR decides which groups exist, so topics can change from year to year. Any member can suggest a topic.

ROLE OF THE CBSS

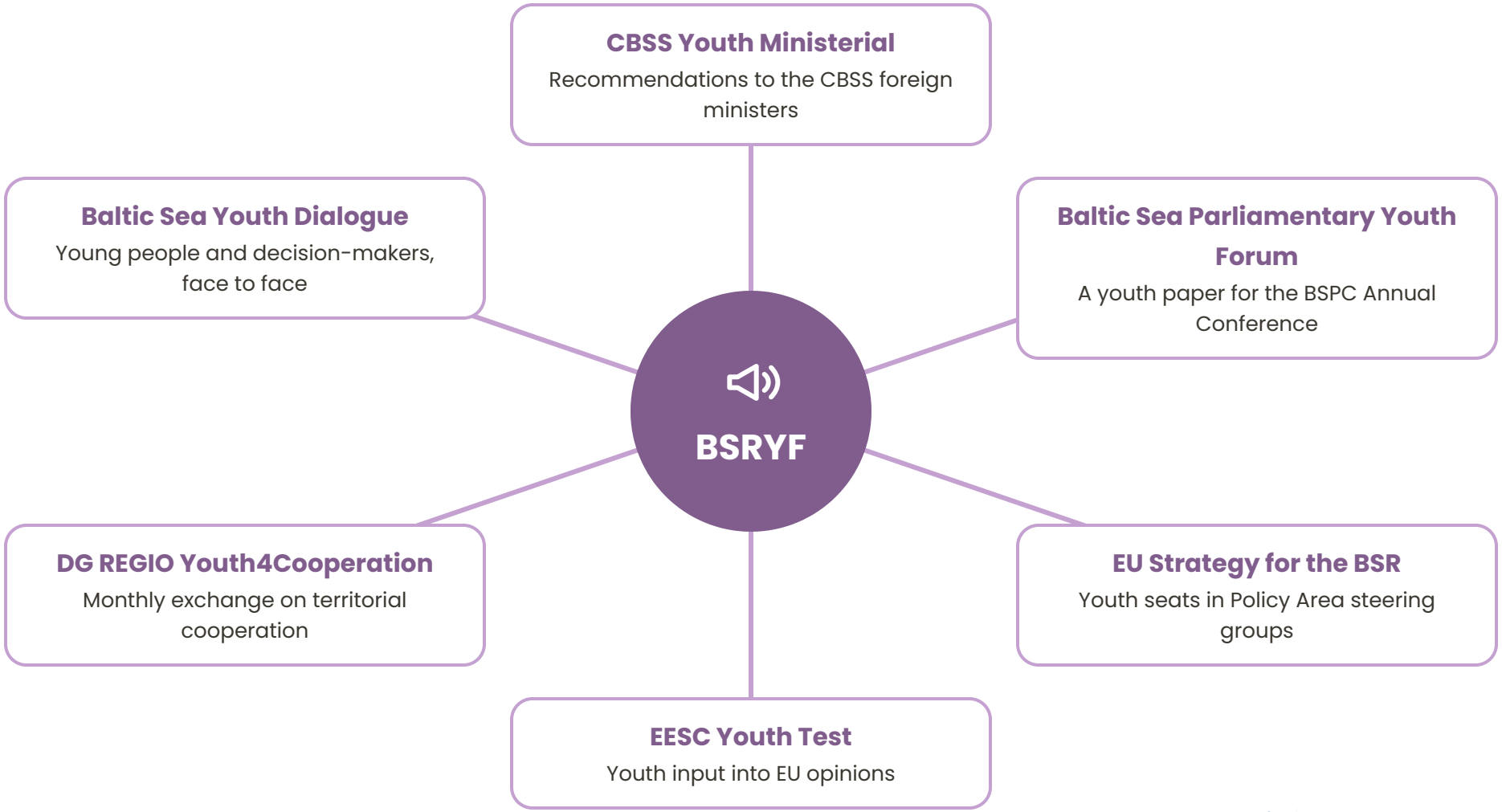
Supported, not steered



To stay flexible and youth-driven, the BSRYF is not part of the official CBSS structure. It continues the Baltic Sea Youth Platform project (ended 2022).

MAKING AN IMPACT

Where young people's voices go



GET INVOLVED

Three ways in

Become a member

Aged 16–30? Register online, stay updated and vote at the Election Meeting.

Register on cbss.org/youth →

Join a Working Group

Aged 16–29? Apply in the open call each summer and work on a topic you care about.

See the Working Groups →

Stand for election

Run for the CYR, or put your organisation forward for the Steering Group, each spring.

Election information →

cbss.org/youth · Instagram @balticseayouth · LinkedIn: Baltic Sea Youth

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