

**Personal message from Marcus Reckermann regarding his retirement from the post of International Baltic Earth Secretariat head:**

After almost 20 years in the BALTEX and Baltic Earth Secretariat, together with my colleagues Hans-Jörg Isemer and Silke Köppen, I am retiring from my professional career as a scientist as of the end of March 2025.

This means that the secretariat will be closed at Hereon Research Centre (formerly GKSS and HZG), which had run and funded the BALTEX and Baltic Earth Secretariat for 30 years.

Leibniz Institute of Baltic Sea Research in Warnemünde, Germany (IOW) and Institute of Oceanology, Polish Academy of Science, Sopot, Poland will share the tasks of a new International Baltic Earth Secretariat for the next years.

It has been an honour and a pleasure to support this unique and phantastic network of researchers and institutions with my work. I have learned so many things and got know so many interesting and nice people who happen to be scientists, and many of whom I would now consider as friends. I have been very lucky to work in this pleasant and inspiring international environment.

I am happy that the new secretariat, shared between two renowned Baltic Sea institutes, will continue the support of Baltic Earth. Please give the new secretariat some time to get settled and jolt into shape.

I would like to thank my long-standing colleagues at the secretariat, Hans-Jörg Isemer and Silke Köppen, for an inspiring and enjoyable working environment over all of these years, and of course my Research Centre Hereon (HZG, GKSS) for supporting the Baltic Earth and BALTEX Secretariat for such a long time. This has been a truly unique service to the scientific community!



Most of all I would like to thank you, the members of the Baltic Earth research community, for sharing your time and interest in this open network, and with me personally. It has been a truly pleasant experience to know and collaborate with you, but now it is time for me to move on to another phase of life.

Anyone interested to follow us in our new life, look for “Polly Cruises” in Youtube and pollycruises.de.



Marcus Reckermann  
4 February 2025