

**”Our Barents – Our Future. A New Agenda for Barents Cooperation.”**  
**Youth Workshop within the framework of the Barents Reunion 2012**  
**Tornio, 13-14 June 2012**

**WHAT?**

*Norrbotten chairmanship of the Barents Regional Council 2011-2013 jointly with the Barents Reunion 2012 organises a brainstorming to formulate a vision of the future of the Barents region from a young person’s perspective. We are interested in hearing from YOU - the representatives of the future generation - about your fears, expectations, hopes and dreams and how YOU think YOU can start influencing the situation in our exciting and unique Barents region already today.*

**WHEN AND WHERE?**

*We are expecting you on June 13-14, 2012 in Tornio, Finland.*

**WHY?**

*The youth cooperation has traditionally been one of the cornerstones of Barents regional cooperation that formally started almost twenty years ago, in 1993. It is the ambition of the Norrbotten chairmanship to involve the representatives of the younger generation in the discussion of the future directions of the interregional cooperation in the Barents region, about the existing and foreseeable challenges and innovative solutions. Together with YOU, we would like to make our region more attractive for all, first and foremost for the young women and men. To do so, we would like to join our resources, knowledge and enthusiasm!*

**OUR CANDIDATES**

*You should be a national of one of the four Barents countries – Finland, Norway, Russia or Sweden and be permanently residing in one of the Northern regions that participate in the Barents cooperation – Kainuu, Lapland, Oulu, Finnmark, Nordland, Troms, Arkhangelsk, Karelia, Komi, Murmansk, Nenets, Norrbotten or Västerbotten. You should be between 17 and 25 years old, you can be a student in, for instance, political sciences, international relations or economy, a young entrepreneur or maybe already a young politician! You should be fluent in the English language. The main criterion is your confirmed interest in the future development of YOUR Barents region.*

**SELECTION PROCEDURE**

*If you would like to participate in the workshop, please submit your CV and an essay written in English, maximum one printed page, where you describe your vision of the present and the future of your respective home region as part of the Barents region to [Sari.Roininen@lansstyrelsen.se](mailto:Sari.Roininen@lansstyrelsen.se) latest on March 31, 2012. Write “Barents 2020” in the “subject” field. The participants to the workshop will be selected by the Barents Secretariat of the Norrbotten Chairmanship on the basis of the essays. Accommodation, food and travel costs are provided for. Selected candidates will be further contacted regarding practical details. N.B.: you should be a holder of a valid travel passport!*