



Nordic-Baltic Cooperation

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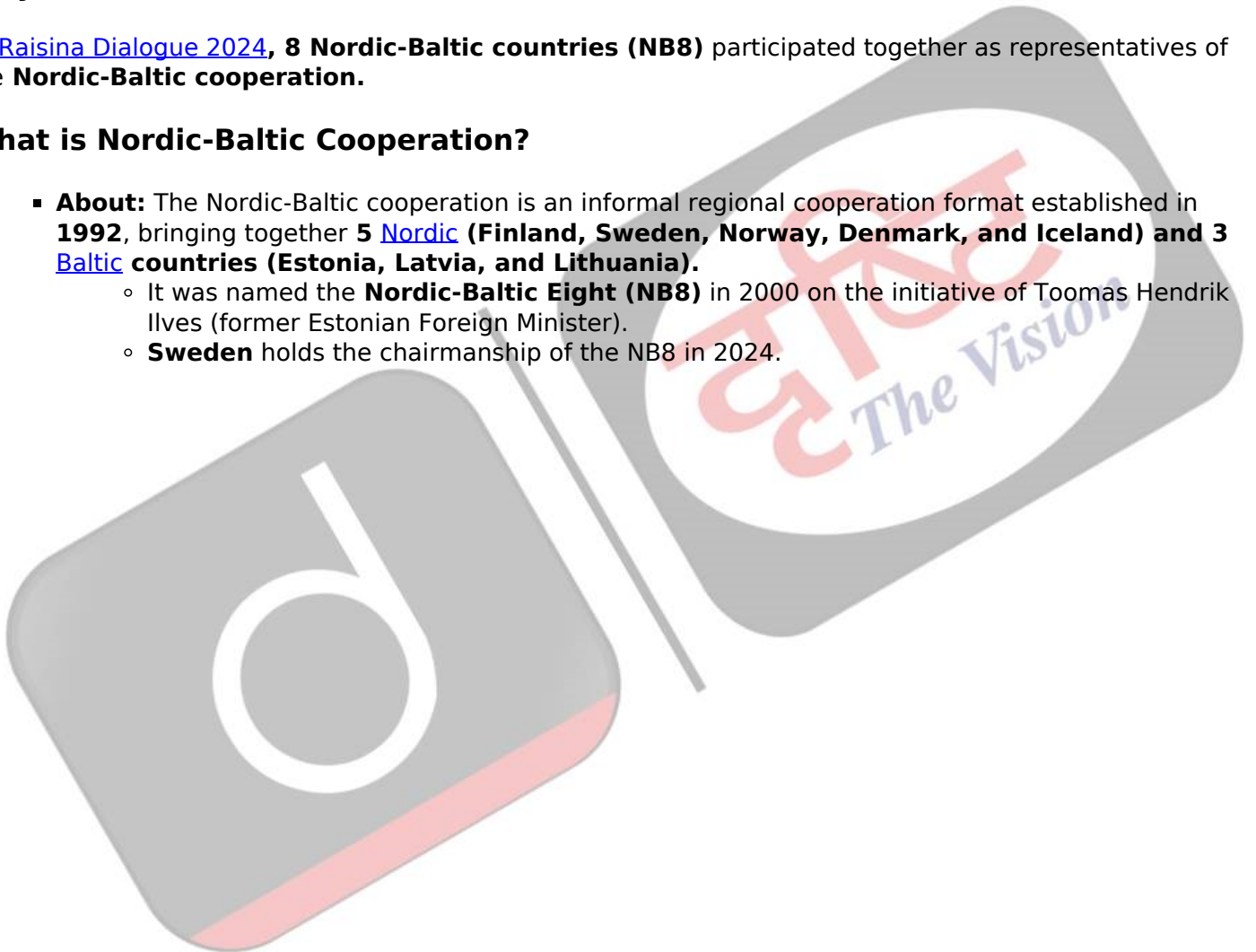
Why in News?

At [Raisina Dialogue 2024](#), **8 Nordic-Baltic countries (NB8)** participated together as representatives of the **Nordic-Baltic cooperation**.

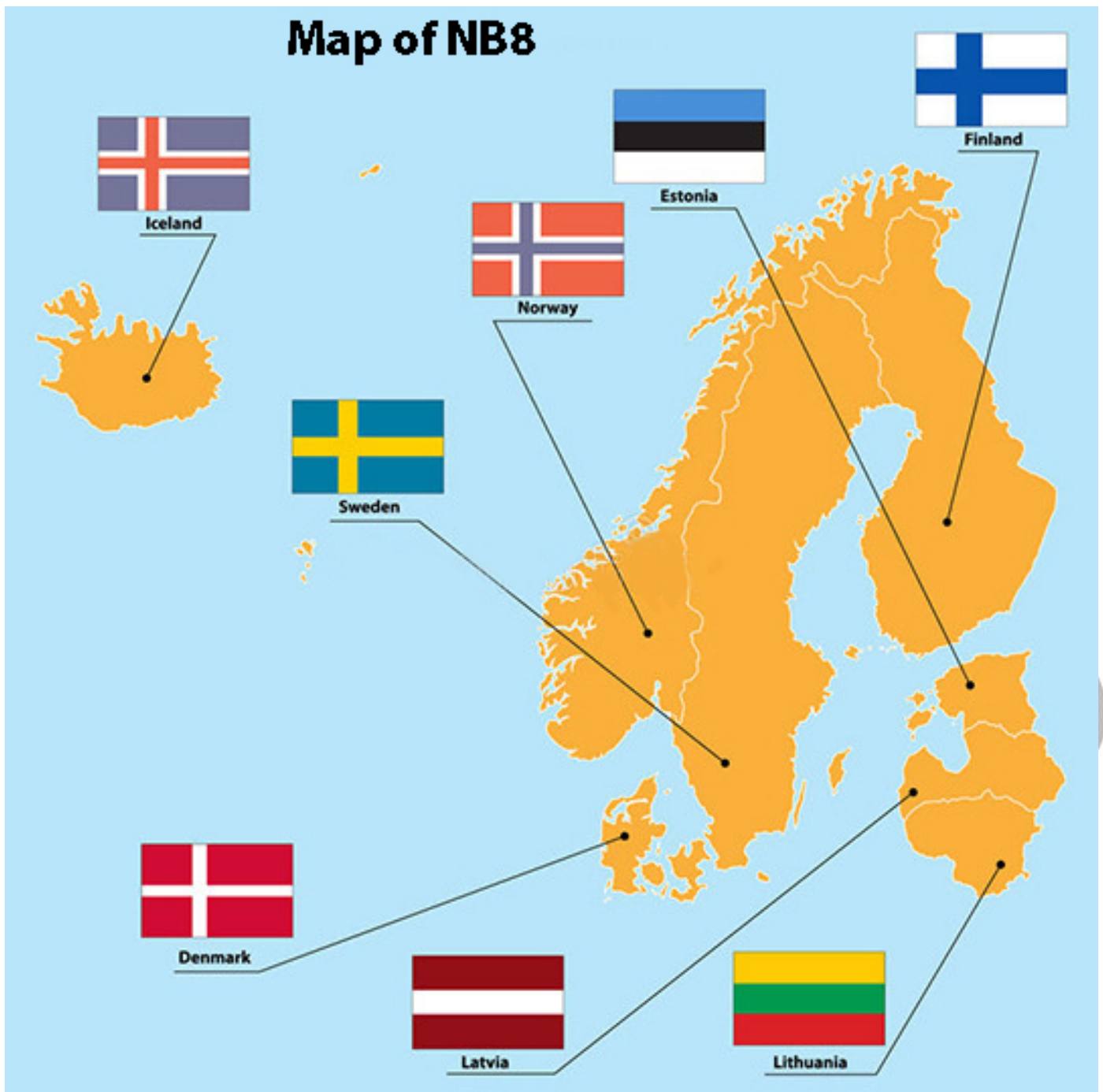
What is Nordic-Baltic Cooperation?

- **About:** The Nordic-Baltic cooperation is an informal regional cooperation format established in **1992**, bringing together **5 Nordic (Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Iceland) and 3 Baltic countries (Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania)**.
 - It was named the **Nordic-Baltic Eight (NB8)** in 2000 on the initiative of Toomas Hendrik Ilves (former Estonian Foreign Minister).
 - **Sweden** holds the chairmanship of the NB8 in 2024.

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Map of NB8



- **Key Report:** One of the main documents on NB8 cooperation is the **NB8 Wise Men Report**, also known as the **Birkavs-Gade Report**, which provides concrete guidelines for promoting cooperation between the eight countries.
- **NB8 and India:** Collaboration between Nordic-Baltic countries and India spans various fields including innovation, **green transition, maritime affairs, health, intellectual property rights, technology, space and tourism.**
 - In November 2023, the [2nd CII \(Confederation of Indian Industries\) India Nordic-Baltic Business Conclave](#) was held in New Delhi, aiming to foster collaboration between India and the NB8.
- **Outreach of NB8:** Since 2003, there have been regular meetings at the political directors' level between the NB8 countries and the United States, known as the **e-PINE format.**
 - Additionally, in 2011, an agreement was reached to convene meetings between the prime ministers of the NB8 countries and the United Kingdom, evolving into what is now recognised as the **Northern Future Forum.**
- **NB6:** When the Baltic countries became members of the [European Union](#) in **2004**, the NB6

format was created.

- This includes the European Union member states of the NB8, namely **Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia**, and provides a framework for informal meetings to discuss topical EU issues.
 - **Iceland and Norway** are not members of the European Union.



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