

Call for Papers

The 2th International Conference of “The Graphic World of Children”

Södertörn, Stockholm, Sweden

Organized by: Lisa Källström (Södertörn University)

Advisory board: Maheen Ahmed (Ghent University), Bettina Kümmerling-Meibauer (University of Tübingen), Birgitte Beck Pristed (Aarhus University)/

The Graphic World of Children

Date 19-21 Mai 2025

Narrating the Child and the Baltic Sea

This is the first conference that addresses the representation of the Baltic Sea in children’s literature and media, in addition to childhood memories in adult literature and media, from 1945 onwards. The topic is dealt with in various genres (novels, non-fiction books, comics, and picturebooks, etc.) as well as in children’s films and other visual representations. Possible topics may include (but are not limited to): the Baltic Sea as a biosphere (for humans and animals), the Baltic Sea as a marine environment and the associated professions and activities (fishing, seafaring), the Baltic Sea and the contrast between nature and civilization, the Baltic Sea and climate change, the Baltic Sea and tourism, the Baltic Sea and history/politics, etc. Finally, climate fiction for children that addresses environmental issues related to the Baltic Sea elucidates topics such as pollution, climate change, and biodiversity loss.

The Baltic Sea has long been a popular theme in literature and film, as an area affected by war and marked by domination and characterized by displacement and vulnerability. Moreover, the Baltic Sea also serves as a backdrop for adventure and discovery. There is also the link between the Baltic Sea and fantasy, myths, fairy tales. The depictions often emphasize the natural beauty of the sea as a site of discovery and wonder. But they can also refer to themes of danger and uncertainty, emphasizing the importance of respecting and understanding the very strength of the sea itself.

Submission

Please send an abstract of 300 words maximum and a short biography of 100 words to lisa.kallstrom@sh.se. E-mails should have the subject line: Submission Baltic Sea 2025.

The abstract should include five keywords and up to five relevant academic sources.

- Deadline for abstract submission: 16 September 2024
- Notification of acceptance: 3 October 2024
- All submissions are blind reviewed

Papers will be 30 minutes maximum followed by a 10-minutes discussion. Efforts are being made to reimburse travel expenses. Contributions will be published in a book.