

**Tomas Černevičius, President of the Baltic Association of Science/Technology Parks and  
Innovation Centers  
19 November 2015  
Vilnius**

Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Colleagues,

The Baltic States differ from many other countries in the world with regard to our land resources – we do not have much oil, gas or diamonds. Our main resource is people and the knowledge they develop.

The Baltic Assembly Prizes helps us to recognise outstanding people and achievements in literature, the arts and science as well as in innovation in particular. Innovation is taking place everywhere through new and emerging technologies, changing the way we think, live, breathe, travel, and do shopping, to name a few areas.

As President of the Baltic Association of Science/Technology Parks and Innovation Centers, I am very excited that it is already the fifth year that the Baltic Assembly awards the Baltic Innovation Prize. It is the annual prize awarded to the most innovative and economically successful product, service or business models introduced to the market over the last three years in the Baltic States.

I must say that every year the competition for the award is getting more and more intense, as companies from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania learn new models, develop new technologies and enter new markets, and the Baltic State “brand” is earning more and more credibility among our foreign partners.

I am sure that the Baltic Innovation Prize award raises more challenges for the future for both nominees and participants of the competition from all the Baltic States.

It is my pleasure to be here and contribute to this initiative, which is very important to our business, economy and innovation activities.

I wish all the best to the Baltic Assembly and to all the nominees!

Tomas Černevičius  
President of the Baltic Association of Science/Technology Parks  
and Innovation Centers