Professor Jan Marcin Węsławski, Project General Coordinator of MARBEFES, has been awarded the Baltic Sea Award 2026, a prestigious prize awarded by Östersjöfonden (The Baltic Sea Foundation) in recognition of significant contributions to research and the protection of the Baltic Sea environment.

For more than four decades, Professor Węsławski has studied marine ecosystems and worked to make scientific knowledge accessible beyond academia. His commitment to ocean literacy and fostering connections between the natural sciences and the cultural sector helps bridge scientific research and wider society. These efforts complement the goals of MARBEFES, which explores the links between marine biodiversity, ecosystem functioning and the benefits nature provides to people. In Poland, he is widely recognised as a leading voice for the Baltic Sea and the protection of its vulnerable coastal environment.

We are proud to see his long-standing commitment and contributions to marine science and public engagement recognised with this prestigious award.

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