

**PROGRAMME  
OF CULTURAL COOPERATION BETWEEN  
THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA  
THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA  
AND THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA  
FOR THE YEARS 2015 – 2018**

The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Estonia, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania, hereinafter referred to as the Parties, in accordance with the trilateral Agreement of cultural co-operation signed in Vilnius on 8 July 1994, have adopted the following Programme of cultural co-operation for the years 2015- 2018.

**Article 1**

The Parties shall encourage the participation of each other's artists and experts in music, opera, ballet, drama, dance, traditional culture, film and new interactive media festivals, markets, contests, seminars, workshops and art exhibitions and other cultural events, which will be held in their respective countries.

With this aim the Parties will exchange information about their cultural life and prepare a List of cultural events in the Baltic States for the years 2015 - 2018 as an Annex to the Programme, which will be available together with the Programme also in the Internet home pages of the Parties.

**Article 2**

The Parties shall exchange information about the work of their ministries of culture, the legislative initiatives and acts and policy documents. With this aim and in order to facilitate preparation of exchanges and cultural events the Parties shall exchange experts (up to 5 persons a year for 5 days).

**Article 3**

The Parties shall promote literary contacts between three Baltic States, participation in book fairs and exhibitions, and translation of their literature into languages of the other Parties.

#### **Article 4**

The Parties shall exchange information and documentation on the administration of museums and libraries, about the activities in the field of museology and library science.

The Parties shall foster co-operation in training programmes for museum and library specialists and developing implementation of new information technologies and services in museums and libraries by organising trilateral seminars, conferences and training courses for them in their respective countries.

The Parties shall support according to their possibilities the long-term joint project "Baltic Museology Summer School", started in 2004.

#### **Article 5**

The Parties shall encourage co-operation and the exchange of information in the fields of research, documentation, monitoring, restoration and promotion of cultural heritage, particularly enhancing cultural heritage education and participation of society in heritage preservation. The Parties shall re-create annual meetings of national heritage authorities to exchange information and tackle areas of common interest as well as foster the exchange of heritage experts, restorers, conservators, architects and the organization of common conferences, seminars and exhibitions, and participation in the work of the Monitoring Group on Cultural Heritage in the Baltic Sea States.

The Parties shall pay special attention to the issues regarding preservation of archaeological heritage, especially prevention of illegal excavations and trafficking of archaeological items by exchange of information and common efforts for controlled excavations.

The Parties shall co-operate in study and preservation of coastal and underwater heritage.

The Parties agreed to co-operate in the field of cultural heritage, related to the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

#### **Article 6**

The Parties agreed to continue supporting financially "Kremerata Baltica", the international chamber orchestra of three Baltic States, in favour of the development of Baltic performing arts and promotion of Baltic music abroad, as it is stated in the Agreement between the Parties on the Orchestra "Kremerata Baltica" signed on February 13, 2012.

In order to acquaint the public of the respective countries with the original music and achievements in the performing arts of other Baltic States, the Parties shall promote the co-operation between the concert agencies of their countries.

### **Article 7**

The Parties shall foster co-operation in the field of cinema and audiovisual production, and facilitate joint promotion of the Baltic film and video production within the Baltic countries and abroad. For this purpose the Parties shall consider the possibility to establish co-production fund for films and TV-productions between Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

The Parties shall organize a joint event in 2018 for screening films that celebrate 100 years Anniversaries of the republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

The Parties shall exchange best practices with regard to digitising audiovisual heritage, developing new methods of heritage preservation and encouraging heritage repurposing in innovative applications in service of education, tourism and other subsectors of the economy.

The Parties shall co-operate on developing and offering specialised film education programmes in secondary education as well as in institutions of informal training for youth and encourage the participation of their film professionals in such training programmes organized in either of the countries.

The Parties shall co-operate on important film industry events within the Baltic States.

The Parties shall facilitate co-operation in the development of the new interactive and audiovisual media, videogames and other innovative forms of audiovisual content.

The Parties shall co-operate in exploring ways of enhancing the role of public service media in social integration.

### **Article 8**

The Parties, recognising the need for collaboration in film and audiovisual education and professional training in the Baltic countries, shall contribute to the exchange of film and audiovisual media lecturers, shall encourage participation in and foster collaboration between the Baltic Film and Media School and other film and audiovisual schools located in the Baltic countries.

The Parties shall consider nominating their representatives to the new international advisory board of the Baltic Film and Media School.

## **Article 9**

In order to foster the co-operation between the theatres and to acquaint the public of the respective countries with the original drama of the Baltic States, the Parties shall promote the Festival of the Contemporary Baltic Drama.

The Parties shall also encourage co-production initiatives of theatres and participation in the national and international festivals in the region.

## **Article 10**

In order to develop co-operation in the field of dance and to increase the visibility of the Baltic dance artists within and outside the Baltic countries the Parties shall encourage and support according to their possibilities the joint initiative of the Baltic dance communities the Baltic Dance Platform.

## **Article 11**

The Parties shall foster co-operation in the field of creative industries – the exchange of information and experience, as well as the work visits of the representatives of the ministries and experts to organizations linked with creative industries, participation in seminars and conferences, organized in this field, in order to facilitate the elaboration of joint initiatives and cross-border projects also on industry and enterprise level.

## **Article 12**

The Parties shall develop co-operation in the field of architecture and city planning, encourage international contacts through the Baltic Architects' Unions Association (BAUA) and joint participation in the activities of the International Union of Architects (UIA) and other organizations related with the mentioned fields (NGOs, cultural, educational institutions etc).

## **Article 13**

The parties shall develop co-operation in the field of planning and implementing of regional and local cultural policy, and foster the exchange of respective information and experts.

## **Article 14**

The Parties shall foster regional co-operation and contacts with the Council of the Baltic Sea States, Nordic Council of Ministers, Northern Dimension Partnership Culture and other regional organizations and instruments in order to promote the contribution of culture to sustainable development and competitiveness of the region, pay more attention to promotion of joint trilateral cultural events abroad.

## Article 15

The Parties shall foster co-operation and exchange of information between their National Commissions for UNESCO in implementing UNESCO culture conventions and programmes.

The Parties shall co-operate in the activities of mutual interest, such as preservation and promotion of properties inscribed in the World Heritage List and related Programmes, The Baltic Way (in the International Register of the Memory of the World Programme), as well as consider presenting a common documentary heritage nomination of „In Siberia Written Letters on Birch Bark” to the International Register of „Memory of the World” Programme.

For the effective implementation of the Action Plan for the Preservation and Revitalisation of the Song and Dance Tradition in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania (in the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity) the Parties shall update the list of members of the Baltic Co-ordinating Committee on Safeguarding and Revitalization of the Song and Dance Celebration Tradition and shall jointly work out the Cooperation Plan for the next period (2015 – 2025).

## Article 16

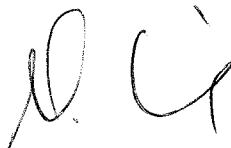
The Parties shall when required exchange information about and have consultations on the national positions on policy documents of UNESCO, the Council of Europe and the European Union.

The Parties shall exchange information and experience, and encourage co-operation within the framework of the European Union programmes for providing support for the culture and audiovisual sectors.

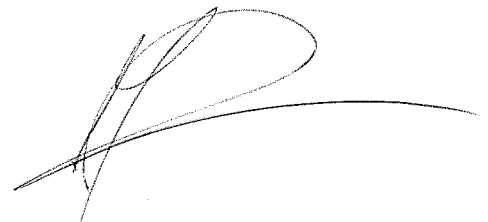
Done and signed in Tallinn, on the 24 October, 2014 in three originals in English.



For the  
Ministry of Culture  
of the Republic of  
Estonia



For the  
Ministry of Culture  
of the Republic of  
Latvia



For the  
Ministry of Culture  
of the Republic of  
Lithuania