

**CULTURAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME  
BETWEEN  
THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA  
AND  
THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND INNOVATION OF HUNGARY  
FOR 2025–2027**

Intending to reinforce and further develop their cultural cooperation and in accordance with the Agreement on the Foundations of friendly relations and cooperation between the Republic of Latvia and the Republic of Hungary concluded on 7 August 1992 in Riga, and the Agreement on Cooperation in the areas of culture, science and education concluded between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Hungary on 6 March 1997 in Riga, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia and the Ministry of Culture and Innovation of Hungary (hereinafter referred to as the “Participants”) have agreed as follows:

**Article 1**

The Participants will facilitate direct cooperation between institutions and organizations of culture in all fields of arts at a professional and an amateur level as well. The Participants will exchange information on international festivals, jubilees and other important events and activities held in their respective countries.

**Article 2**

The Participants will encourage the attendance of the other side’s cultural policy makers, artists, performing artists, cultural experts, art associations and their managers in the most important cultural events, competitions, international festivals, exhibitions, debates, and symposia held in their respective countries.

**Article 3**

The Participants will encourage direct cooperation between their respective cultural and art centres, cultural organizations, museums, archives, and cultural associations. The Participants will exchange information on the structure and financing of the cultural institutional system and on their performance evaluation. The competent institutions will agree on the form and financial conditions of such cooperation and cultural exchange in separate agreements.

**Article 4**

The Participants will facilitate the exchange of experts to share the best practice in the field of creative industries (especially in the fields of design and popular music). The Participants will support any activities related to the presentation of the Hungarian creative industries in Latvia and the presentation of the Latvian creative industries in Hungary.

The Latvian side wishes to call the other side’s attention to the possibility to develop cooperation with the Design Centre of Latvia.

The Hungarian side recommends the following events to the Latvian side:

- Music showcase event and conference “Budapest Showcase Hub” (annually in autumn).

The Latvian side recommends the following events to the Hungarian side:

- Creativity week “radi!”,
- Song writing camps organized by the Latvian Music Development Association / Latvian Music Export (twice a year).

## **Article 5**

The Participants will foster contacts between the writers' organizations and the literary translators' communities; encourage the exchange of writers and literary translators and make note of the opportunities to present Hungarian literature in Latvia, and Latvian literature in Hungary.

The Hungarian side wishes to call the other side's attention to the activities of the Petőfi Literary Fund.

Both Participants will consider the possibility of publishing translations of the other side's literary works in their respective national literary periodicals.

The Latvian side invites the Hungarian side to cooperate with the platform "Latvian Literature" in organising Latvian-Hungarian and/or international poetry translation workshops with the participation of poets from Latvia and Hungary and to apply in the grant programmes for foreign publishers to support the translation and publishing of Latvian literary works abroad.

The Latvian side, during the course of this Programme, invites the Hungarian side to use the creative residency offered to writers, poets and translators by the International Writers' and Translators' House in Ventspils (in further text – Ventspils House) for up to twenty-eight (28) days. The main purpose of the residency will be translation of Latvian literature. Ventspils House will cover the expenses of accommodation and a monthly allowance (scholarship). Additionally, Ventspils House offers a possibility for one (1) translator, who translates from Latvian language, to participate in an intensive Latvian language course (all costs covered).

## **Article 6**

The Participants will facilitate the exchange of performances, shows, artists and professionals in the field of the theatre. The Participants will encourage activities that are related to the presentation of the Hungarian theatre in Latvia, and the presentation of the Latvian theatre in Hungary.

The Hungarian side recommends the following events to the Latvian side:

- MITEM – Madách International Theatre Meeting (annually in April).

The Latvian side recommends developing bilateral cooperation between the professional state theatres and professional independent theatre companies of both sides and encourages the Hungarian side's representatives to participate in workshops, seminars, conferences, and other theatre related events organized in Latvia.

## **Article 7**

The Participants will facilitate the cooperation of institutions engaged in the organization of musical theatre, music concerts, music festivals, and music competitions; look for opportunities to exchange soloists and conductors and invite music critics to festivals and other music events.

The Hungarian side recommends the following events to the Latvian side:

- Liszt Fest International Cultural Festival and Bartók Spring International Art Weeks (annually in April and October),
- Budapest International Music Competitions (annually in September),
- József Simándy International Sing Competition (annually in June),
- Éva Marton International Singing Competition (every other year in September),
- VeszprémFest – Premium Music Festival (annually).

The Latvian side recommends the following events to the Hungarian side:

Festivals:

- The International Early Music Festival (annually in July),
- Autumn Chamber Music Festival (annually in October),
- International Music Festival “Saxophonia” (every other year in February),
- Festival “European Christmas” (annually in December),
- Festival “Vienna Classics” (every other year in February),
- Riga Opera Festival (annually in June),
- Liepāja International Stars Festival (annually in March),
- Music Festival “Liepāja Summer” (annually in July and August),
- International Sacred Music Festival (annually in August),
- New Music Festival “Arēna” (annually in Autumn),
- Jazz Music Festival “Rīgas Ritmi” (annually in July and November),
- World Music Festival “Porta” (annually in November).

#### Competitions:

- Jāzeps Vītols International Piano Competition,
- Jāzeps Vītols International Vocalist Competition,
- Jāzeps Vītols International Choral Conductors Competition,
- Jurjānu Andrejs International Woodwind Competition (for woodwind and brass instruments separately),
- International Jazz Artists Contest “Riga Jazz Stage”.

### Article 8

The Participants will facilitate the exchange of information, cooperation and direct contacts between choreographers, dance soloists and dance companies, as well as the attendance of dance experts at international conferences, festivals, and forums to be held in their respective countries.

The Hungarian side recommends the following events to the Latvian side:

- Hungarian Dance Festival, Győr (annually in June),
- International Danube Carnival (annually in June),
- Veszprém Contemporary Dance Festival (annually in May),
- Budapest Dance Festival (annually in February),
- International Dance Festival, Pécs (annually).

The Latvian side recommends the following events to the Hungarian side:

- International Baltic Ballet Festival (annually),
- International Contemporary Dance Festival “LAIKS DEJOT” (annually in June),
- International Ballet Festival “Ballet Stars in Jūrmala” (annually in August),
- Latvian Dance Information Centre seminars, workshops, and conferences.

### Article 9

The Participants will encourage the exchange of museum and contemporary art exhibitions. The respective rules pertaining to the sending and receiving of exhibitions are contained in Article 17 of this Programme.

The Participants will facilitate bilateral cooperation between professional organizations in the field of fine arts, applied arts, contemporary art, and photography, including the exchange of art experts and critics.

From the Hungarian side:

- The Hungarian Association of Fine and Applied Artists.

From the Latvian side:

- Latvian Centre of Contemporary Art,
- Kim? Contemporary Art Centre,
- Rothko Museum,
- Latvian Centre for Contemporary Ceramics,
- ISSP / ISSP Gallery (Contemporary Photography).

The Participants will encourage the participation of artists in their visual art residencies and creative workshops.

The Hungarian side recommends the following events to the Latvian side:

- International Graphics Biennale – Győr,
- International Miniature Textile Triennale – Szombathely,
- International Triennial of Enamel Art – Budapest,
- International Triennial of Silicate Arts – Kecskemét.

The Latvian side recommends the following events to the Hungarian side:

- ISSP and kuš! International Residencies of Photography and Comics Art in Riga,
- Riga International Textile and Fibre Art Triennial (in 2026),
- Contemporary Art Festival “Survival Kit” (annually),
- Ceramic Art Symposium “Ceramic Laboratory” (annually),
- Latvia International Ceramics Biennial (in 2025 and 2027),
- Riga Photography Biennial – NEXT (in 2025) and Riga Photography Biennial (in 2026),
- Riga Photomonth (annually).

### **Article 10**

The Participants will encourage activities that facilitate the development of cooperation in the field of folk art, including between the folk music organizations. In order to achieve this, the Participants will invite choirs, ensembles, folk music and folklore groups and experts to competitions, festivals, conferences and other important music events.

The delegates from the other side will be invited directly and information regarding the conditions of participation will be requested from the entities organizing the events.

The Hungarian side recommends the following events to the Latvian side:

- International Festival of Chamber Choirs, Pécs (annually in April),
- Béla Bartók International Choir Competition and Folklore Festival, Debrecen (every other year in July),
- International Choir Competition, Budapest (annually in March or April).

The Latvian side recommends the following events to the Hungarian side:

- International Folklore Festival “Baltica” (June 2025).

### **Article 11**

The Participants will support the development of relations between institutions, associations and organizations of folk art, mutually facilitate the exchange of the experts representing the folk arts and artisan culture of the other side and invite them to important folk art events.

The institutions responsible for preserving of intangible cultural heritage will consider the exchange of exhibitions of traditional folk arts and crafts. The rules pertaining to the sending and receiving of the exhibitions are contained in Article 17 of this Programme.

### **Article 12**

The Participants will foster the exchange of amateur artists in all fields of arts and facilitate the development of relations between associations and organizations of amateur arts, as well as mutually invite groups and experts to important international events.

The delegates from the other side will be invited directly and information regarding the conditions of participation will be requested from the entities organizing the events.

The Hungarian side recommends the following events to the Latvian side:

- Festival of Folk Arts (annually),
- The National Táncház Festival and Fair - Táncháztalálkozó (annually),
- SUMMERFEST International Folklore Festival (annually),
- International Folklore Days Sárvár (annually),
- International Folklore Festival in Budapest (annually),
- AITA / IATA International Amateur Theatre Festival (annually),
- Alföld Pottery Triennial.

The Latvian side recommends the following events to the Hungarian side:

- Finno-Ugric Day (annually).

### **Article 13**

The Participants' institutions responsible for the protection of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage will consider presenting each other their policies and practical initiatives concerning the development, popularization and safeguarding of their intangible cultural heritage. The Participants will mutually encourage the exchange of good practices, practical and academic knowledge, organizational and managerial expertise, as well as research and data processing examples across the tangible and intangible cultural heritage fields.

The Participants' institutions responsible for the protection of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage will encourage the establishment of bilateral and multilateral consultation groups and discussion panels on various issues regarding the more coordinated, well organized, and sustainable safeguarding of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage in the future. The formats, conditions, times, and places of meetings will be agreed between the relevant institutions directly.

The Participants will facilitate academic activities and exchange of publications and experts for capacity building of the staff in inventory making and dossier filing for inscribing elements on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and on the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices of the UNESCO.

### **Article 14**

The Participants will facilitate direct cooperation between libraries, museums, and archives. The Participants will foster the cooperation in identifying and publishing Hungarian-related Latvian and Latvian-related Hungarian records and documents.

The Participants will facilitate the conduct of library, archive, and museum research by each other's experts, as well as the deepening of their professional relations through designing joint projects and creating joint professional workshops.



The Participants will encourage the cooperation of museums and galleries, especially the national museums, in organising joint exhibitions, exchange of experts as well as exchange of museology reference materials and information on scientific conferences and seminars in the field of museology.

The Participants will encourage cooperation in digitization, preservation and accessibility of objects preserved in public collections, as well as exchange of experts and experiences in this field.

#### **Article 15**

The Participants will foster the expansion of art exhibits' lending programmes between cultural and artistic institutions and the exchange of documents between national libraries in accordance with the laws and regulations of each Participant.

#### **Article 16**

The Participants will strive, if possible, to have prior discussions regarding the arising topical issues in matters of culture within the framework of the Council of Europe and the European Union when decisions are being prepared. Regarding the programmes of cultural cooperation of the European organizations, the Participants will consider participating in programmes which deal with the conservation of cultural diversity and the correlations of intercultural dialogue.

#### **Article 17**

The Participants agree that all initiatives mentioned in this Programme will be implemented within the limits of the funds allocated thereto from their respective annual budgets.

The Participants will entrust their competent institutions with the implementation of this Programme.

The Participants agree that financial conditions, as well as the schedules of the events under this Programme, will be agreed upon on a case-by-case basis and between the organisations and artists involved in respective cooperation format.

In case no special provisions are applied, the financial conditions will be adjusted on the basis of reciprocity, namely:

- the sending side will cover the international travel expenses of their delegations and ensure the covering of costs related to special equipment transportation,
- the receiving side will cover the costs of accommodation in its country, and ensure the covering of transportation and other expenses within its country,
- each individual and delegation will be responsible for their own medical insurance.

The conditions for exhibitions and visits of artistic groups, as well as mutual obligations (dates, the transportation costs of exhibits, instruments, accompanying persons, customs and storage costs, security, insurance, etc.) will be agreed upon separately by the relevant institutions and fixed in separate agreements.

#### **Article 18**

This Programme may be amended or modified with mutual consent of the Participants. All amendments and modifications will be made in writing.

Any difference of opinions that might arise in the course of implementing this Programme will be settled through consultations and negotiations between the Participants.

#### **Article 19**


This Programme is not an international agreement and does not create rights and obligations governed by international law and will be implemented in accordance with the national laws being in force in the two countries.

## Article 20

This Programme will enter into force on the day of signature and remain in force until 31 December 2027. The Programme may be terminated by either of the Participant in written form. In this case, the Programme expires six months from the date of receipt of the notification about its termination. The termination of this Programme will not affect any ongoing project implemented on its basis.

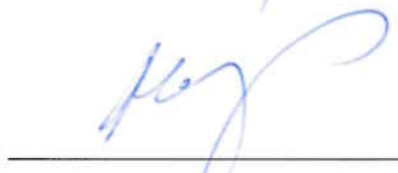
Signed in Riga, on 17 February 2025, in two original copies in Latvian, Hungarian and English. All texts are equally authentic. The English version prevails whenever there is a divergent interpretation of the provisions of the Programme.

On behalf of the  
Ministry of Culture of the  
Republic of Latvia



Zane Vāgnere

On behalf of the  
Ministry of Culture and Innovation  
of Hungary



Csaba Gábor