

**COOPERATION PROGRAMME IN THE FIELD OF CULTURE
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA
AND
THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND MEDIA OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
FOR THE PERIOD 2025-2028**

The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia and the Ministry of Culture and Media of the Republic of Croatia (hereinafter referred to as "the Participants"),

Striving to strengthen Latvian-Croatian cultural relations,

Acting on the basis of the signed Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Croatia on Cultural Cooperation of 22 October 1999,

Have decided to conclude the following Cooperation Programme for the period 2025-2028 (hereinafter referred to as "the Programme"):

Article 1

The Participants will encourage the development of cooperation in the field of culture with a view of mutual learning about the culture and artistic creativity of the two countries.

The Participants will encourage the exchange of cultural and artistic groups, individual artists as well as exhibitions.

Article 2

The Participants will report to each other on cultural events in their respective countries, exchange information on significant arts festivals, competitions, activities of professional and non-professional cultural and artistic organizations, and encourage the participation of their artists at festivals held in other side's country, as well as exchange delegations of experts and cultural representatives.

Article 3

The Participants will assist in establishing direct links between the institutions, encourage the development of cooperation in the field of music, dance, and theatrical arts on the basis of directly concluded cooperation agreements between individual

cultural institutions and promote cooperation within the international music competitions and festivals in the Republic of Latvia and in the Republic of Croatia.

Article 4

The Participants will encourage direct cooperation in the field of theatrical art, especially between ensembles and creators, exchange of experts in the field of theatrical art in the form of invitations to short-term work and study visits, inviting observers to theatre festivals, as well as other significant domestic and international theatre events in the Republic of Latvia and in the Republic of Croatia.

The Participants will encourage the exchange of informational material in the field of theatre, between theatres, theatrical art organizations and associations, as well as encourage the presentation of the original work of theatre authors from one country in the other country.

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

- Baltic Theatre Showcase "Baltic Drama Forum" in 2026;
- International Festival of Contemporary Theatre "Homo Novus" (annually).

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

- Dubrovnik Summer Festival (annually in July and August);
- International Children's Festival Šibenik (annually in June and July);
- International Puppet Theatre Festival PIF (annually in September).

Article 5

The Participants will encourage direct cooperation in the field of music, in particular between vocal and instrumental soloists, conductors and chamber ensembles, exchange of music experts in the form of invitations to short-term work and study visits, participation of observers at music festivals and other significant music events and presentation of music by the authors from one country in the other country.

The Latvian side recommends the following event to the Croatian side:

- International Sacred Music Festival (annually in August).

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

- Osor Music Evenings (annually in July and August).

Article 6

The Participants will encourage direct links between authors in the field of literature from the two countries, support collaboration between literature translators and provide them the residency with granted scholarship.

The Latvian side invites the Croatian side to use the creative residency during the validity of this Programme offered to three (3) authors (writers, poets and translators) by the International Writers' and Translators' House in Ventspils (in further text – Ventspils House). The residency for authors at Ventspils House is available 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 provide a scholarship. Additionally, Ventspils House will offer a possibility for one (1) translator, who translates from Latvian language, to participate in an intensive Latvian language course (all costs covered).

The Croatian side invites Latvian authors and translators from Croatian language to apply for the existing literary residencies in the Republic of Croatia: listed at <https://www.croatian-literature.hr>: Writers in Residence Marko Marulić in Split, Writers' House / *Hiža od besid* Pazin, ZVONA i NARI Library & Literary Retreat Ližnjan, Kamov Residency Rijeka, Residency of the Croatian P.E.N. Centre in Zagreb and Residency of the Croatian Literary Translators' Association in Zagreb.

The Participants, to the best of their ability, will encourage the establishment of direct links between the publishers of both countries. The Participants, to the extent possible, will promote the translation and publication of literary works of the other side's literary works in their country, as well as inform about opportunities of attracting support for the translation and publication through cooperation between the platforms Latvian literature export (www.latvianliterature.lv) and Croatian literature (www.croatian-literature.hr).

The Participants will encourage the participation of editors and publishers on the international book fairs held in both countries.

Article 7

The Participants will encourage direct collaboration between museums, galleries, and non-governmental organizations in the field of visual arts, as well as other entities focused on the documentation and presentation of visual art, art history and culture history, with the aim of exchanging exhibitions, experts, publications, as well as related informative materials.

Article 8

The Participants will encourage direct cooperation between organizations in the field of cultural heritage protection of both countries.

The Participants will encourage the mutual exchange of data, as well as information about the national legislation in this field, professional publications and documentation of the cultural heritage of their countries. The Participants will exchange experts, research knowledge and experience in the field of restoration, protection, records, use and presentation of cultural goods relevant to the history and culture of the two countries, as well as approach of the protection of both tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

Article 9

The Participants will encourage direct cooperation between institutions coordinating folk art and folklore groups with the aim to bring into effect mutual cooperation projects in the field of folk and non-professional art.

Article 10

The Participants will encourage direct cooperation between libraries, in particular in the field of bibliographic processing of library documents and exchange of records, digitalization of documents and exchange of digital content, exchange of international documents, as well as the exchange of experts upon request by the Participants. The forms and scope of cooperation will be agreed directly by the respective libraries.

Article 11

The Participants will encourage the screening of films and the hosting of representatives of cinematography of the other side.

The Participants will encourage the activities and exchange of experts, best practices, and professionals in the field of audiovisual activities, including the video games sector.

The Participants will encourage cooperation of competent authorities in the field of media literacy.

For the Republic of Latvia, the competent authority in the field of audiovisual activities is the National Film Centre of Latvia and the National Electronic Mass Media Council and in the field of media literacy the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia and the National Electronic Mass Media Council.

For the Republic of Croatia, the competent authority in the field of audiovisual activities is the Ministry of Culture and Media of the Republic of Croatia and the Croatian Audiovisual Centre and in the field of media literacy the Ministry of Culture and Media of the Republic of Croatia and the Agency for Electronic Media.

Article 12

The Participants will encourage the exchange of experts, best practices, and creative professionals in the field of creative industries.

The Participants will encourage activities related to the presentation of the Latvian creative industries in the Republic of Croatia and the presentation of the Croatian creative industries in the Republic of Latvia.

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

The Croatian side proposes to develop cooperation with the Croatian Designers Association.

Article 13

The Participants will also encourage other initiatives, the implementation of which would contribute to the development of cultural cooperation between the two countries.

Article 14

The sending side will bear the costs of the international transportation of its official delegations and artistic collectives, as well as the travel expenses (e.g., decorations, requisites, costumes, musical instruments) in both directions, fees, health insurance, customs, and airport taxes.

The receiving side will bear the costs of accommodation, food/daily allowances, local transport, cultural programme, interpreter, and organization of performances, rental of premises, their technical guarantee and staff, as well as the costs of all types of informational material (posters, print, radio and television broadcasting).

Exchanges will be made on the basis of reciprocity and independently concluded agreements.

Article 15

When exchanging exhibitions as well as other subjects in the field of documentation and presentation of the visual arts, art history and culture history, the terms of financial and organizational security of the exhibition will be governed by independent contracts concluded with their organizers with the participation of the Participants.

Article 16

This Programme may be amended by the mutual consent of the Participants, formalized in a written agreement.

Article 17

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 18

This Programme will come into effect on the date of its signature and will remain in effect until 31 December 2028.

Either side may terminate this Programme by giving written notice to the other side six (6) months in advance.

Unless otherwise agreed by the Participants, commitments initiated on the basis of this Programme will not be affected by the expiration date of this Programme until their final conclusion.

Signed in Zagreb on 16 September 2025 in two original copies, each in the Latvian, Croatian and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text will prevail.

For the Ministry of Culture
of the Republic of Latvia



For the Ministry of Culture and Media
of the Republic of Croatia


