

**MEMORANDUM OF CO-OPERATION
IN THE FIELDS OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE, YOUTH, SPORT
AND CULTURE BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
AND SCIENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA AND THE
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, CULTURE, SPORTS, SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY OF JAPAN**

The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan (hereinafter referred to as the "Ministries"),

desiring to strengthen the friendly relations between the two countries and to promote and develop their co-operation in the fields of education, science, youth, sport and culture,

have declared as follows:

Paragraph 1

Ministries will encourage long-term co-operation in the fields of education and science, based on the principle of mutual respect and partnership and within the international instruments, national laws and regulations.

Paragraph 2

In the framework of co-operation in the fields of education and science, Ministries will:

a) encourage the exchange of experience and information in the fields of education and science;

b) encourage the people to people exchange such as pupils, teachers, students, researchers, academic staff, educational officials, experts and specialists;

c) encourage the establishment of direct contacts between the educational and scientific institutions;

d) encourage academic activities in the frame of common programmes and projects of the European Union (EU), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and other international organizations; and

e) encourage the organization of the events such as common conferences, seminars, exhibitions and other similar events.

Paragraph 3

Ministries will encourage higher educational institutions of both countries to promote student exchanges implemented on the basis of bilateral arrangement between them.

Paragraph 4

Ministries will co-operate in the field of education in order to improve their knowledge of the educational system of the other country, and will examine and exchange with the information on matters related to the academic degrees, diplomas and other certificates issued or awarded by the competent educational institutions of their respective countries.

Paragraph 5

Ministries will promote mutual knowledge and recognition in the fields of youth and sports by encouraging the exchange of youths and participation in sports activities, events and festivals organized in both countries.

Ministries will encourage to exchange information on their national laws and regulations and the implementation of youth policy, including information about competent institutions in the youth policy field, youth workers' status and training, and the role of nongovernmental organization (NGO) participation in youth policy making and implementation.

Ministries will enhance co-operation in the fields of sport and physical activity in order to develop a healthy lifestyle among all age groups, to promote the social functions and educational values of sport and to fight against threats to sports such as doping and violence. The cooperation, in particular, will include the exchange of information and good practices, with the aim of deepening the knowledge of sports realities in both countries.

Ministries encourage that the exchanges of sport specialists and athletes will be decided in line with the applicable laws and regulations in force in their respective countries.

Paragraph 6

Ministries recognize the importance to encourage the development of cultural co-operation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, in line with the applicable laws and regulations in force in their respective countries.

Paragraph 7

Ministries recognize the importance to encourage the followings, for the purpose of closer mutual recognition between the nationals of both countries and for the development of cultural co-operation:

- (a) mutual visits by actors, writers, painters, musicians, dancers and other representatives of culture and the arts;
- (b) exchange of art exhibitions, folklore, performances and festivals;
- (c) exchange and dissemination of films, books, periodicals and other publications; and
- (d) any other cooperative activities as Ministries may decide upon.

Paragraph 8

This Memorandum is not legally binding and does not create any rights or obligations to Ministries.

Paragraph 9

The present Memorandum can be modified with the mutual consent of the both Ministries by setting up additional instruments as an integral part of this Memorandum.

The modification will commence by the contents in line with Paragraph 11 of this Memorandum.

Paragraph 10

Any problem concerning interpretation and/or application of this Memorandum will be amicably settled by negotiations and consultations between Ministries.

Paragraph 11

This Memorandum will remain indefinitely and will commence from the date of signing.

Either Ministry may terminate this Memorandum by notifying the other Ministry, in writing of its intention to terminate this Memorandum. The termination will effect take ninety (90) days after the date of such notification. Unless otherwise decided by Ministries, the termination of this

Memorandum will not affect the projects or programs already implemented under this Memorandum and not yet completed at the time of such termination.

Signed in Riga on 29 April 2015, in duplicate in the English language.

**On behalf of the Ministry
of Education and Science
of the Republic of Latvia**



**On behalf of the Ministry
of Education, Culture, Sports,
Science and Technology of Japan**


