

# QUADRENNIAL PERIODIC REPORT LATVIA 2020

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

**Name of Party:**

Latvia

**Date of Ratification:**

2007

**Officially Designated Point of Contact of the Convention:**

**Website:** <http://km.gov.lv>

Ms.

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**Describe the multi-stakeholder consultation process established for the preparation of this report, including consultations with relevant ministries, public institutions, local governments and civil society organizations.:**

The report was prepared by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia, Latvian Contact point of the Convention.

The report was prepared in cooperation with civil society organizations that are united under an umbrella organization

The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia (a non-governmental interdisciplinary organization, that consists of different

professional creative unions) and Association of Non-governmental Organizations of Contemporary Culture.

The Council of the Creative Unions of Latvia (CCUL) was founded in 1988 at the Plenary Meeting of Writers Union as Culture Council of Creative Unions. In 1995 it was registered as an association of professional creative organizations “The Council of the Creative Unions of Latvia”. CCUL is comprised of 11 creative unions, and total membership exceeds 3500 individual members.

The Association of Non-governmental Organizations of Contemporary Culture was founded in 2007 by the leading contemporary culture NGOs in Latvia. The association currently has 19 organizations and individual members and is still open to new members. The aim of the association is to develop and activate the activities of non-governmental organizations in the field of culture and to improve the environment for the activities of cultural NGOs; to represent the interests of cultural NGOs in the cultural policy of the state and local governments; to develop and support innovative cultural processes in Riga and the regions of Latvia, as well as internationally; offer advice and expertise as well as industry research and analysis.

**Executive summary:**

In order to implement the provisions of the 2005 Convention, Latvia has undertaken to observe the participation of non-governmental organizations in the development of policy documents, laws and regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers and their amendments. When developing policy planning documents, as well as laws and regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers, the principles of equality and non-discrimination set out in the Latvian Constitution are simultaneously observed - all people in Latvia are equal before the law and the court. Human rights are exercised without any discrimination.

Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia until 2030 (Latvia 2030) is hierarchically the highest national-level, long-term planning document. It enumerates the main tasks of the state and society to achieve balanced and sustainable development. Latvia 2030 outlines 7 development priorities, including development of culture space.

National Development Plan of Latvia for 2021-2027 (NDP2027), approved by the Saeima at the extraordinary session on July 2, 2020. NDP2027 is Latvia’s main medium-term development planning document. NDP2027 envisages the strategic objectives, priorities and measures for sustainable and balanced development of Latvia for the next seven-year planning period to achieve the Latvian Sustainable Development Strategy 2030 (Latvia2030), the UN Sustainable Development Goals and to improve the quality of life in Latvia over the next seven years. NDP2027 includes priority Culture and Sport for an Active Lifestyle and involves both – public participation in culture activities and contribution of culture to sustainable society.

The development of Cultural Policy Guideline 2021-2027 is happening in collaboration with CSO, industry advisory councils and society in order to develop comprehensive and non discriminatory policy. The draft of cultural policy guidelines includes 4 directions of activity - accessibility of cultural services to every inhabitant of Latvia, public participation in cultural processes, strengthening of cultural diversity and cultural education.

**Contact details of the stakeholders involved in the preparation of the quadrennial periodic report (QPR). Please also include the contact details of the civil society organizations (CSOs) if they have contributed to the QPR drafting, including through the CSO form.:**

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Civil Society Organization (CSO)	The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia	info@makslinieki.lv	<a href="http://artists.lv/">http://artists.lv/</a>
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Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Association of Non-governmental Organizations of Contemporary Culture	pavlova.maija@gmail.com	<a href="https://kulturasnvo.wordpress.com/">https://kulturasnvo.wordpress.com/</a>
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# GOAL 1 - SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS OF GOVERNANCE FOR CULTURE



## CULTURAL AND CREATIVE SECTORS

**A Ministry (or agency with ministerial status) is responsible for cultural and creative sectors: YES**

**Regional, provincial or local governments or administrations have decentralised responsibilities for policies and measures promoting the cultural and creative sectors:: YES**

**Regulatory frameworks and sector specific laws, policies and/or strategies supporting the cultural and creative industries have been revised or adopted during the last 4 years: YES**

**If YES, has at least one of them been designed through interministerial cooperation (involving different government departments responsible for policy areas, such as communication, education, ICT, trade, foreign affairs, labor, finance): YES**

**Specific education and training programmes in the arts and the cultural and creative sectors are established, including:**

Technical and vocational education and training programmes in

Cinema/Audiovisual arts

Cultural management

Design

Digital cultural and creative sectors

Media arts

Music

Performing arts

Publishing

Visual arts

Tertiary and university education degrees in

Cinema/audiovisual arts

Cultural management

Design

Digital cultural and creative sectors

Media arts

Music

Performing arts

Visual arts

**Specific measures and programmes have been implemented over the last 4 years to:**

Support job creation in the cultural and creative sectors

**Statistical offices or research bodies have produced data during the last 4 years:**

related to cultural and creative sectors  
evaluating cultural policies

**Share of cultural and creative sectors in Gross Domestic Product (GDP):**

1.10%

**Please provide whenever possible disaggregated data by sector:**

Cultural services - 1,1% GDP

2019

**Please provide whenever possible disaggregated data by sector, age, sex and type of employment:**

In state administrative institutions that are subordinate to the Ministry of Culture and companies in which the Ministry is a state capital share-holder - 4403

**Total public budget for culture (in USD):**

185,780,561USD

2019

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

**Cultural Policy Guidelines 2014-2020 "Creative Latvia"**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Website of the policy/measure, if available:**

[https://www.km.gov.lv/uploads/ckeditor/files/KM\\_dokumenti/CULTURAL\\_POLICY\\_GUIDELINES\\_2014-2020\\_CREATIVE\\_LATVIA.pdf](https://www.km.gov.lv/uploads/ckeditor/files/KM_dokumenti/CULTURAL_POLICY_GUIDELINES_2014-2020_CREATIVE_LATVIA.pdf)

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The Cultural Policy Guidelines 2014-2020 "Creative Latvia" (hereinafter – the Guidelines) is a medium-term policy planning document, which determines the State cultural policy objectives and priorities for the time period up to 2020 and promotes the achievement of the objectives brought forward in State long-term and medium-term policy planning documents.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

During the mid-term evaluation, most of the Guidelines all or part of the planned activities have been completed. Overall, 94% of the planned measures have been identified progress as planned. Tasks had been completed in the field of preservation and development of the cultural capital promoting participation of the society in cultural processes, creativity in lifelong education and cultural education oriented towards labour market, competitive cultural and creative industries, creative territories and access to cultural services.

**Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:**

426669554.72 USD

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** YES

**If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:**

The planning document Creative Latvia implemented a high hierarchical link with other medium-term development planning documents, creating vertical and horizontal links. At the same time, the Creative Latvia Guidelines are characterized by a high degree of internal coherence between the overarching goal, the problems, the priorities and their objectives, the directions of action and the tasks. The bottom-up approach has fostered the democratic involvement and participation of cultural actors and stakeholders in the development of Creative Latvia. It is necessary to increase the involvement of target groups in the development of the new cultural policy planning document. The Guidelines are viewed by those involved and those responsible for the implementation of Creative Latvia as a functional and useful document. The planning document successfully sets priorities, aims and summarizes all the most important medium-term tasks of the cultural policy, which allows it to be successfully used for argumentation of national and EU funding for implementation of strategically important activities.

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

State Culture Capital Foundation

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

National Film Centre of Latvia

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

All ministries of the Republic of Latvia,

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

State museums, libraries

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

NGOs,

**Type of entity:**

Private Sector

The Centre for Culture Information Systems

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

Latvian National Centre for Culture

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

National Heritage Board

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## MEDIA DIVERSITY

**Public service media has a legal or statutory remit to promote a diversity of cultural expressions:** YES

**Policies and measures promote content diversity in programming by supporting:**

Regional and/or local broadcasters

Community programming for marginalised groups (e.g. indigenous peoples, migrants and refugees, etc.)

Socio-cultural programming (e.g. children, youth, people with disabilities, etc.)

**Domestic content regulations for audio-visual media exist (e.g. quotas for production or distribution requirements for national films, TV series or music on radio):** NO

**Regulatory authority(ies) monitoring media exist:** YES

**If YES, please provide the name and year of establishment of the regulatory authority(ies):**

National Electronic Mass Media Council. Estimated 1995

**If YES, these regulatory authority(ies) monitor:**

Public media

Community media

Private sector media

Online media

**If YES, these regulatory authority(ies) are responsible for:**

Issuing licenses to broadcasters, content providers, platforms

Receiving and addressing public complaints such as online harassment, fake news, hate speech, etc.

Monitoring cultural (including linguistic) obligations

Monitoring gender equality in the media

Monitoring editorial independence of the media

Monitoring diversity in media ownership (diversity of ownership structures, transparency of ownership rules, limits on ownership concentration, etc.)

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### **Mērķprogramma "Kultūras nozares dokumentēšana" / Programme "Documentation of Cultural Sector"**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

State Culture Capital Foundation

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Website of the policy/measure, if available:**

<https://kkf.lv/index/konkursi/m%C4%93r%C4%B7programmu-konkursi/m%C4%93r%C4%B7programmas-2020/kult%C5%ABras-nozares-dokument%C4%93%C5%A1ana.html>

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The aim of the program is to make investments on a competitive basis to support the activities and strengthen the capacity of the specialized media in the cultural sector, ensuring their ability to implement high-quality preservation and reflection of the ongoing cultural processes.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

In 2020 13 projects ideas were supported by SCCF. Amount of aid - 100 000 EUR

**Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:**

112350

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** NO

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

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## DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT

**Policies, measures or mechanisms are in place to support the digital transformation of cultural and creative industries and institutions (e.g. funding for digitization of analogue industries):** YES

**Policies or measures have been introduced to ensure vibrant domestic digital cultural and creative industries markets with a diversity of e-players of all sizes (e.g. fair remuneration rules; control market concentration; prevention of monopolies of digital content providers/distributors or their algorithms that potentially restrict the diversity of cultural expressions, etc.):** YES

**Policies and measures have been implemented to enhance access to and discoverability of domestically produced cultural content in the digital environment (e.g. action plans or policies for digital content pluralism, public support to cultural or artistic portals in specific languages, national or regional online distribution platforms for domestic content, etc.):** YES

**Measures and initiatives have been implemented to promote digital creativity and competencies of artists and other cultural professionals working with new technologies (e.g. spaces for experimentation, incubators, etc.):** YES

**Statistics or studies with recent data on access to digital media, including on the type of cultural content available through digital media, are available:** NO

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### **Digital Cultural Heritage Strategy**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

By the end of 2021, the project will see the current digital content of the National Library of Latvia, the National Archives of Latvia and other cultural institutions complemented. The project will digitize 3 075 000 pages of text, 117 000 descriptions of various images and valuable cultural artefacts, including maps, photographs, surveys of cultural monuments and descriptions of objects, 223 000 minutes of audio, 245 000 minutes of video footage, 37 500 minutes of cinema footage, 70 000 museum objects, as well as a small amount of 3D digitalization of cultural monuments (10 units), records of cultural events (50 units) and intangible cultural heritage (15 units). Simultaneously with the digitization process, the project will further develop the Digital Object Management and Conservation System, develop the 1st Stage of the Copyright Management and Content Licensing System, equip 29 regional cultural centres with Video Content Distribution Infrastructure, create one Content Management and one Content Dissemination Centre, publish several Open Datasets, including Related Open Datasets, and develop the 1st Stage of an Integrated Centralized Open System Information Platform. The project implementation costs are EUR 8 000 000, of which EUR 6 800 000 (85%) is ERDF funding and EUR 1 200 000 (15%) is national co-funding. At least 50% of the project's eligible costs are for the digitization of cultural-heritage content.



**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:**

8988000

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** NO

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

Latvian National Library

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

National Archives of Latvia

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

National Heritage Board

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## PARTNERING WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

**Professional organizations and/or trade unions representing artists and/or cultural professionals in the following sectors exist in your country (i.e. federation of musicians, publishers unions, etc.):**

Cinema/Audiovisual arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Publishing

Visual Arts

Performing Arts

**Public funding schemes supporting CSOs involvement in promoting the diversity of cultural expressions exist:** YES

**Training and mentoring opportunities were organized or supported by public authorities during the last 4 years to build skills on communication, advocacy and/or fundraising of civil society organizations involved in the promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions:** YES

**Dialogue mechanisms between public authorities and CSOs for cultural policy making and/or monitoring have been implemented during the last 4 years (meetings, working groups, etc.):** YES

**If YES, please provide up to 2 examples:**

National Culture Council - a public advisory body to the Ministry of Culture on cultural and cultural policy issues, which aims to promote the balanced The National Council of Culture includes three members of the public invited by the Minister of Culture, delegates of the Council of Creative Unions.

**Policies and measures promoting the diversity of cultural expressions have been elaborated in consultation with CSOs during the last 4 years:** YES

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### **Cultural Policy Guidelines 2021-2027 - Document in progress**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The Cultural Policy Guidelines 2021-2027 (hereinafter – the Guidelines) is a medium-term policy planning document, which determines the State cultural policy objectives and priorities for the time period up to 2027 and promotes the achievement of the objectives brought forward in State long-term and medium-term policy planning documents.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** NO

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

All ministries of the Republic of Latvia

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

NGOs

**Type of entity:**

Private Sector

Institutions of creative sector

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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# GOAL 2 - ACHIEVE A BALANCED FLOW OF CULTURAL GOODS AND SERVICES AND INCREASE THE MOBILITY OF ARTISTS AND CULTURAL PROFESSIONALS



## MOBILITY OF ARTISTS AND CULTURAL PROFESSIONALS

### Please indicate if the following policies and measures exist in your country:

Policies and measures supporting the outward mobility of artists and cultural professionals (e.g. export offices, support for participation in international cultural markets for cultural professionals, etc.)

### Please indicate if the following operational programmes have been developed or supported/funded by public authorities during the last 4 years:

Information resources or training services providing practical guidance to facilitate the mobility of cultural professionals (e.g. Internet platforms)

Infrastructure (e.g. arts residencies, cultural institutes, etc.) having a mandate to promote the diversity of cultural expressions and hosting a large number of foreign artists, notably from developing countries

Major cultural events (e.g. cultural seasons, festivals, cultural industries markets, etc.) having a mandate to promote the diversity of cultural expressions and hosting a large number of foreign artists, notably from developing countries

### Please indicate if the following mobility funds (e.g. scholarships, travel grants, etc.) have been managed or supported by public authorities during the last 4 years:

Public funds supporting the outward mobility of national or resident artists and other cultural professionals

Public funds specifically supporting the mobility of artists and other cultural professionals from or between developing countries, including through North-South-South and South-South cooperation

### Relevant Policies and Measures:

#### **Creative Travel Support Program**

##### **Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

State Culture Capital Foundation

##### **Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Website of the policy/measure, if available:**

<http://www.kkf.lv/index/konkursi/rado%C5%A1ie-braucieni.html>

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

In order to promote the development of international relations, the dissemination of Latvian artistic and cultural values and their accessibility to the general public, as well as to promote the process of cultural renewal and artistic creation and to promote education and professional development, the National Cultural Endowment for Culture (VKKF) Creative Travel Support Program supports applications for travel in which the applicant participates in short-term scientific, creative or training programs, cultural conferences, festivals and competitions upon personal invitation or accreditation.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

In 2020 taking into account both the current information on the prevalence of COVID-19 and the call of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to consider the need to travel abroad, as well as the mandatory requirement to observe self-isolation when returning to Latvia from countries with high Covid-19 to close the application for the Creative Travel Support Program from 1 September 2020. The SCCF Council will decide on the further implementation of the program in the light of developments.

**Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:**

139 213 euro in 2019

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** NO

## FLOW OF CULTURAL GOODS AND SERVICES

**Export strategies or measures to support the distribution of cultural goods and services outside your country exist for the following cultural domains:**

-

**Your country has granted or benefited from preferential treatment\* to support a balanced exchange of cultural goods and services in the last 4 years:**

-

**If YES, please provide up to 2 examples:**

-

**Your country has provided or benefited in the last 4 years from Aid for Trade support, a form of Official Development Assistance (ODA), that helped to build capacities to formulate trade policies, participate in negotiating and implementing agreements that provide a special status to cultural goods and services:**

-

**If YES, please provide up to 2 examples:**

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**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

-

## TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS

**Multilateral or bilateral trade and/or investment agreements providing a special status to cultural goods and/or services have been signed during the last 4 years or are under negotiation:**

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**Multilateral or bilateral agreements including specific provisions providing a special status to cultural goods and services and digital products in the field of e-commerce have been signed during the last 4 years or are under negotiation:**

-

**Multilateral or bilateral agreements, declarations and/or strategies on relevant policy issues for the diversity of cultural expressions (e.g. education, digital, intellectual property, sustainable development, gender equality, etc.) signed or amended to take into account the objectives or principles of the Convention during the last 4 years: -**

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

-

# GOAL 3 - INTEGRATE CULTURE IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORKS



## NATIONAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES & PLANS

**National sustainable development plans and strategies recognize the strategic role of:**

Culture (in general)  
Creativity and innovation  
Cultural and creative industries

**Please rate from 1 to 4 the type of outcomes expected by the inclusion of culture in national sustainable development plans and strategies 1 most often expected outcome 4 least expected outcome):**

**Economic (e.g. employment, trade, intellectual property, cultural and creative industries, rural and territorial development): 3**

**Social (e.g. social cohesion and inclusion, inequality and poverty reduction, values and identity, vulnerable and minority groups, empowerment and human capital, education): 4**

**Environmental (e.g. natural resources, reducing environmental impact of cultural industries and practices): 4**

**Cultural (e.g. cultural infrastructure, participation and access to culture, innovation, artists support): 3**

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**Public cultural bodies and agencies responsible for culture or creative industries are involved in the design and implementation of sustainable development policies and plans (i.e. participate in coordination mechanisms such as joint planning committees): YES**

**Cultural industry-led regeneration initiatives and projects at the regional, urban and/or rural levels have been implemented in the last 4 years: YES**

**Policies and measures facilitate participation in cultural life and access to diverse cultural facilities and expressions, notably addressing the needs of disadvantaged or vulnerable groups (e.g. via reduced entrance fees; audience development, arts education and audiences awareness-raising): YES**

**Latest data on cultural participation rates by socio demographic variables (sex/age groups/rural-urban/income levels/education levels):**

Every two years Ministry of Culture conducts a research on cultural participation. The results of the 2018 survey show that spending on culture The most popular cultural consumption activities among the population are: attending a parish, city or county celebration (69%), watching television Young people's favourite forms of leisure time differ significantly from other age groups of the population. While watching television is the most popular Young people are more likely to listen to music (73%), use the computer, the Internet (72%), and spend time with friends (72%). Compared to the The survey also shows that computer and the Internet are one of the favourite ways of spending leisure time in Latvia - 44% have mentioned it.

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

## **Latvian National Development Plan 2021-2027**

### **Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Cross-Sectoral Coordination Centre of the Republic of Latvia, all ministries

### **Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

### **Website of the policy/measure, if available:**

[https://www.pkc.gov.lv/sites/default/files/inline-files/NAP2027\\_\\_ENG.pdf](https://www.pkc.gov.lv/sites/default/files/inline-files/NAP2027__ENG.pdf)

### **Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The National Development Plan for 2021-2027 (NDP2027) is Latvia's highest national-level medium-term planning document. It has been developed in accordance with the Latvian Sustainable Development Strategy until 2030 (Latvia2030) and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) so that the quality of life improves for each individual, and society as a whole over the next seven years. [2] Latvia2030 defines Latvia's long-term development vision. It is the highest national level long-term development document and the main planning document that defines the spatial development perspective - an integrated view of the country's balanced and sustainable development. [3] NDP2027 focuses on achieving the vision described in Latvia2030: • In 2030 Latvia will be a thriving country of active and responsible citizens. Everyone will have the opportunity to feel safe and have a sense of belonging to Latvia; everyone here will have the opportunity to achieve his or her goals. The strength of the nation will lie in its inherited, discovered and newly created cultural and spiritual values, the richness of Latvian language and people's knowledge of other languages. It will unite the society in the creation of new, diverse and unique values in the economy, science and culture that will also be appreciated outside Latvia. • Riga will be an important European cultural, tourism and business centre. To promote regional development, preconditions will be created to increase the economic potential of all regions and reduce socio-economic disparities. The regional GDP gap will be reduced in the medium term by increasing competitiveness and providing territory specific solutions for improving population distribution and quality of the living environment; • Latvia is our home. It is green, creative and easy to reach, and we are accountable towards future generations for ensuring its sustainability.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** NO

### **Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

All ministries

#### **Type of entity:**

Public Sector

NGOs

#### **Type of entity:**

Private Sector

All institutions



**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

All institutions

**Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

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# INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**Your country has contributed to or benefited from the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) during the last 4 years:**

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**Development cooperation strategies, including South-South cooperation strategies, recognize the strategic role of creativity and diverse cultural expressions: -**

**If YES, please provide the name(s) of the strategy and year(s) of adoption:**

-

**Your country manages multi- and/or bilateral technical assistance and capacity building cooperation programmes supporting:**

-

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

-

# GOAL 4 - PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS



## GENDER EQUALITY

**Ministries, governmental agencies and/or parliamentary bodies in charge of gender equality:**

Do not exist

**Policies and measures to support the full participation of women in cultural life have been implemented during the last 4 years:** NO

**Policies and measures have been adopted to support the recognition and advancement of women as artists, cultural professionals and/or creative entrepreneurs, (e.g. ensure equal pay for equal work or equal access to funding, coaching or mentoring schemes, anti-discrimination measures, etc.):** NO

**Data is regularly collected and disseminated to monitor:**

-

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

-

## ARTISTIC FREEDOM

**The constitution and/or national regulatory frameworks formally acknowledge:**

-

**Independent bodies are established to receive complaints and/or monitor violations and restrictions to artistic freedom:** -

**Initiatives to protect artists at risk or in exile have been developed or supported by public authorities during the last 4 years (e.g. providing safe houses, guidance and training, etc.):** -

**Measures and initiatives intended to ensure transparent decision-making on government funding/ state grants and awards for artists exist (e.g. through independent committees, etc.):** -

**Social protection measures that take the professional status of artists into account have been adopted or revised in the last 4 years (e.g. health insurance, retirement schemes, unemployment benefits, etc.):** -

**Economic measures that take the status of artists into account have been adopted or revised in the last 4 years (e.g. collective agreements, income tax and other regulatory frameworks, etc.):** -

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

-

# MEASURES AND INITIATIVES REPORTED BY CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

**Describe how the CSO form has been used to promote collaboration with CSOs in the preparation of this report, including the distribution of the form and the modalities of collection and analysis of the information received. Please indicate the percentage of measures and initiatives received that have been considered as relevant by the Party and included in the QPR.:**

In order to obtain information on the measures taken by the CSO, a conversation was organized in which the CSO expressed its views on the measures to be included. Conversation was organised with two largest NGOs that represents whole creative sector. The Council of the Creative Unions of Latvia (CCUL) was founded in 1988 at the Plenary Meeting of Writers Union as Culture Council of Creative Unions. In 1995 it was registered as an association of professional creative organizations "The Council of the Creative Unions of Latvia". CCUL is comprised of 11 creative unions, and total membership exceeds 3500 individual members. The Association of Non-governmental Organizations of Contemporary Culture was founded in 2007 by the leading contemporary culture NGOs in Latvia. The association currently has 19 organizations and individual members and is still open to new members. The aim of the association is to develop and activate the activities of non-governmental organizations in the field of culture and to improve the environment for the activities of cultural NGOs; to represent the interests of cultural NGOs in the cultural policy of the state and local governments; to develop and support innovative cultural processes in Riga and the regions of Latvia, as well as internationally; offer advice and expertise as well as industry research and analysis.

**GOAL 1 - Support sustainable systems of governance for culture:**

## **Members of National Council for Culture**

**Name of CSO(s) responsible for the implementation of the measure/initiative:**

Information was provided by: 1. CSO NAME: The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia EMAIL: info@makslinieki.lv PHONE: +371 29252778 2. CSO NAME: Association of Non-governmental Organizations of Contemporary Culture EMAIL: pavlova.maija@gmail.com

National Council for Culture is coordinated by Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia

**Cultural domains covered by the measure/initiative:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Website of the measure/initiative, if available:**

<https://www.km.gov.lv/lv/ministrija/sabiedribas-lidzdaliba/starprozaru-sadarbibas-partneri/nacionala-kulturas-padome#gsc.tab=0>

<http://artists.lv/>

<https://kulturasnvo.wordpress.com/par-mums/>

**Describe the main features of the measure/initiative:**

Both organisations (The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia and Association of Non-governmental Organizations of Contemporary Culture) are members of National Council for Culture and implements very active participation. The Latvian National Council of Culture was established in 2009, its operation was renewed at the beginning of 2014. It is a public consultative institution of the Ministry of Culture on cultural sectors and cultural policy, the aim of which is to promote balanced development of cultural and cultural heritage sectors in the interests of the whole society. The tasks of the National Council of Culture are: 1. to evaluate and forecast cultural perspectives in the context of cultural policy and national development and to provide the Ministry of Culture and the Minister of Culture with reasoned proposals; 2. to co-operate with the Minister of Culture, structural units and institutions of the Ministry of Culture in the development of sectoral strategies and policies, determination of priorities, development of budget and investment policy and evaluation of draft legal acts; 3. to maintain links with the cultural, cultural heritage sectors and cross-sectoral sectors, discuss issues relevant to them and make proposals for solutions; 4. to coordinate the opinions of state institutions and various interest groups in the field of culture on issues of cultural policy; 5. to represent the interests of culture, cultural heritage sectors and related inter-sectors in the context of the formation and development of state policy by delegating representatives to negotiations with state and local government institutions; 6. to maintain a discussion in society about the role of culture in the development of society and the state; 7. to evaluate the applications of the applicants for the Award of Excellence in Culture and to submit proposals to the Minister of Culture regarding the candidates for the award; 8. to nominate a representative from among its members in the institutions (for example, in the council of the State Culture Capital Fund), in which the council must be represented The Council of the Creative Unions of Latvia (CCUL) was founded in 1988 at the Plenary Meeting of Writers Union as Culture Council of Creative Unions. In 1995 it was registered as an association of professional creative organizations "The Council of the Creative Unions of Latvia". CCUL is comprised of 11 creative unions, and total membership exceeds 3500 individual members. The Association of Non-governmental Organizations of Contemporary Culture was founded in 2007 by the leading contemporary culture NGOs in Latvia The association currently has 19 organizations and individual members and is still open to new members. The aim of the association is to develop and activate the activities of non-governmental organizations in the field of culture and to improve the environment for the activities of cultural NGOs; to represent the interests of cultural NGOs in the cultural policy of the state and local governments; to develop and support innovative cultural processes in Riga and the regions of Latvia, as well as internationally; offer advice and expertise as well as industry research and analysis.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does this measure/initiative receive or has it received International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) funding?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the measure/initiative?:**

As a result of active participation and expression of the opinion of the sector, amendments are made to the laws and regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers, which regularly take into account the opinion of those working in the cultural sector. At the same time, the development of cultural policy guidelines for the period from 2021 to 2027 is ensured, which determines the development of the cultural sector at the national level. All the above-mentioned tasks of the National Council of Culture are regularly implemented.

## **Law on the Status of Creative Persons and Professional Creative Organisations and Programme of Support Measure for Creative Persons**

**Name of CSO(s) responsible for the implementation of the measure/initiative:**

The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia EMAIL: info@makslinieki.lv PHONE: +371 29252778

**Cultural domains covered by the measure/initiative:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts  
Music  
Performing Arts  
Publishing  
Visual Arts

**Website of the measure/initiative, if available:**

<https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/295594-law-on-the-status-of-creative-persons-and-professional-creative-organisations>

<http://www.kkf.lv/index/rado%C5%A1o-personu-atbalsta-pas%C4%81kumu-programma.html>

<http://makslinieki.lv/Rado%C5%A1o-personu-atbalsts/>

**Describe the main features of the measure/initiative:**

Participation of the Council of Creative Unions of Latvia in the development of the Law on the Status of Creative Persons and Professional Creative Organisations (hereinafter - Law). The purpose of this Law is to promote the development and strengthening of professional artistic and scientific creations by determining the status of creative persons and professional creative organisations and the support measures. In accordance to the Section 14 of the Law the programme of support measures for creative persons is an aggregate of measures to be carried out in order to provide support to creative persons The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia helps to implement Programme of Support Measures for Creative Persons by providing consultations for creative persons in order to get apply for support at State Cultural Capital Foundation or to help to obtain the status of a creative person for persons who do not belong to any professional creative organization.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does this measure/initiative receive or has it received International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) funding?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the measure/initiative?:**

The Law on the Status of Creative Persons and Professional Creative Organisations has come into force on 01.01.2018. Number of persons who have received support in Programme of Support Measures for Creative Persons: 1. the creative person has temporarily not received the income necessary for further creative activity due to the specifics of his or her professional activity;(105 persons in 2020, 132 870 EUR) 2. the creative person has a temporary incapacity for work(3 persons in 2020, 536 EUR); 3. for creative persons to ensure living conditions (temporary partial coverage of medical treatment costs and utility payments). (418 persons in 2020; 268 389 EUR) More about the Programme of Support Measures for Creative Persons

<http://www.kkf.lv/index/rado%C5%A1o-personu-atbalsta-pas%C4%81kumu-programma.html> in Latvian.

**GOAL 2 - Achieve a balanced flow of cultural goods and services and increase the mobility of artists and cultural professionals:**

**Large scale festivals and residencies**

**Name of CSO(s) responsible for the implementation of the measure/initiative:**

Information was provided by: 1. CSO NAME: The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia EMAIL: [infor@makslinieki.lv](mailto:infor@makslinieki.lv) PHONE: +371 29252778 2. CSO NAME: Association of Non-governmental Organizations of Contemporary Culture EMAIL: [pavlova.maija@gmail.com](mailto:pavlova.maija@gmail.com)

**Cultural domains covered by the measure/initiative:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts  
Design  
Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Website of the measure/initiative, if available:**

<http://theatre.lv/eng/>

<http://www.serde.lv/?q=lv/node/11>

<http://rixc.org/en/center/>

<http://www.noass.lv/about-us/into/en/>

**Describe the main features of the measure/initiative:**

Various non-governmental cultural organizations organize festivals to which guest artists are invited. They are organized by such organizations as the Latvian New Theater Institute, Serde, RixC etc. At the same time, the residences of artists and writers are maintained, which allows you to work creatively both in the Dubulti Writers' House, International Writers and Translators House in Ventspils, Serde etc. Since 2009 the association "Culture and Art Project NOASS" started artists in residence program. The resident house is located on NOASS second floor and studio type apartment on Zaubes street. The main objective is to enable artists to get acquainted with Riga as one of the most beautiful cities in the Baltic States, it's diverse cultural life, giving new impulses to new creation in the field of visual art, art criticism, writers. more about residence >> Since 2007, "Culture and Arts Project NOASS" has operated within the TEH- Trans Europe Halles – European Network of Independent Culture Centres. TEH supports a range of creative initiatives in the European Union and has a membership comprised of 49 culture and arts organizations from 25 countries. more about TEH and projects >> The second largest European network where NOASS actively participates is European Network of Cultural Centres (ENCC). Since 2008, "Culture and Arts Project NOASS" has functioned as a EVS – European Volunteer Services sending and hosting organization, thus promoting the mobility of young people who are interested in cultural and arts events among various public organizations. Also, NOASS is registered in PADOR database which is managed by EuropeAid. PADOR or "Potential Applicants Data Online Registration" is a recent applicant processing system introduced by European Commissions through EuropeAid to understand and maintain extensive information about NGOs requesting funds from it for collaboration projects with worldwide organizations. In addition to the mobility and residency programmes and the opportunities for European volunteer work and its participation in TEH, "Culture and Arts Project NOASS" is continuing the partnerships it has begun with other foreign organizations, representing the Latvian Video Art Archive and selections of the very best works from the well-established contemporary arts and video festival, "Waterpieces", as well as the Latvian contemporary art scene at international level. Festivals of national significance, which include the participation of foreign artists, are implemented with the help of the State Cultural Capital Fund. For example New Theatre Institute of Latvia (NTIL) is a project based organisation working in the field of contemporary performing arts. Since 1995 NTIL has been organizing the International Festival of Contemporary Theatre Homo Novus, which is the largest performing arts platform in Latvia. NTIL also produces and presents projects and long term collaboration programmes together with local and international partners, strongly believing in the necessity to explore the contemporary performing arts field together with artists and audiences. <http://theatre.lv/eng/> Serde (an association whose goal is to promote the development of professional art in Latvia by developing regional and international cooperation between cultural and artistic organizations of various fields and individuals by offering a real functioning environment and infrastructure outside the usual central urban environment)<http://www.serde.lv/?q=lv/node/11> RIXC is the center for new media culture, art gallery and artist collective, that initiates projects in intersection of art, science and emerging technologies. RIXC's activities include: running an art gallery, production of artworks and innovative art, science and technology projects, organising of the annual RIXC Art

Science festival, exhibitions, publishing of Acoustic Space journal series. (<http://rixc.org/en/center/>) “Culture and Arts Project NOASS” is one of the oldest non-governmental arts and culture organizations in Latvia. NOASS’ goal is to participate in the formation of the Latvian and European cultural environment. In the main, NOASS supports the realization of contemporary arts projects in an urban environment, making art part of the daily lives of residents of Riga and visitors to the city. Furthermore, for several years now association have participated in the planning and programming of the contemporary arts forum, “White Night”, the annual “Riga City Festival” and the “International Museums Night”, as well as realizing a range of individual projects. (<http://www.noass.lv/about-us/into/en/>)

**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does this measure/initiative receive or has it received International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) funding?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the measure/initiative?:**

Taking into account the Latvian Cultural Capital Fund, the support of the non-governmental sector and local governments, every year it is possible to continue the activities of artists and writers residencies, as well as organize festivals that introduce Latvian audiences to the performance of foreign professionals in the cultural sector. This positive trend is expected to continue.

**GOAL 3 - Integrate culture in sustainable development frameworks:**

-

**GOAL 4 - Promote human rights and fundamental freedoms:**

### **Law on the Status of Creative Persons and Professional Creative Organisations**

**Name of CSO(s) responsible for the implementation of the measure/initiative:**

Information was provided by: CSO NAME: The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia EMAIL: [infor@makslinieki.lv](mailto:infor@makslinieki.lv) PHONE: +371 29252778

**Cultural domains covered by the measure/initiative:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Website of the measure/initiative, if available:**

<https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/295594-law-on-the-status-of-creative-persons-and-professional-creative-organisations>

**Describe the main features of the measure/initiative:**

In order to promote and advocate for social protection measures that take the status of artists into account (e.g. health insurance; retirement schemes; unemployment benefits; etc.) the Council of Creative Unions of Latvia has taken participation into development of Law on the Status of Creative Persons and Professional Creative Organisations (hereinafter – the Law) (see file [cso\\_form\\_final\\_1rst goal\\_PRO](#)). In order to protect artists, organisations can apply to the status of Professional Creative Organisation and it is given by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia. In order to apply for the status organisation shall protect the professional and social rights of creative persons that are their members. Section 10 also determines that professional creative organisation has rights to create security and benefit funds and disburse to its members the benefits and grants specified in the articles of association Both organisations take active participation in



debate with Ministry of Finances of the Republic of Latvia on taxes and social guarantees, on the specific form of employment of artists, retirement pensions etc.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does this measure/initiative receive or has it received International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) funding?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the measure/initiative?:**

As a result of active participation and expression of the opinion of the sector, amendments are made to the laws and regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers, which regularly take into account the opinion of those working in the cultural sector.

**On the basis of the analysis of the responses provided through the CSO form, present up to ten main priorities of CSOs to implement the Convention over the next four years.:**

-

## EMERGING TRANSVERSAL ISSUES

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

-

## CHALLENGES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

**Describe the main results achieved to implement the Convention (at least one major achievement in one of the four goals):**

Participation of the Council of Creative Unions of Latvia in the development of the Law on the Status of Creative Persons and Professional Creative Organisations (hereinafter - Law). The purpose of this Law is to promote the development and strengthening of professional artistic and scientific creations by determining the status of creative persons and professional creative organisations and the support measures. The Law on the Status of Creative Persons and Professional Creative Organisations has come into force on 01.01.2018.

**Describe the main challenges encountered to implement the Convention and the main solutions found or envisaged to overcome them:**

The biggest challenge is changes in tax policy - the planned changes do not always have a positive impact on the future development of the cultural sector. If necessary, in-depth discussions are held with representatives of the cultural sector in order to understand the nature of the situation in detail and a compromise is reached.

**Describe the steps planned in the next four years to further implement the Convention and the priority areas identified for future policy action based on the conclusions of the current reporting process:**

The dialogue with the cultural sector in various formats will be strengthened and continued.

## ANNEXES

**Please upload relevant documents (law, policy, agreement, regulation, strategy, etc.), studies and statistics in PDF format related to the implementation of the 4 goals and the 11 areas of monitoring of the Convention in your country. The documents should have been produced during the reporting period covered by this periodic report. Please provide the title and a description of the main content of the document in English or French.:**

-

# SUBMISSION

**Designated official signing the report:**

**Title:** Ms.

**First name:** Sabīne

**Family name:** Branta

**Organization:** Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia

**Position:** Senior Officer

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**Date of submission:**

2020

**Electronic Signature:**

-

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# Quadrennial Periodic Report

Please review your submission



## GENERAL INFORMATION

### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

**Name of Party:**

Latvia

**Date of**

**Ratification:**

2007

**Officially Designated Point of Contact of the Convention:**

**Website:** <http://km.gov.lv> (<http://km.gov.lv>)

Ms.

Sabīne Branta

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia

K. Valdemāra iela 11a

Rīga LV-1364

Latvia

**Phone Number:** 0037167330349

[pasts@km.gov.lv](mailto:pasts@km.gov.lv)

**Email:** [sabine.branta@km.gov.lv](mailto:sabine.branta@km.gov.lv)

**Describe the multi-stakeholder consultation process established for the preparation of this report, including consultations with relevant ministries, public institutions, local governments and civil society organizations.:**

The report was prepared by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia, Latvian Contact point of the Convention.

The report was prepared in cooperation with civil society organizations that are united under an umbrella organization

The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia (a non-governmental interdisciplinary organization, that consists of different professional creative unions) and Association of Non-governmental Organizations of Contemporary Culture.

The Council of the Creative Unions of Latvia (CCUL) was founded in 1988 at the Plenary Meeting of Writers Union as Culture Council of Creative Unions. In 1995 it was registered as an association of professional creative organizations "The Council of the Creative Unions of Latvia". CCUL is comprised of

11 creative unions, and total membership exceeds 3500 individual members.

The Association of Non-governmental Organizations of Contemporary Culture was founded in 2007 by the leading contemporary culture NGOs in Latvia. The association currently has 19 organizations and individual members and is still open to new members. The aim of the association is to develop and activate the activities of non-governmental organizations in the field of culture and to improve the environment for the activities of cultural NGOs; to represent the interests of cultural NGOs in the cultural policy of the state and local governments; to develop and support innovative cultural processes in Riga and the regions of Latvia, as well as internationally; offer advice and expertise as well as industry research and analysis.

### **Executive summary:**

In order to implement the provisions of the 2005 Convention, Latvia has undertaken to observe the participation of non-governmental organizations in the development of policy documents, laws and regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers and their amendments. When developing policy planning documents, as well as laws and regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers, the principles of equality and non-discrimination set out in the Latvian Constitution are simultaneously observed - all people in Latvia are equal before the law and the court. Human rights are exercised without any discrimination.

Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia until 2030 (Latvia 2030) is hierarchically the highest national-level, long-term planning document. It enumerates the main tasks of the state and society to achieve balanced and sustainable development. Latvia 2030 outlines 7 development priorities, including development of culture space.

National Development Plan of Latvia for 2021-2027 (NDP2027), approved by the Saeima at the extraordinary session on July 2, 2020. NDP2027 is Latvia's main medium-term development planning document. NDP2027 envisages the strategic objectives, priorities and measures for sustainable and balanced development of Latvia for the next seven-year planning period to achieve the Latvian Sustainable Development Strategy 2030 (Latvia2030), the UN Sustainable Development Goals and to improve the quality of life in Latvia over the next seven years. NDP2027 includes priority Culture and Sport for an Active Lifestyle and involves both – public participation in culture activities and contribution of culture to sustainable society.

The development of Cultural Policy Guideline 2021-2027 is happening in collaboration with CSO, industry advisory councils and society in order to develop comprehensive and non discriminatory policy. The draft of cultural policy guidelines includes 4 directions of activity - accessibility of cultural services to every inhabitant of Latvia, public participation in cultural processes, strengthening of cultural diversity and cultural education.

**Contact details of the stakeholders involved in the preparation of the quadrennial periodic report (QPR). Please also include the contact details of the civil society organizations (CSOs) if they have contributed to the QPR drafting, including through the CSO form.:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)	The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia	info@makslinieki.lv	<a href="http://artists.lv/">http://artists.lv/</a>
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Association of Non-governmental Organizations of Contemporary Culture	pavlova.maija@gmail.com	<a href="https://kulturasvo.wordpress.com/">https://kulturasvo.wordpress.com/</a>

# GOAL 1 - SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS OF GOVERNANCE FOR CULTURE



## CULTURAL AND CREATIVE SECTORS

**A Ministry (or agency with ministerial status) is responsible for cultural and creative sectors:** YES

**Regional, provincial or local governments or administrations have decentralised responsibilities for policies and measures promoting the cultural and creative sectors::** YES

**Regulatory frameworks and sector specific laws, policies and/or strategies supporting the cultural and creative industries have been revised or adopted during the last 4 years:** YES

**If YES, has at least one of them been designed through interministerial cooperation (involving different government departments responsible for policy areas, such as communication, education, ICT, trade, foreign affairs, labor, finance):** YES

**Specific education and training programmes in the arts and the cultural and creative sectors are established, including:**

Technical and vocational education and training programmes in

Cinema/Audiovisual arts

Cultural management

Design

Digital cultural and creative sectors

Media arts

Music

Performing arts

Publishing

Visual arts

Tertiary and university education degrees in

Cinema/audiovisual arts

Cultural management

Design

Digital cultural and creative sectors

Media arts

Music

Performing arts

Visual arts

**Specific measures and programmes have been implemented over the last 4 years to:**

Support job creation in the cultural and creative sectors

**Statistical offices or research bodies have produced data during the last 4 years:**

related to cultural and creative sectors  
evaluating cultural policies

**Share of cultural and creative sectors in Gross Domestic Product (GDP):**

1.10%

**Please provide whenever possible disaggregated data by sector:**

Cultural services - 1,1% GDP

2019

**Please provide whenever possible disaggregated data by sector, age, sex and type of employment:**

In state administrative institutions that are subordinate to the Ministry of Culture and companies in which the Ministry is a state capital share-holder - 4403

**Total public budget for culture (in USD):**

185,780,561USD

2019

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

**Cultural Policy Guidelines 2014-2020 "Creative Latvia"**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Website of the policy/measure, if available:**

[https://www.km.gov.lv/uploads/ckeditor/files/KM\\_dokumenti/CULTURAL\\_POLICY\\_GUIDELINES\\_2014-2020\\_CREATIVE\\_LATVIA.pdf](https://www.km.gov.lv/uploads/ckeditor/files/KM_dokumenti/CULTURAL_POLICY_GUIDELINES_2014-2020_CREATIVE_LATVIA.pdf)

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The Cultural Policy Guidelines 2014-2020 "Creative Latvia" (hereinafter – the Guidelines) is a medium-term policy planning document, which determines the State cultural policy objectives and priorities for the time period up to 2020 and promotes the achievement of the objectives brought forward in State long-term and medium-term policy planning documents.

**Does it specifically target young people?: YES**

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?: NO**

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

During the mid-term evaluation, most of the Guidelines all or part of the planned activities have been completed. Overall, 94% of the planned measures have been identified progress as planned. Tasks had been completed in the field of preservation and development of the cultural capital promoting participation of the society in cultural processes, creativity in lifelong education and cultural education

oriented towards labour market, competitive cultural and creative industries, creative territories and access to cultural services.

**Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:**

426669554.72 USD

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: YES**

**If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:**

The planning document Creative Latvia implemented a high hierarchical link with other medium-term development planning documents, creating vertical and horizontal links. At the same time, the Creative Latvia Guidelines are characterized by a high degree of internal coherence between the overarching goal, the problems, the priorities and their objectives, the directions of action and the tasks. The bottom-up approach has fostered the democratic involvement and participation of cultural actors and stakeholders in the development of Creative Latvia. It is necessary to increase the involvement of target groups in the development of the new cultural policy planning document. The Guidelines are viewed by those involved and those responsible for the implementation of Creative Latvia as a functional and useful document. The planning document successfully sets priorities, aims and summarizes all the most important medium-term tasks of the cultural policy, which allows it to be successfully used for argumentation of national and EU funding for implementation of strategically important activities.

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

State Culture Capital Foundation

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

National Film Centre of Latvia

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

All ministries of the Republic of Latvia,

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

State museums, libraries

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

NGOs,

**Type of entity:**

Private Sector

The Centre for Culture Information Systems

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

Latvian National Centre for Culture

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

National Heritage Board

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector



## MEDIA DIVERSITY

**Public service media has a legal or statutory remit to promote a diversity of cultural expressions:**

YES

**Policies and measures promote content diversity in programming by supporting:**

Regional and/or local broadcasters

Community programming for marginalised groups (e.g. indigenous peoples, migrants and refugees, etc.)

Socio-cultural programming (e.g. children, youth, people with disabilities, etc.)

**Domestic content regulations for audio-visual media exist (e.g. quotas for production or distribution requirements for national films, TV series or music on radio):** NO

**Regulatory authority(ies) monitoring media exist:** YES

**If YES, please provide the name and year of establishment of the regulatory authority(ies):**

National Electronic Mass Media Council. Estimated 1995

**If YES, these regulatory authority(ies) monitor:**

Public media

Community media

Private sector media

Online media

**If YES, these regulatory authority(ies) are responsible for:**

Issuing licenses to broadcasters, content providers, platforms

Receiving and addressing public complaints such as online harassment, fake news, hate speech, etc.

Monitoring cultural (including linguistic) obligations

Monitoring gender equality in the media

Monitoring editorial independence of the media

Monitoring diversity in media ownership (diversity of ownership structures, transparency of ownership rules, limits on ownership concentration, etc.)

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### **Mērķprogramma "Kultūras nozares dokumentēšana" / Programme "Documentation of Cultural Sector"**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

State Culture Capital Foundation

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Website of the policy/measure, if available:**

<https://kkf.lv/index/konkursi/m%C4%93r%C4%B7programmu-konkursi/m%C4%93r%C4%B7programmas-2020/kult%C5%ABras-nozares-dokument%C4%93%C5%A1ana.html>

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The aim of the program is to make investments on a competitive basis to support the activities and strengthen the capacity of the specialized media in the cultural sector, ensuring their ability to implement high-quality preservation and reflection of the ongoing cultural processes.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

In 2020 13 projects ideas were supported by SCCF. Amount of aid - 100 000 EUR

**Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:**

112350

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** NO

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

-

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## DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT

**Policies, measures or mechanisms are in place to support the digital transformation of cultural and creative industries and institutions (e.g. funding for digitization of analogue industries):** YES

**Policies or measures have been introduced to ensure vibrant domestic digital cultural and creative industries markets with a diversity of e-players of all sizes (e.g. fair remuneration rules; control market concentration; prevention of monopolies of digital content providers/distributors or their algorithms that potentially restrict the diversity of cultural expressions, etc.):** YES

**Policies and measures have been implemented to enhance access to and discoverability of domestically produced cultural content in the digital environment (e.g. action plans or policies for digital content pluralism, public support to cultural or artistic portals in specific languages, national or regional online distribution platforms for domestic content, etc.):** YES

**Measures and initiatives have been implemented to promote digital creativity and competencies of artists and other cultural professionals working with new technologies (e.g. spaces for experimentation, incubators, etc.):** YES

**Statistics or studies with recent data on access to digital media, including on the type of cultural content available through digital media, are available:** NO

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### **Digital Cultural Heritage Strategy**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

By the end of 2021, the project will see the current digital content of the National Library of Latvia, the National Archives of Latvia and other cultural institutions complemented. The project will digitize 3 075 000 pages of text, 117 000 descriptions of various images and valuable cultural artefacts, including maps, photographs, surveys of cultural monuments and descriptions of objects, 223 000 minutes of audio, 245 000 minutes of video footage, 37 500 minutes of cinema footage, 70 000 museum objects, as well as a small amount of 3D digitalization of cultural monuments (10 units), records of cultural events (50 units) and intangible cultural heritage (15 units). Simultaneously with the digitization process, the project will further develop the Digital Object Management and Conservation System, develop the 1st Stage of the Copyright Management and Content Licensing System, equip 29 regional cultural centres with Video Content Distribution Infrastructure, create one Content Management and one Content Dissemination Centre, publish several Open Datasets, including Related Open Datasets, and develop the 1st Stage of an Integrated Centralized Open System Information Platform. The project implementation costs are EUR 8 000 000, of which EUR 6 800 000 (85%) is ERDF funding and EUR 1 200 000 (15%) is national co-funding. At least 50% of the project's eligible costs are for the digitization of cultural-heritage content.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:**

8988000

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** NO

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

Latvian National Library

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

National Archives of Latvia

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

National Heritage Board

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## PARTNERING WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

**Professional organizations and/or trade unions representing artists and/or cultural professionals in the following sectors exist in your country (i.e. federation of musicians, publishers unions, etc.):**

Cinema/Audiovisual arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Publishing

Visual Arts

Performing Arts

**Public funding schemes supporting CSOs involvement in promoting the diversity of cultural expressions exist:** YES

**Training and mentoring opportunities were organized or supported by public authorities during the last 4 years to build skills on communication, advocacy and/or fundraising of civil society organizations involved in the promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions:** YES

**Dialogue mechanisms between public authorities and CSOs for cultural policy making and/or monitoring have been implemented during the last 4 years (meetings, working groups, etc.):** YES  
**If YES, please provide up to 2 examples:**

National Culture Council - a public advisory body to the Ministry of Culture on cultural and cultural policy issues, which aims to promote the balanced The National Council of Culture includes three members of the public invited by the Minister of Culture, delegates of the Council of Creative Unions.

**Policies and measures promoting the diversity of cultural expressions have been elaborated in consultation with CSOs during the last 4 years:** YES

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### **Cultural Policy Guidelines 2021-2027 - Document in progress**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The Cultural Policy Guidelines 2021-2027 (hereinafter – the Guidelines) is a medium-term policy planning document, which determines the State cultural policy objectives and priorities for the time period up to 2027 and promotes the achievement of the objectives brought forward in State long-term and medium-term policy planning documents.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** NO

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

All ministries of the Republic of Latvia

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

NGOs

**Type of entity:**

Private Sector

Institutions of creative sector

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## GOAL 2 - ACHIEVE A BALANCED FLOW OF CULTURAL GOODS AND SERVICES AND INCREASE THE MOBILITY OF ARTISTS AND CULTURAL PROFESSIONALS



### MOBILITY OF ARTISTS AND CULTURAL PROFESSIONALS

**Please indicate if the following policies and measures exist in your country:**

Policies and measures supporting the outward mobility of artists and cultural professionals (e.g. export offices, support for participation in international cultural markets for cultural professionals, etc.)

**Please indicate if the following operational programmes have been developed or supported/funded by public authorities during the last 4 years:**

Information resources or training services providing practical guidance to facilitate the mobility of cultural professionals (e.g. Internet platforms)

Infrastructure (e.g. arts residencies, cultural institutes, etc.) having a mandate to promote the diversity of cultural expressions and hosting a large number of foreign artists, notably from developing countries

Major cultural events (e.g. cultural seasons, festivals, cultural industries markets, etc.) having a mandate to promote the diversity of cultural expressions and hosting a large number of foreign artists, notably from developing countries

**Please indicate if the following mobility funds (e.g. scholarships, travel grants, etc.) have been managed or supported by public authorities during the last 4 years:**

Public funds supporting the outward mobility of national or resident artists and other cultural professionals

Public funds specifically supporting the mobility of artists and other cultural professionals from or between developing countries, including through North-South-South and South-South cooperation

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

**Creative Travel Support Program**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

State Culture Capital Foundation

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Website of the policy/measure, if available:**

<http://www.kkf.lv/index/konkursi/rado%C5%A1ie-braucieni.html>

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

In order to promote the development of international relations, the dissemination of Latvian artistic and cultural values and their accessibility to the general public, as well as to promote the process of cultural renewal and artistic creation and to promote education and professional development, the National Cultural Endowment for Culture (VKKF) Creative Travel Support Program supports applications for travel in which the applicant participates in short-term scientific, creative or training programs, cultural conferences, festivals and competitions upon personal invitation or accreditation.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

In 2020 taking into account both the current information on the prevalence of COVID-19 and the call of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to consider the need to travel abroad, as well as the mandatory requirement to observe self-isolation when returning to Latvia from countries with high Covid-19 to close the application for the Creative Travel Support Program from 1 September 2020. The SCCF Council will decide on the further implementation of the program in the light of developments.

**Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:**

139 213 euro in 2019

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** NO



## FLOW OF CULTURAL GOODS AND SERVICES

**Export strategies or measures to support the distribution of cultural goods and services outside your country exist for the following cultural domains:**

Cinema/Audiovisual arts

Design

Music

Publishing

**Your country has granted or benefited from preferential treatment\* to support a balanced exchange of cultural goods and services in the last 4 years:**

-

**If YES, please provide up to 2 examples:**

-

**Your country has provided or benefited in the last 4 years from Aid for Trade support, a form of Official Development Assistance (ODA), that helped to build capacities to formulate trade policies, participate in negotiating and implementing agreements that provide a special status to cultural goods and services:**

-

**If YES, please provide up to 2 examples:**

-

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### **The "Latvian Literature" platform**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Latvian Literature

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Publishing

**Website of the policy/measure, if available:**

<https://latvianliterature.lv/en/news>

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The "Latvian Literature" platform was established in order to promote recognition of Latvian literature and its distribution abroad, to ensure international cooperation among publishers, literary agents, writers, translators, and organizations working in the fields of literature and publishing. We are here to provide you with a diverse array of information on Latvian authors, books, our publishing industry, and innovations within the industry. The "Latvian Literature" platform was created through a partnership of the three largest literary institutions in Latvia: the International Writers and Translators house, the Latvian Writers Union, and the Latvian Publishers Association. Twice a year the platform Latvian Literature organizes foreign publishers, cultural journalists and literary festivals visits to Riga. The aim of these visits is to introduce participants with the Latvian literature, the Latvian book industry and to establish long-term relationships and partnerships. During the visit, participants are introduced to various topics such as contemporary and children's literature, the Latvian publishing and printing industry, the work of the Latvian Literature platform and available grant support programs for foreign

publishers and translators, meet Latvian authors and publishers, as well visit the Latvian National Library, unique book shops and take part in guided tour around Riga city.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

The list of grants for publisher and translators since 2016 is available here

<https://latvianliterature.lv/en/grants>

**Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:**

In 2020 42 publisher received grants (97508 USD)

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** NO

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

The International Writers and Translators House

**Type of entity:**

Private Sector

The Latvian Writers Union

The Latvian Publishers Association

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## TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS

**Multilateral or bilateral trade and/or investment agreements providing a special status to cultural goods and/or services have been signed during the last 4 years or are under negotiation:**

-

**Multilateral or bilateral agreements including specific provisions providing a special status to cultural goods and services and digital products in the field of e-commerce have been signed during the last 4 years or are under negotiation:**

-

**Multilateral or bilateral agreements, declarations and/or strategies on relevant policy issues for the diversity of cultural expressions (e.g. education, digital, intellectual property, sustainable development, gender equality, etc.) signed or amended to take into account the objectives or principles of the Convention during the last 4 years: -**

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

-

## GOAL 3 - INTEGRATE CULTURE IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORKS



### NATIONAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES & PLANS

**National sustainable development plans and strategies recognize the strategic role of:**

Culture (in general)

Creativity and innovation

Cultural and creative industries

**Please rate from 1 to 4 the type of outcomes expected by the inclusion of culture in national sustainable development plans and strategies 1 most often expected outcome 4 least expected outcome):**

**Economic (e.g. employment, trade, intellectual property, cultural and creative industries, rural and territorial development): 3**

**Social (e.g. social cohesion and inclusion, inequality and poverty reduction, values and identity, vulnerable and minority groups, empowerment and human capital, education): 4**

**Environmental (e.g. natural resources, reducing environmental impact of cultural industries and practices): 4**

**Cultural (e.g. cultural infrastructure, participation and access to culture, innovation, artists support): 3**

**Public cultural bodies and agencies responsible for culture or creative industries are involved in the design and implementation of sustainable development policies and plans (i.e. participate in coordination mechanisms such as joint planning committees): YES**

**Cultural industry-led regeneration initiatives and projects at the regional, urban and/or rural levels have been implemented in the last 4 years: YES**

**Policies and measures facilitate participation in cultural life and access to diverse cultural facilities and expressions, notably addressing the needs of disadvantaged or vulnerable groups (e.g. via reduced entrance fees; audience development, arts education and audiences awareness-raising): YES**

**Latest data on cultural participation rates by socio demographic variables (sex/age groups/rural-urban/income levels/education levels):**

Every two years Ministry of Culture conducts a research on cultural participation. The results of the 2018 survey show that spending on culture The most popular cultural consumption activities among the population are: attending a parish, city or county celebration (69%), watching television Young people's favourite forms of leisure time differ significantly from other age groups of the population. While watching

television is the most popular. Young people are more likely to listen to music (73%), use the computer, the Internet (72%), and spend time with friends (72%). Compared to the survey also shows that computer and the Internet are one of the favourite ways of spending leisure time in Latvia - 44% have mentioned it.

#### **Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### **Latvian National Development Plan 2021-2027**

#### **Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Cross-Sectoral Coordination Centre of the Republic of Latvia, all ministries

#### **Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

#### **Website of the policy/measure, if available:**

[https://www.pkc.gov.lv/sites/default/files/inline-files/NAP2027\\_\\_ENG.pdf](https://www.pkc.gov.lv/sites/default/files/inline-files/NAP2027__ENG.pdf)

#### **Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The National Development Plan for 2021-2027 (NDP2027) is Latvia's highest national-level medium-term planning document. It has been developed in accordance with the Latvian Sustainable Development Strategy until 2030 (Latvia2030) and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) so that the quality of life improves for each individual, and society as a whole over the next seven years. [2] Latvia2030 defines Latvia's long-term development vision. It is the highest national level long-term development document and the main planning document that defines the spatial development perspective - an integrated view of the country's balanced and sustainable development. [3] NDP2027 focuses on achieving the vision described in Latvia2030: • In 2030 Latvia will be a thriving country of active and responsible citizens. Everyone will have the opportunity to feel safe and have a sense of belonging to Latvia; everyone here will have the opportunity to achieve his or her goals. The strength of the nation will lie in its inherited, discovered and newly created cultural and spiritual values, the richness of Latvian language and people's knowledge of other languages. It will unite the society in the creation of new, diverse and unique values in the economy, science and culture that will also be appreciated outside Latvia. • Riga will be an important European cultural, tourism and business centre. To promote regional development, preconditions will be created to increase the economic potential of all regions and reduce socio-economic disparities. The regional GDP gap will be reduced in the medium term by increasing competitiveness and providing territory specific solutions for improving population distribution and quality of the living environment; • Latvia is our home. It is green, creative and easy to reach, and we are accountable towards future generations for ensuring its sustainability.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** YES

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** NO

#### **Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

All ministries

#### **Type of entity:**

Public Sector

NGOs

**Type of entity:**

Private Sector

All institutions

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

All institutions

**Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

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## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**Your country has contributed to or benefited from the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) during the last 4 years:**

YES, my country has contributed to the IFCD

**Development cooperation strategies, including South-South cooperation strategies, recognize the strategic role of creativity and diverse cultural expressions: -**

**If YES, please provide the name(s) of the strategy and year(s) of adoption:**

-

**Your country manages multi- and/or bilateral technical assistance and capacity building cooperation programmes supporting:**

-

**Value of the total national contribution to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (in USD):**

1,679.25

2020

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

-

## GOAL 4 - PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS



### GENDER EQUALITY

**Ministries, governmental agencies and/or parliamentary bodies in charge of gender equality:**

Exist and are relevant for artists and cultural professionals

**Policies and measures to support the full participation of women in cultural life have been implemented during the last 4 years:** NO

**Policies and measures have been adopted to support the recognition and advancement of women as artists, cultural professionals and/or creative entrepreneurs, (e.g. ensure equal pay for equal work or equal access to funding, coaching or mentoring schemes, anti-discrimination measures, etc.):** NO

**Data is regularly collected and disseminated to monitor:**

-

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

**Plan for the Promotion of Equal Rights and Opportunities for Women and Men for 2018-2020**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Ministry of Welfare of the Republic of Latvia

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Website of the policy/measure, if available:**

<https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/300170-plan-for-the-promotion-of-equal-rights-and-opportunities-for-women-and-men-for-20182020>

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The Plan has been developed to implement efficient and well-considered national policy for the promotion of equal rights and opportunities for women and men. It is based on the gender equality policy objectives set out in the Concept Paper on the Promotion of Gender Equality: (1) to ensure respect for human rights of every individual and the highest level of welfare for everyone irrespective of



the person's gender, and (2) to promote the most efficient social and economic development of the nation. The policy action directions that were commenced in the previous gender equality policy documents are continued in the Plan by specifically focusing on ensuring equality for women and men in the labour market and education throughout the life, and also reducing gender-based violence and raising the awareness of specialists and public about gender equality.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?:** YES

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

All ministries

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

Public institutions

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

NGOs

**Type of entity:**

Private Sector

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## ARTISTIC FREEDOM

### The constitution and/or national regulatory frameworks formally acknowledge:

The right of artists to create without censorship or intimidation

The right of artists to disseminate and/or perform their artistic works

The right for all citizens to freely enjoy artistic works both in public and in private

The right for all citizens to take part in cultural life without restrictions

### Independent bodies are established to receive complaints and/or monitor violations and restrictions to artistic freedom: YES

Initiatives to protect artists at risk or in exile have been developed or supported by public authorities during the last 4 years (e.g. providing safe houses, guidance and training, etc.): -

Measures and initiatives intended to ensure transparent decision-making on government funding/ state grants and awards for artists exist (e.g. through independent committees, etc.): YES

Social protection measures that take the professional status of artists into account have been adopted or revised in the last 4 years (e.g. health insurance, retirement schemes, unemployment benefits, etc.): YES

Economic measures that take the status of artists into account have been adopted or revised in the last 4 years (e.g. collective agreements, income tax and other regulatory frameworks, etc.): YES

### Relevant Policies and Measures:

**<https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/295594-law-on-the-status-of-creative-persons-and-professional-creative-organisations>**

**Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:**

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia

**Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Website of the policy/measure, if available:**

<https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/295594-law-on-the-status-of-creative-persons-and-professional-creative-organisations>

**Describe the main features of the policy/measure:**

The purpose of this Law is to promote the development and strengthening of professional artistic and scientific creations by determining the status of creative persons and professional creative organisations and the support measures. Section 3 defines that professional creative organisation could be establish and register in a Register of Professional Creative Organisations if it protects the professional and social rights of creative persons. Section 10 also defines that professional creative organisation has right to create social security and benefit funds and disburse to its members the benefits and grants specified in the articles of association. In accordance to the Section 14 of the Law the programme of support measures for creative persons is an aggregate of measures to be carried out

in order to provide support to creative persons The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia helps to implement Programme of Support Measures for Creative Persons by providing consultations for creative persons in order to get apply for support at State Cultural Capital Foundation or to help to obtain the status of a creative person for persons who do not belong to any professional creative organization.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:**

The Law on the Status of Creative Persons and Professional Creative Organisations has come into force on 01.01.2018. Number of persons who have received support in Programme of Support Measures for Creative Persons: 1. the creative person has temporarily not received the income necessary for further creative activity due to the specifics of his or her professional activity;(105 persons in 2020, 132 870 EUR) 2. the creative person has a temporary incapacity for work(3 persons in 2020, 536 EUR); 3. for creative persons to ensure living conditions (temporary partial coverage of medical treatment costs and utility payments). (418 persons in 2020; 268 389 EUR) More about the Programme of Support Measures for Creative Persons <http://www.kkf.lv/index/rado%C5%A1o-personu-atbalstap%C4%81kumu-programma.html> in Latvian.

**Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:**

State Cultural Capital Foundation

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia

**Type of entity:**

Private Sector

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## MEASURES AND INITIATIVES REPORTED BY CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

**Describe how the CSO form has been used to promote collaboration with CSOs in the preparation of this report, including the distribution of the form and the modalities of collection and analysis of the information received. Please indicate the percentage of measures and initiatives received that have been considered as relevant by the Party and included in the QPR.:**

In order to obtain information on the measures taken by the CSO, a conversation was organized in which the CSO expressed its views on the measures to be included. Conversation was organised with two largest NGOs that represents whole creative sector. The Council of the Creative Unions of Latvia (CCUL) was founded in 1988 at the Plenary Meeting of Writers Union as Culture Council of Creative Unions. In 1995 it was registered as an association of professional creative organizations "The Council of the Creative Unions of Latvia". CCUL is comprised of 11 creative unions, and total membership exceeds 3500 individual members. The Association of Non-governmental Organizations of Contemporary Culture was founded in 2007 by the leading contemporary culture NGOs in Latvia The association currently has 19 organizations and individual members and is still open to new members. The aim of the association is to develop and activate the activities of non-governmental organizations in the field of culture and to improve the environment for the activities of cultural NGOs; to represent the interests of cultural NGOs in the cultural policy of the state and local governments; to develop and support innovative cultural processes in Riga and the regions of Latvia, as well as internationally; offer advice and expertise as well as industry research and analysis.

**GOAL 1 - Support sustainable systems of governance for culture:**

### **Members of National Council for Culture**

**Name of CSO(s) responsible for the implementation of the measure/initiative:**

Information was provided by: 1. CSO NAME: The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia EMAIL: info@makslinieki.lv PHONE: +371 29252778 2. CSO NAME: Association of Non-governmental Organizations of Contemporary Culture EMAIL: pavlova.maija@gmail.com  
National Council for Culture is coordinated by Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia

**Cultural domains covered by the measure/initiative:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts  
Design  
Media Arts  
Music  
Performing Arts  
Publishing  
Visual Arts

**Website of the measure/initiative, if available:**

<https://www.km.gov.lv/lv/ministrija/sabiedribas-lidzdaliba/starpnozaru-sadarbibas-partneri/nacionala-kulturas-padome#gsc.tab=0>  
<http://artists.lv/>  
<https://kulturasnvo.wordpress.com/par-mums/>

**Describe the main features of the measure/initiative:**

Both organisations (The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia and Association of Non-governmental Organizations of Contemporary Culture) are members of National Council for Culture and implements very active participation. The Latvian National Council of Culture was established in 2009, its operation was renewed at the beginning of 2014. It is a public consultative institution of the Ministry of Culture on cultural sectors and cultural policy, the aim of which is to promote balanced development of cultural and cultural heritage sectors in the interests of the whole society. The tasks of the National Council of Culture are: 1. to evaluate and forecast cultural perspectives in the context of cultural policy and national development and to provide the Ministry of Culture and the Minister of Culture with reasoned proposals; 2. to co-operate with the Minister of Culture, structural units and institutions of the Ministry of Culture in the development of sectoral strategies and policies, determination of priorities, development of budget and investment policy and evaluation of draft legal acts; 3. to maintain links with the cultural, cultural heritage sectors and cross-sectoral sectors, discuss issues relevant to them and make proposals for solutions; 4. to coordinate the opinions of state institutions and various interest groups in the field of culture on issues of cultural policy; 5. to represent the interests of culture, cultural heritage sectors and related inter-sectors in the context of the formation and development of state policy by delegating representatives to negotiations with state and local government institutions; 6. to maintain a discussion in society about the role of culture in the development of society and the state; 7. to evaluate the applications of the applicants for the Award of Excellence in Culture and to submit proposals to the Minister of Culture regarding the candidates for the award; 8. to nominate a representative from among its members in the institutions (for example, in the council of the State Culture Capital Fund), in which the council must be represented The Council of the Creative Unions of Latvia (CCUL) was founded in 1988 at the Plenary Meeting of Writers Union as Culture Council of Creative Unions. In 1995 it was registered as an association of professional creative organizations "The Council of the Creative Unions of Latvia". CCUL is comprised of 11 creative unions, and total membership exceeds 3500 individual members. The Association of Non-governmental Organizations of Contemporary Culture was founded in 2007 by the leading contemporary culture NGOs in Latvia The association currently has 19 organizations and individual members and is still open to new members. The aim of the association is to develop and activate the activities of non-governmental organizations in the field of culture and to improve the environment for the activities of cultural NGOs; to represent the interests of cultural NGOs in the cultural policy of the state and local governments; to develop and support innovative cultural processes in Riga and the regions of Latvia, as well as internationally; offer advice and expertise as well as industry research and analysis.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does this measure/initiative receive or has it received International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) funding?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the measure/initiative?:**

As a result of active participation and expression of the opinion of the sector, amendments are made to the laws and regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers, which regularly take into account the opinion of those working in the cultural sector. At the same time, the development of cultural policy guidelines for the period from 2021 to 2027 is ensured, which determines the development of the cultural sector at the national level. All the above-mentioned tasks of the National Council of Culture are regularly implemented.

**Law on the Status of Creative Persons and Professional Creative Organisations and Programme of Support Measure for Creative Persons**

**Name of CSO(s) responsible for the implementation of the measure/initiative:**

The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia EMAIL: info@makslinieki.lv PHONE: +371 29252778

**Cultural domains covered by the measure/initiative:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Website of the measure/initiative, if available:**

<https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/295594-law-on-the-status-of-creative-persons-and-professional-creative-organisations>

<http://www.kkf.lv/index/rado%C5%A1o-personu-atbalsta-pas%C4%81kumu-programma.html>

<http://makslinieki.lv/Rado%C5%A1o-personu-atbalsts/>

**Describe the main features of the measure/initiative:**

Participation of the Council of Creative Unions of Latvia in the development of the Law on the Status of Creative Persons and Professional Creative Organisations (hereinafter - Law). The purpose of this Law is to promote the development and strengthening of professional artistic and scientific creations by determining the status of creative persons and professional creative organisations and the support measures. In accordance to the Section 14 of the Law the programme of support measures for creative persons is an aggregate of measures to be carried out in order to provide support to creative persons. The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia helps to implement Programme of Support Measures for Creative Persons by providing consultations for creative persons in order to get apply for support at State Cultural Capital Foundation or to help to obtain the status of a creative person for persons who do not belong to any professional creative organization.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does this measure/initiative receive or has it received International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) funding?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the measure/initiative?:**

The Law on the Status of Creative Persons and Professional Creative Organisations has come into force on 01.01.2018. Number of persons who have received support in Programme of Support Measures for Creative Persons: 1. the creative person has temporarily not received the income necessary for further creative activity due to the specifics of his or her professional activity;(105 persons in 2020, 132 870 EUR) 2. the creative person has a temporary incapacity for work(3 persons in 2020, 536 EUR); 3. for creative persons to ensure living conditions (temporary partial coverage of medical treatment costs and utility payments). (418 persons in 2020; 268 389 EUR) More about the Programme of Support Measures for Creative Persons <http://www.kkf.lv/index/rado%C5%A1o-personu-atbalsta-pas%C4%81kumu-programma.html> in Latvian.

**GOAL 2 - Achieve a balanced flow of cultural goods and services and increase the mobility of artists and cultural professionals:****Large scale festivals and residencies****Name of CSO(s) responsible for the implementation of the measure/initiative:**

Information was provided by: 1. CSO NAME: The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia EMAIL: [infor@makslinieki.lv](mailto:infor@makslinieki.lv) PHONE: +371 29252778 2. CSO NAME: Association of Non-governmental Organizations of Contemporary Culture EMAIL: [pavlova.maija@gmail.com](mailto:pavlova.maija@gmail.com)

**Cultural domains covered by the measure/initiative:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Website of the measure/initiative, if available:**<http://theatre.lv/eng/><http://www.serde.lv/?q=lv/node/11><http://rixc.org/en/center/><http://www.noass.lv/about-us/into/en/>**Describe the main features of the measure/initiative:**

Various non-governmental cultural organizations organize festivals to which guest artists are invited. They are organized by such organizations as the Latvian New Theater Institute, Serde, RixC etc. At the same time, the residences of artists and writers are maintained, which allows you to work creatively both in the Dubulti Writers' House, International Writers and Translators House in Ventspils, Serde etc. Since 2009 the association "Culture and Art Project NOASS" started artists in residence program. The resident house is located on NOASS second floor and studio type apartment on Zaubes street. The main objective is to enable artists to get acquainted with Riga as one of the most beautiful cities in the Baltic States, it's diverse cultural life, giving new impulses to new creation in the field of visual art, art criticism, writers. more about residence >> Since 2007, "Culture and Arts Project NOASS" has operated within the TEH- Trans Europe Halles – European Network of Independent Culture Centres. TEH supports a range of creative initiatives in the European Union and has a membership comprised of 49 culture and arts organizations from 25 countries. more about TEH and projects >> The second largest European network where NOASS actively participates is European Network of Cultural Centres (ENCC). Since 2008, "Culture and Arts Project NOASS" has functioned as a EVS – European Volunteer Services sending and hosting organization, thus promoting the mobility of young people who are interested in cultural and arts events among various public organizations. Also, NOASS is registered in PADOR database which is managed by EuropeAid. PADOR or "Potential Applicants Data Online Registration" is a recent applicant processing system introduced by European Commissions through EuropeAid to understand and maintain extensive information about NGOs requesting funds from it for collaboration projects with worldwide organizations. In addition to the mobility and residency programmes and the opportunities for European volunteer work and its participation in TEH, "Culture and Arts Project NOASS" is continuing the partnerships it has begun with other foreign organizations, representing the Latvian Video Art Archive and selections of the very best works from the well-established contemporary arts and video festival, "Waterpieces", as well as the Latvian contemporary art scene at international level. Festivals of national significance, which include the participation of foreign artists, are implemented with the help of the State Cultural Capital Fund. For example New Theatre Institute of Latvia (NTIL) is a project based organisation working in the field of contemporary performing arts. Since 1995 NTIL has been organizing the International Festival of Contemporary Theatre Homo Novus, which is the largest performing arts platform in Latvia. NTIL also produces and presents projects and long term collaboration programmes together with local and international partners, strongly believing in the necessity to explore the contemporary performing arts field together with artists and audiences. <http://theatre.lv/eng/> Serde (an association whose goal is to promote the

development of professional art in Latvia by developing regional and international cooperation between cultural and artistic organizations of various fields and individuals by offering a real functioning environment and infrastructure outside the usual central urban environment)<http://www.serde.lv/?q=lv/node/11> RIXC is the center for new media culture, art gallery and artist collective, that initiates projects in intersection of art, science and emerging technologies. RIXC's activities include: running an art gallery, production of artworks and innovative art, science and technology projects, organising of the annual RIXC Art Science festival, exhibitions, publishing of Acoustic Space journal series. (<http://rixc.org/en/center/>) "Culture and Arts Project NOASS" is one of the oldest non-governmental arts and culture organizations in Latvia. NOASS' goal is to participate in the formation of the Latvian and European cultural environment. In the main, NOASS supports the realization of contemporary arts projects in an urban environment, making art part of the daily lives of residents of Riga and visitors to the city. Furthermore, for several years now association have participated in the planning and programming of the contemporary arts forum, "White Night", the annual "Riga City Festival" and the "International Museums Night", as well as realizing a range of individual projects. (<http://www.noass.lv/about-us/into/en/>)

**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does this measure/initiative receive or has it received International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) funding?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the measure/initiative?:**

Taking into account the Latvian Cultural Capital Fund, the support of the non-governmental sector and local governments, every year it is possible to continue the activities of artists and writers residencies, as well as organize festivals that introduce Latvian audiences to the performance of foreign professionals in the cultural sector. This positive trend is expected to continue.

### **GOAL 3 - Integrate culture in sustainable development frameworks:**

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### **GOAL 4 - Promote human rights and fundamental freedoms:**

#### **Law on the Status of Creative Persons and Professional Creative Organisations**

**Name of CSO(s) responsible for the implementation of the measure/initiative:**

Information was provided by: CSO NAME: The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia EMAIL: [infor@makslinieki.lv](mailto:infor@makslinieki.lv) PHONE: +371 29252778

**Cultural domains covered by the measure/initiative:**

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

**Website of the measure/initiative, if available:**

<https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/295594-law-on-the-status-of-creative-persons-and-professional-creative-organisations>

**Describe the main features of the measure/initiative:**



In order to promote and advocate for social protection measures that take the status of artists into account (e.g. health insurance; retirement schemes; unemployment benefits; etc.) the Council of Creative Unions of Latvia has taken participation into development of Law on the Status of Creative Persons and Professional Creative Organisations (hereinafter – the Law) (see file cso\_form\_final\_1rst goal\_PRO). In order to protect artists, organisations can apply to the status of Professional Creative Organisation and it is given by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia. In order to apply for the status organisation shall protect the professional and social rights of creative persons that are their members. Section 10 also determines that professional creative organisation has rights to create security and benefit funds and disburse to its members the benefits and grants specified in the articles of association Both organisations take active participation in debate with Ministry of Finances of the Republic of Latvia on taxes and social guarantees, on the specific form of employment of artists, retirement pensions etc.

**Does it specifically target young people?:** NO

**Does this measure/initiative receive or has it received International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) funding?:** NO

**What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the measure/initiative?:**

As a result of active participation and expression of the opinion of the sector, amendments are made to the laws and regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers, which regularly take into account the opinion of those working in the cultural sector.

**On the basis of the analysis of the responses provided through the CSO form, present up to ten main priorities of CSOs to implement the Convention over the next four years.:**

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## EMERGING TRANSVERSAL ISSUES

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

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## CHALLENGES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

**Describe the main results achieved to implement the Convention (at least one major achievement in one of the four goals):**

Participation of the Council of Creative Unions of Latvia in the development of the Law on the Status of Creative Persons and Professional Creative Organisations (hereinafter - Law). The purpose of this Law is to promote the development and strengthening of professional artistic and scientific creations by determining the status of creative persons and professional creative organisations and the support measures. The Law on the Status of Creative Persons and Professional Creative Organisations has come into force on 01.01.2018.

**Describe the main challenges encountered to implement the Convention and the main solutions found or envisaged to overcome them:**

The biggest challenge is changes in tax policy - the planned changes do not always have a positive impact on the future development of the cultural sector. If necessary, in-depth discussions are held with representatives of the cultural sector in order to understand the nature of the situation in detail and a compromise is reached.

**Describe the steps planned in the next four years to further implement the Convention and the priority areas identified for future policy action based on the conclusions of the current reporting process:**

The dialogue with the cultural sector in various formats will be strengthened and continued.

## ANNEXES

**Please upload relevant documents (law, policy, agreement, regulation, strategy, etc.), studies and statistics in PDF format related to the implementation of the 4 goals and the 11 areas of monitoring of the Convention in your country. The documents should have been produced during the reporting period covered by this periodic report. Please provide the title and a description of the main content of the document in English or French.:**

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# SUBMISSION

**Designated official signing the report:**

**Title:** Ms.

**First name:** Dace

**Family name:** Vilsonē

**Organization:** Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia

**Position:** State Secretary

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**Date of submission:**

2020

**Electronic Signature:**

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