

2nd European MEDIA AND I INFORMATION L LITERACY Forum

MEDIA AND INFORMATION
LITERACY IN EUROPE: CITIZENS'
CRITICAL COMPETENCIES FOR A
RIGHTS-BASED, TRANSPARENT,
OPEN, SECURE AND INCLUSIVE
INFORMATION ENVIRONMENT

27 - 29 JUNE 2016

**NATIONAL LIBRARY OF LATVIA
RIGA, LATVIA**

PRACTICAL
INFORMATION



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



The Government of
the Republic of Latvia



GAPMIL
GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR PARTNERSHIPS
ON MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY

BACKGROUND

The Second European Forum of Media and Information Literacy (EU-MILINFO II) will be one of the key regional prepcom meetings leading up to the GAPMIL Global MIL Week features events, Global MIL Conference and GAPMIL First General Assembly, 3-5 November 2016 in São Paulo, Brazil.

This Second European Forum of Media and Information Literacy follows the First European Media and Information Literacy Forum (EU-MILINFO) held in 2014. The usefulness and desire for a collective ownership EMELINFO was reiterated in the First Coordination Meeting of the European Sub-Chapter of the UNESCO-initiated Global Alliance for Partnerships on Media and Information Literacy held on 8 and 9 October 2015.

EU-MILINFO was held on May 2014 at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris funded by the European Commission and the UNESCO. The Forum brought together close 400 participants, who represented the main stakeholders of the sector, with the aim of promoting media and information literacy in Europe, discussing MIL policies and fostering cooperation and initiatives at national and European levels. Participants at the Forum adopted the Paris Declaration on Media and Information Literacy in the Digital Age and agreed that the Forum was a unique and open co-operation body bringing new perspectives and ideas on MIL, and decided to hold a new meeting every two years.

ORGANIZERS AND HOST

EU-MILINFO II is organized by UNESCO, European Commission, the government of Latvia, and the European Sub-Chapter of the Global Alliance for Partnerships on Media and Information Literacy (GAPMIL). The event will be hosted by the government of Latvia, and will emphasize international cooperation on MIL in Europe.

CONTACT PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EVENT:

MR ALTON GRIZZLE

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DATE AND VENUE

The Second European Media and Information Literacy Forum will be held on 27 – 29 June 2016 at the National Library of Latvia in Riga, also called the “Castle of Light” (*Gaismas pils* in Latvian).

ADDRESS:

3 Mukusalas Street, Riga,
Latvia, LV-1423
www.lnb.lv/en/nll-new-building



ACCOMMODATION

The reservation of the accommodation in Riga is the responsibility of each individual participant. Hotels 10-15 walk from the venue see below:

RADISSON BLU DAUGAVA HOTEL

24 Kugu Street, Riga, Latvia, LV-1048

Phone: + (371) 6706 1111

E-mail: info.riga@radissonblu.com

Distance to the forum venue: within 5-7 minutes of walking distance

BELLEVUE PARK HOTEL RIGA

1 Slokas Street, Riga, Latvia, LV-1048

Phone: +371 67069000

E-mail: info@bellevue.lv

Distance to the forum venue: within 15 minutes of walking distance

NEIBURGS HOTEL

25/27 Jauniela Street, Riga, Latvia, LV-1050

Phone: +371 67115522

E-mail: reservation@neiburgs.com

Distance to the forum venue: within 15 minutes of walking distance

OTHER HOTELS IN RIGA:

<http://www.riga.com/hotels>

TRAVEL AND GETTING AROUND

BY AIR

Riga International Airport (RIX) is located just 10 km from the city centre and is easily accessible by public transport or taxi. It offers routes to 83 destinations, including most European capitals and transfer hubs.

Riga International Airport

RIGA Airport 10/1

Marupes novads

Riga, LV-1053, Latvia

www.riga-airport.com/en

Airport inquiries service: (+371) 29311817

FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE CITY

Getting to the city centre from the airport takes ~25-30 minutes by public transport or taxi.

Taxi services are available at Riga airport 24 hours a day and are located outside the arrivals area. The average fare from the airport to the city centre (Old Town) is € 15-20. The fare depends on both distance and time. Green *AirBaltic* and red **Riga Cab** taxi services are available and recommended.

Airport Express hotel shuttle operated by *AirBaltic* (green minibuses). This runs every 30 minutes and picks up passengers near the exit of the Schengen arrivals hall (Arrival E). It costs € 5 (cash only) for a one-way journey and takes passengers to the following hotels: *Airport Hotel ABC, Islande Hotel, BELLEVUE Park Hotel Riga, Hotel Riga, Opera Hotel & SPA, Tallink Hotel Riga, Albert Hotel, PK Riga Hotel, Monika Centrum Hotels.*

Public transport bus No. 22 connects the airport with the city centre. The bus stop is located behind Car Park P1 opposite Arrival "E". The service operates up to every 15 minutes from Monday through Friday and every 20 minutes on Saturdays and Sundays. It can take up to 30 minutes to reach the centre. For fares, see the *Transportation around Riga* section.

More information and the schedule for bus No 22 can be found here: <http://saraksti.rigassatiksme.lv/index.html#bus/22/b-a/en>



TRANSPORTATION AROUND RIGA

Public transport operates between 5:30 and 23:30. Timetables, fares and purchase information are available in Latvian, Russian and English at www.rigassatiksme.lv. The website also provides information on the price of tickets and where they can be purchased. Even though tickets can be purchased from the driver and it costs EUR 2,00 (cash only), it is cheaper to purchase an e-ticket (e-talons). The tickets can be bought at **Narvesen** kiosks (mini-shops) or from vending machines at a number of public transport stops, including at the airport.

It is possible to purchase an e-ticket (e-talons) for:

1 ride EUR 1.15,
5 rides EUR 5.75,
10 rides EUR 10.90,
20 rides EUR 20.70.

It is also possible to purchase
a 24-hour ticket EUR 5,00,
a 3-day ticket EUR 10.00, or
a 5-day ticket EUR 15.00.

You have to validate the ticket each time you board a vehicle. Passengers without a valid ticket are subject to penalty fare of 20 to 50 euros.

For more information about public transport in Riga, please visit:
www.rigassatiksme.lv/en

The forum venue is easily accessible from the centre also by public transport. Trams (e.g., No. 5 and No. 4) and buses (e.g. No. 22 and No 3) run close to all the hotels, cross the bridge and stop near the venue at the *Nacionala biblioteka* stop. Due to the traffic jams during the rush hours, it would not be advisable to take a taxi.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

Latvia is a European Union Member State and a signatory of the Schengen Agreement. Accordingly, those arriving in Latvia from the Schengen Area are not subject to border controls. EU, EEA and Swiss citizens can travel with their national ID card or passport. Nationals of other countries are required to have a valid passport.

FORUM VENUE FACILITIES AND SERVICES

IT SERVICES AND SUPPORT

Wireless internet access (WiFi) is available throughout the forum venue. Staff at the venue will be available to provide technical support if there are problems with connecting to the internet.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities and assistance will be provided if needed.

INTERPRETATION

The working language of the Second European Media and Information Literacy Forum is English.

About Riga

Riga is the capital of Latvia. Officially founded in 1201, the city presents a mix of cultures and architectural styles developed throughout different historical periods. The Daugava, also referred to as the River of Destiny, flows through Riga into the Gulf of Riga about 10 kilometres from the city centre. Because of its location and harbour, which rarely freezes, Riga has become a key transportation hub. Riga has always been a dynamic and innovative centre, and remains to this day a vibrant and lively city with a host of creative quarters to explore. It is therefore with good reason that Riga has been called the 'city of inspiration'. Enjoy a leisurely walk around the Old Town – the historic centre of Riga, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site –and its surroundings.

Useful information about Riga can be found on www.liveriga.com/en

About Latvia

WEATHER: Latvia's geographical location makes it possible to enjoy the differences of four pronounced seasons. The presence of the Baltic Sea means that the climate is temperate and humid. The expected temperature in Riga from the 27th till 29th of June is from +18 to +22 °C (daytime), and the weather will be mostly sunny. Please, check exact weather forecast before your arrival here:

<http://www.accuweather.com/en/lv/riga/225780/month/225780?monyr=6/01/2016#menu-country>

LANGUAGE: Latvian is the official language of Latvia. English is widely spoken.

LOCAL TIME: Latvia Time is GMT+2 (from late March until late October, Latvia participates in the Western European summer time scheme: GMT+3)

CURRENCY: Latvia's currency is the euro (€). Other currencies can be exchanged for euros at most banks and exchange offices located in the city centre and at the airport. .

ATMS AND CREDIT CARDS: there are many automatic teller machines (ATMs) in the city and all major credit cards are accepted almost everywhere.

POWER SUPPLY: The power supply in Latvia is 220V AC / 50 Hz. An adaptor for the (European standard) round two-pin sockets may be required.

USEFUL NUMBERS:

- Dial code for Latvia: +371
- Emergency: call 112 - the EU-wide emergency number for the police, fire and ambulance services

Or, for specific services, use the following numbers:

- Police: 110 or 112
- Medical service: 113
- Fire service: 112
- Gas emergency: 114

INTERNET ACCESS:

Riga has three Latt telecom-free Wi-Fi points per square kilometre. Free wireless internet can also be accessed in most hotels, cafes and taxis. To use the freely available Wi-Fi, look for a sign showing the nearest access point and choose one of the free wireless connections. To use a Latt telecom-free connection:

- you have to open a browser
- watch a 15-second message, after which you can use the internet free of charge for the next 30 minutes
- after 30 minutes the connection process must be repeated.

More information on connecting to the free Wi-Fi is available in English at <http://www.wifi.lv/index-en.html>

Useful information about Latvia can be found on www.tava.gov.lv/en and www.latvia.eu