

UNESCO AND LATVIA : KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

1. **Member** since 14 October 1991
2. **Membership on the Executive Board:** not currently (last term: 2009-2011)
3. **Membership on Intergovernmental Committees, Commissions, etc.:**
 - Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (term expires in 2021)
 - Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (term expires in 2019)
 - International Bioethics Committee of UNESCO (term expires 2019)
 - Council of the UNESCO International Bureau of Education
4. **The Director-General's visits:** none
5. **The former Director-General's visits:** 1
 - 2015: official visit on the occasion of the World Press Freedom Day and the UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize Ceremony.
6. **Permanent Delegation:**
 - Permanent Delegate: Ms Ivita Burmistre, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate (since 07 November 2016)
 - Ms Evelina Melbarzde, Deputy Permanent Delegate
 - Ms Aina Nagobads-Abols, Counsellor
 - Ms Una Kepite, Second Secretary
 - Previous Permanent Delegates: H.E. Mr Imants Viesturs Lieģis (2015-2016)
7. **National Commission:**
 - Creation: 1992
 - Chairperson: Ms Dace Melbārde, Minister of Culture (since October 2013)
 - Vice-Presidents: Mr Kārlis Šadurskis (since December 2016) and Mr Edgars Rinkēvičs (since October 2011)
 - Secretary-General: Ms Baiba Molnika (since September 2016)
8. **UNESCO Chairs:** 3
 - UNESCO Chair on Media and Information Literacy (2016), the University of Latvia
 - UNESCO Chair in Teacher Education and Continuing Education: Interplay of Tradition and Innovation in Education for Sustainable Development (2013), Daugavpils University
 - UNESCO Chair in Sustainable Coastal Development (2001), University of Latvia, Riga.
9. **Associated Schools:** 33 (2 nursery, 3 primary, 6 primary and secondary, 14 secondary schools, 7 vocational and technical and 1 teacher training institution). Latvia joined the ASP Network in 1985.
10. **Category 2 Institutes and Centres:** none
11. **UNESCO Clubs:** 4
12. **Biosphere Reserves:** 1 - North Vidzeme (1997)
13. **World Heritage Sites:** 2 cultural properties
 - Struve Geodetic Arc (2005), jointly with Belarus, Estonia, Finland, Lithuania, Republic of Moldova, Norway, Russian Federation, Sweden and Ukraine
 - The Historic Centre of Riga (1997)
14. **Tentative List:** 3

- Viking Monuments and Sites / Grobiņa archaeological complex (2011)
- Kuldīga Old Town in the Primeval Valley of the River Venta (2011)
- Meanders of the Upper Daugava (2011)

15. Intangible Heritage Lists: 2 elements

- Suiti cultural space, inscribed on the Urgent Safeguarding List in 2009
- The Baltic Song and Dance Celebrations (jointly with Estonia and Lithuania), inscribed on the Representative List in 2008

16. Memory of the World Register: 3 inscriptions

- The Act of the Union of Lublin document (2017), jointly with Lithuania, Belarus, Poland and Ukraine
- Dainu skapis - Cabinet of Folksongs (2001)
- The Baltic Way - Human Chain Linking Three States in Their Drive for Freedom (jointly with Estonia and Lithuania) (2009)

17. Creative Cities Network: no appointments

18. Legal instruments: 13 ratified and 27 non-ratified

- Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: acceptance (14 January 2005). Latvia was the first European Member State to have deposited its instrument of ratification.
- Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions: accession (6 July 2007)
- International Convention against Doping in Sport: accession (10 April 2006)
- Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage: non-ratified. Position: favourable

19. Anniversaries with which UNESCO is associated in 2018-2019: 2

- 150th anniversary of Pēteris Šmits, linguist, ethnographer, folklorist (1869-1938), with the support of Estonia, Lithuania, Poland and Russian Federation
- 100th anniversary of Latvian National Institutions for Culture, Education and Science (1919), with the support of Estonia, Lithuania and Poland

20. Participation Programme:

- 2016-2017: 2 projects approved for a total amount of US\$ 56,900
- 2014-2015: 4 projects approved for a total amount of US\$ 63,240
- 2012-2013: 4 projects approved for a total amount of US\$ 62,000
- 2010-2011: 4 projects approved for a total amount of US\$ 107,000

21. Fellowships: 1 fellowship awarded since 2010, for a total amount of US\$ 9,000.

22. NGOs in Official Partnership with UNESCO: none

23. Payment of assessed membership fees for 2018 : fully paid

- Assessment rate: 0.050%
- Assessed contributions for 2016/2017: US\$ 163,250

24. Extrabudgetary participation (in US\$):

Year	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Total	1,633	10,616	19,608	-	3,070	2,482	2,482	2,482

25. Representation within the Secretariat: under-represented (min. 2, max. 4) with 1 professional staff in geographical post