

Nordic Newsletter

Nordic events and activities in Latvia

February 2021

Recent events

The Nordic countries mark the centenary of their de jure recognition of Latvia

In the end of January and the beginning of February, the Nordic countries celebrated the 100th anniversary of recognition de jure of Latvia as well as the establishment of diplomatic relations between Latvia and the Nordic countries – the Nordic flags were raised outside the Latvian MFA on the day of celebration for each country.

Finnish NCM and NB8 presidency presented at kick-off event on February 2

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland presented their programme for the Finnish presidency in the NCM and Nordic Cooperation NB8 at a joint Baltic digital event on February 2. The programme included opening words by NCM's Secretary-General Paula Lehtomäski and MFA Secretary of State Johanna Sumuvouri, as well as presentations of the Nordic-Baltic cooperation in the field of digitalisation and social affairs and health. The full presidency programme can be found [here](#). Finland's Ambassador Riitta Korpivaara published an article on February 1 in Latvijas Avīze with the title "Nordic-Baltic cooperation helps our economies to recover from Covid-19", which can be read in Latvian [here](#).

#Norden2021



Active Citizens Fund event with Latvian, Norwegian and Icelandic CSO's

In the end of January, the Norwegian embassy participated at an online event arranged by Active Citizens' Fund between Latvian, Norwegian and Icelandic civil society organisations. Altogether, 30 CSO's exchanged ideas on how to grow stronger and to influence processes in society. Following this matchmaking, the organisations will prepare cooperation projects for an open call aiming at raising human and financial capacity as well as networking.

Images that change the world – photo exhibition

The project "Images that change world – a guide for more equal communication" continues to be presented in Latvia. The Latvian part of the exhibition has been produced in cooperation with Valmiera and Kocēni municipalities and financial support from the Swedish Institute. The project is presented on this [webpage](#) and aims to increase inclusion and belonging, to combat discrimination on the basis of gender, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation or age.

Gaming events co-hosted by the Danish Cultural Institute in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania

The Danish Cultural Institute co-hosted a series of event in mid-February dedicated to gaming. Within the framework of the festival "Spēļu Fest", which took place on February 16-21, virtual events within the project "Social Playing" were arranged together with Kaņepes Kultūras Centrs. These were the workshops "GenderGames" and "MiningCrafting" cities, the former offering participants a valuable insight to the issues of gender, identity and ethics in the gaming world, and the latter using Minecraft as a tool to involve everyone in the discussion on urban planning.



Application round for the Nordic culture and art programme

The deadline for submitting applications to the Nordic culture and art programme is March 8, 2021. Everyone who is active within the field of art and culture can apply, provided that the project fulfils the programme's criteria and the cooperation includes partners from minimum three countries, of which at least two are Nordic. More information about the project can be found [here](#).

January 17 – Webinar on innovative food trends

The recently published "Eight megatrends in Nordic-Baltic food systems" was presented by NCM Latvia at the webinar "Innovative Food Trends and Retail Opportunities in the Baltics and Finland", which was organised by the Finnish Chamber of Commerce in Latvia.

Coming events

January 23 – First event in the Nordic Pictogram project

The first joint Nordic-Baltic event in the NCM-financed project "Adaption of the Danish waste pictogram system in Baltic countries" will be the webinar "Tips & Tricks for the Baltics", where experience will be shared among Nordic and Baltic municipalities and waste collection institutions.



Position as project manager for Nordic pop-up office in Daugavpils announced

NCM Latvia is managing a joint project between the Nordic embassies, that aims at strengthening the Nordic presence in the Latgale region through the establishment of a temporary office in Daugavpils. Information about the position can be found [here](#) – applications should be sent in by February 22.