

# QUADRENNIAL PERIODIC REPORT LITHUANIA 2020

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

**Name of Party:**

Lithuania

**Date of Ratification:**

2006

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

**Country:** Lithuania

**Website:** <http://www.unesco.lt>

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.:**

In January 2020, the Minister of Culture appointed an inter-institutional working group responsible for the preparation of the Lithuanian periodic report on the implementation of the 2005 Convention. The working group was composed of the representatives of governmental and non-governmental organisations. From January to April 2020, the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO organised a meeting and a few online consultations of the working group chaired by Gintautė Žemaitytė, the Vice Minister of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania.

During these consultations, the working group discussed various aspects related to the periodic reporting, such as policies and measures, civil society, sustainable development, preferential treatment, etc.

The working group also launched a wide consultation process addressing the NGOs of the culture sector and asking them to report on their activities related to the areas of the 2005 Convention. The call for information from the NGOs was published on the websites of the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO, the Ministry of Culture and the Lithuanian Council for Culture.

**Executive summary:**

Lithuania ratified the UNESCO 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions in 2006. The last quadrennial report on its implementation was presented in 2016. Since then, significant developments in the formation and implementation of the state's cultural policy have taken place.

A great number of new measures were introduced to support cultural and creative sectors. The Lithuanian Cultural Policy Strategy was adopted in 2019, marking an important shift in cultural policy formation. The Strategy establishes the cultural policy directions for a period of ten years and is the first long-term comprehensive document for the cultural field. It proposes an integrated and balanced policy covering a broad network of cultural institutions and organisations that would create more equal cultural opportunities for the country's citizens, including Lithuanian communities and artists living abroad. An integrated approach to the cultural development is also promoted by the Inter-Institutional Action Plan "Culture", which contributes to the implementation of cultural policy objectives through various collaborative programmes and consolidated financial resources of different ministries. The Cultural Passport

programme is a leap towards the engagement of young audiences in cultural consumption and assurance of diversity of the cultural supply. Over the last four years, a variety of measures have been introduced to promote a free, independent and pluralistic media in the country. Strategic Directions for Public Information Policy is the first initiative to define and implement the state's priorities in the media sector, while the establishment of Information System on Public Information Producers and Disseminators, which contains individual detailed data on the players in the media sector, is expected to ensure a greater transparency of public information providers and therefore greater objectivity of public information. Tax incentives for the press also contribute to objective and diverse public information. One of the state priorities in the media sector – increased accessibility to information – is being implemented by adopting amendments of the Law on the National Radio and Television that oblige the national broadcaster to ensure a better accessibility of its services to people with hearing and visual disabilities.

Partnerships with the civil society are playing an increasingly important role in policy making processes. The Ministry of Culture has developed a network of Advisory Councils composed of experts in different fields that provide their feedback on institutional initiatives and incite discussions on various cultural policy issues. The representatives of each Advisory Council as well as external civil society organisations (Youth Council, Council for People with Disabilities, Council for Non-Governmental Organisations and Association for Culture Self-Governance) are included in the Lithuanian Council for Culture and Art whose goal is to analyse culture and art processes and discuss various questions on cultural policy in a broader cultural context. International outreach has become a significant dimension of Lithuanian cultural policy. The concept document of the Culture Internationalisation Policy laid down the main objectives in this field and defined the network of players that are implementing integrated coordination of this policy and emphasised the role of cultural attachés. Culture internationalisation objectives are implemented through various measures aimed at increasing mobility of artists and cultural professionals: granting free visas to the participants of cultural events (agreements with Belarus and Russia), organising tailored study visits to foreign artists, curators and organisers as well as introducing specific funding programmes for residencies and international events. These initiatives were complemented by a great number of cultural cooperation agreements with other countries. A continuous cooperation between Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia has resulted in the establishment of the Baltic Culture Fund.

Over the past years, the Government has placed special emphasis on the development of sustainable national policies that could bridge the social, economic and cultural gaps between the country's major cities and the regions. The Model for Sustainable Regional Cultural Development was designed with the aim to empower regions and enable them to participate in the decision-making process for project financing. Another initiative supporting region-oriented cultural policy – Lithuanian Small Capitals of Culture – contributes to reviving cultural activities in smaller towns and villages. International cooperation for sustainable development was addressed as one of the Convention's goals by implementing the cultural projects supporting the civil society in Belarus that were initiated by the Lithuanian Diplomatic Mission and implemented in cooperation with a number of civil society organisations.

The reference period was also marked by significant improvements in the local audio-visual industry. After demonstrating positive results and generating significant inward investments, the new tax incentive scheme for film production was approved for a new period of five years and has already attracted a number of large-scale film productions to the country. The rise of the #metoo movement has sparked heated debates on gender equality and sexual harassment issues in the film industry as well as other cultural sectors. It resulted in institutional initiatives aiming to prevent harassment in the workplace and provoked broader discussions about participation of men and women in culture.

Even though various policies and measures that contribute to the goals of the UNESCO 2005 Convention have been introduced in the past few years, there are many remaining challenges for the cultural sector that will require more attention in the years to come.

**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.:**

Public Sector	Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO	lietuva@unesco.lt	<a href="http://www.unesco.lt">http://www.unesco.lt</a>
Public Sector	Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania	dmm@lrkm.lt	<a href="http://lrkm.lrv.lt/">http://lrkm.lrv.lt/</a>
Public Sector	Lithuanian Council for Culture	info@ltk.lt	<a href="https://www.ltk.lt/en/">https://www.ltk.lt/en/</a>
Public Sector	Lithuanian Film Centre	info@lkc.lt	<a href="http://www.lkc.lt/en/">http://www.lkc.lt/en/</a>
Public Sector	The Lithuanian Department of Statistics	statistika@stat.gov.lt	<a href="https://www.stat.gov.lt/">https://www.stat.gov.lt/</a>
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Centre for the Protection of Intellectual Property	info@inac.lt	<a href="https://inac.lt/en/about-us/">https://inac.lt/en/about-us/</a>
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	National Association of Creative and Cultural Industries	roma@creativeindustries.lt	<a href="http://www.creativeindustries.lt">http://www.creativeindustries.lt</a>
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Association „Dizaino forumas“	info@dizainoforumas.lt	<a href="http://www.dizainoforumas.lt/en/">http://www.dizainoforumas.lt/en/</a>
Private Sector	MO Museum	mo@mo.lt	<a href="http://www.mo.lt">http://www.mo.lt</a>
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	NGO "Kino pavasaris"	info@kinopavasaris.lt	<a href="https://kinopavasaris.lt/en">https://kinopavasaris.lt/en</a>
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	NGO „Kaunas 2022“	info@kaunas2022.eu	<a href="https://kaunas2022.eu/en/">https://kaunas2022.eu/en/</a>
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Lithuanian Centre for Human Rights	info@lchr.lt	<a href="https://nepatoguskinas.lt/2019/en/">https://nepatoguskinas.lt/2019/en/</a>

Public Sector	The Ministry of Foreign Affairs	urm@urm.it	<a href="http://www.urm.it/default/en/">http://www.urm.it/default/en/</a>
Public Sector	The Ministry of Education, Science and Sport	smmin@smm.it	<a href="https://www.smm.it/main/web/en/">https://www.smm.it/main/web/en/</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

Cultural management

Digital cultural and creative sectors

Music

Performing arts

Visual arts

Tertiary and university education degrees in

Cinema/audiovisual arts

Cultural management

Design

Media arts

Music

Performing arts

Publishing

Visual arts

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

Support job creation in the cultural and creative sectors

Encourage the formalization and growth of micro/small and medium-sized cultural enterprises

**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):**

2.20%

2017

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

Printing and reproduction of recorded media -0,3; retail trade-0,1; publishing activities -0,2; motion picture, video and television programme production, sound recording and music -0,1; programming and broadcasting activities -0,2; architectural and engineering activities -0,2; creative, arts and entertainment activities -0,3; libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities -0,4, Statistics Lithuania

**Share of employment in the cultural and creative sectors:**

4.00%

2018

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



Males - 3,2; females - 4,9 Eurostat

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

547,560,000USD

2018

**Please provide whenever possible the share allocated by cultural sectors/domains (in %):**

In total 3,3 % Recreation, culture and religion-3,27; recreational and sporting services-0,64; cultural services-2,11; broadcasting and publishing services-0,34; religious and other community services-0,07; recreation, culture and religion n.e.c- 0,11 %

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

## **Lithuanian Strategy for Cultural Policy**

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

The Ministry of Culture

**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.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/6aa23a109d4d11e9878fc525390407ce>

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

The Lithuanian Strategy for Cultural Policy (hereinafter – the Strategy) was approved in 2019. The main goal of the document is to ensure the contribution of culture in the creation of sustainable Lithuanian society, dignified national and European identity, social and economic welfare of the citizens as well as the international prestige of the state and its competitiveness. The Strategy addresses important problems, challenges and the needs of the Lithuanian cultural sector and necessary changes that must be implemented until 2030. The Strategy is structured in three main directions with accompanying goals and objectives. The first direction – balanced and integrated cultural policy – emphasises the need to strengthen cooperation between the state, municipal and non-governmental sectors to reduce cultural exclusion and disparities among the regions. The second direction – creative personality and society with a strong identity – aims at fostering creation and participation in culture as well as developing critical thinking and citizenship in society. The third direction – culture that creates value – sets the goal for culture to generate strong social and economic value to the national progress. The Strategy also highlights the importance of creating favourable conditions for talent development and fair remuneration to artists and cultural workers. Specific measures implementing the objectives of the Strategy will be included in the 2020–2022 strategic plans of institutions that will contribute to the implementation of this Strategy in the area of their competence.

**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:**

The Strategy is financed through the state budget appropriations, municipal budgets, EU and other international financial support measures.

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

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

Ministries, institutions and organisations in the area of their competence

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## **Inter-Institutional Action Plan “Culture”**

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

The Ministry of Culture

### **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://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/131e4092b5b311e3b2cee015b961c954>

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

The Inter-Institutional Action Plan “Culture” (hereinafter – the Plan) implements the provisions and related activities of the horizontal priority “Culture” of the 2014–2020 National Advancement Strategy. The purpose of this Plan is to consolidate the measures of the European Union fund managers thus creating favourable conditions to fulfil the potential of the cultural sector: strengthen the identity and creativity of the society, develop cultural services around the country and promote dissemination and international competitiveness of Lithuanian culture. The Plan covers the following eight main areas of activity and investment directions: 1. preservation of cultural heritage by ensuring its economic vitality and adapting its use to society’s needs; 2. research and development by fostering creative and cultural innovation; 3. renewal of culture’s physical and informational infrastructure by adapting it to educational needs and ensuring its economic vitality; 4. development of creative and cultural industries; 5. development of high quality cultural services; 6. increasing accessibility of culture around the country; 7. fostering the society’s creative potential and participation in culture; 8. fostering cross-sector partnerships and cultural education. The Plan is coordinated by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania. Other participating institutions are the following: the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Social Security and Labour, the Ministry of Economy and Innovation, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Interior, Lithuanian Department of Statistics and the Ministry of Energy. The Plan was approved in 2014 and has been renewed three times, i.e. at the end of 2014, 2016 and 2018. The period for the implementation of the measures included in the Plan is 2014–2023.

**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?:**

A number of measures laid down in the action plan have already been started by implementing projects in the following fields: revitalisation of nature and cultural heritage, modernisation of cultural infrastructure, activities fostering local cultural statistics and analysis, improvement of public governance. Based on the preliminary implementation results, 35 percent of the dedicated financing has already been used.

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

The overall budget for this Plan amounts to USD 562 million, USD 213 million of which is provided by the participating institutions.

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

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

The Ministry of Education and Science

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

Public Sector

The Ministry of Social Security and Labor

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

Public Sector

The Ministry of Economy and Innovation

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

Public Sector

The Ministry of Environment

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

Public Sector

The Ministry of Agriculture

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

Public Sector

The Ministry of Interior

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

The Ministry of Energy

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

Lithuanian Department of Statistics

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## **Development Guidelines for Cultural and Creative Industries 2015–2020**

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

The Ministry of Culture

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

<https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/4a028c503a6f11e598499e1e1ba6e454?jfwid=-3ltgvaizd>

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

On 31 July 2015, the Lithuanian Minister of Culture approved the Development Guidelines for Cultural and Creative Industries (hereinafter – the CCI and the Guidelines) for the period of 2015–2020. The Guidelines aim to set out the priorities, goals and objectives and to ensure their effective and coordinated implementation. The Guidelines lay down four key policy objectives: 1. fostering creative capacity among all age groups of the society; 2. unlocking the potential of the CCI for creating an environment that enhances the quality of life and creativity of the society and fosters active citizenship; 3. stimulating the growth of economic value in the CCI and its export levels; 4. promoting and applying innovation in all CCI areas. The main tasks for the Ministry of Culture in order to achieve these policy objectives are as follows: 1. to foster a creativity-friendly learning environment; 2. to improve conditions for the society to more actively participate in creative activities; 3. to improve conditions for research in cultural heritage sites and their adaptation for cultural and educational activities; 4. to enhance the role of the CCI and culture in the regions; 5. to enhance the possibilities of the CCI to contribute to the health of the society; 6. to improve the conditions for the promotion of the Lithuanian creativity and culture in Lithuania and abroad. The CCI projects are financed through the Culture Support Fund administered by the Lithuanian Council for Culture.

**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 provisions in the Guidelines are partly implemented through the measures of the Inter- Institutional Action Plan “Culture”.

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

There is no dedicated budget for this measure.

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

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

The Ministry of Economy and Innovation

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

The Ministry of Education, Science and Sport

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## **National Programme for Professional Performing Arts**

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

The Ministry of Culture

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

Performing Arts

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

<https://lrkm.lrv.lt/lt/veikla/finansuojamos-programos/profesionaliojo-scenos-meno-veiklos-nacionaline-programa>

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

The National Programme for Professional Performing Arts (hereinafter – the Programme) was adopted in 2017. The Programme provides additional financial support to professional performing arts sector. The main goal of the Programme is to attract more young professionals thus fostering the diversity of artistic works and performing art co-productions. The Programme also aims to ensure the availability of local and foreign high-quality performing artworks country-wide and promote the Lithuanian performing arts abroad. Funding is provided to the following activities: production of new, innovative performing artworks; co-productions between local and foreign art institutions; residencies for young artists and art collectives; dissemination and promotion of performing artworks in the country's regions and abroad; presentation of foreign productions in Lithuania.

**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?:**

The National Programme for Professional Performing Arts has enabled the national and state theatres as well as concert institutions to expand the scope of their activities. The funds distributed through the Programme were allocated to finance the production of new theatre plays, unique concert programmes and international festivals that were presented not only in the major cities but also in smaller towns of Lithuania. The funds also helped to organise creative residencies, workshops and incubator programmes for young artists encouraging them to collaborate with recognised local and foreign professionals.

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

The funding of the Programme amounts to USD 3.2 million annually.

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

## **Development of Non-Formal Education Services for Children**

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

Lithuanian Centre of Non-Formal Youth Education

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

Music

Performing Arts

Visual Arts

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

<http://www.emokykla.lt>

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

Since 2016, two hundred Lithuanian schools have been involved in creative partnerships during the project “Development of Non-Formal Education Services for Children”. Schools were given the opportunity to visit six cultural and ecological educational programmes. As feedback, the communities of these schools submitted creative projects that have been published on the educational website [www.emokykla.lt](http://www.emokykla.lt) as a good practice. Until 2019, the Project also granted funding to different non-formal education programmes that provide a wide range of cultural and artistic services to children. The most popular programmes among children are dance, art, music, traditional culture and theatre.

**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?:**

These programmes are attended by more than 30 000 pupils every year. It constitutes an average of 10 percent of the total number of Lithuanian pupils.

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

A total of USD 11 367 593 was allocated to implement the Project.

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

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

The implementation of the Project, which was financed by the Operational Programme for EU Structural Funds Investments for 2014–2020, was successful. Therefore, from 2021 the Project will continue and will be funded from national budgetary resources. In addition, the decision has been made to expand the scope of application by integrating various domains related to new technologies and natural sciences as well as to prioritise innovative activities which would be financed under the Project.

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

Sixty Lithuanian municipalities

### **Type of entity:**

Public Sector

The Ministry of Education, Science and Sports

### **Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## **Cultural Passport Programme**

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

The Ministry of Culture

The Ministry of Education, Science and Sport

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

<https://lrkm.lrv.lt/lt/veikla/kulturos-pasas/kulturos-pasas-1>

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

Approved in 2018, the Cultural Passport programme is a state-funded initiative for schoolchildren aimed at improving their access to cultural and educational projects and events. It allows Lithuanian schoolchildren to enjoy free services of cultural and arts institutions and encourages them to participate in the cultural life. It is believed that the formation of schoolchildren's cultural consumption habits should be consistently and systematically based on the needs, knowledge and abilities to perceive the information that develop at a certain age. The programme allocates EUR 15 for each schoolchild every year. This amount is used to finance the cultural services provided through the programme. Younger schoolchildren attend chosen cultural events in group/with class. 9–12th grade pupils can choose to attend cultural events individually or in smaller groups. Cultural services that are included in the Cultural Passport programme are selected by the Experts' Committee whose task is to make sure that the services comply with the objectives of the programme.

**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?:**

In 2018, 82 percent of primary school children participated in the cultural activities offered through the Cultural Passport programme. Cultural activities were attended 3710 times. In 2019, 90 percent of the country's schools joined the programme. Listed cultural services were attended more than 20 000 times. At the moment, the Cultural Passport programme consists of 2053 cultural services that are provided by over 600 cultural organisations.

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

The budget of the programme is negotiated each year. A total of USD 9.4 million was allocated to implement the programme during the period of 2018–2020.

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

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

Cultural organisations

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

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Cultural institutions

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

Public Sector

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## **Programme: “Cultural Education”**

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

Lithuanian Council for Culture

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

<http://www.ltkk.lt/en/>

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

The goal of the funding programme “Cultural Education” is to create conditions for all groups of society to reveal and develop their creative potential through active and meaningful participation in culture. The programme supports projects that focus on fostering creativity in society and contribute to deepening the knowledge on culture and art. The funding priority is given to the projects that include groups of society that rarely participate in culture.

**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?:**

Funding was allocated to 71 projects in 2018 and 39 projects in 2019.

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

In 2018, USD 402 413 was allocated to fund the projects in the programme. In 2019, the funding amounted to USD 217 790.

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



## **Programme: “Children and Youth Culture”**

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

Lithuanian Council for Culture

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

<http://www.ltkl.lt/en/>

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

The goal of the funding programme “Children and Youth Culture” is to reveal and develop creative potential of children and youth by encouraging them to participate in culture. The programme supports projects in various cultural fields as well as publishing projects that are dedicated to children and youth.

**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?:**

Funding was allocated to 52 projects in 2018 and 43 projects in 2019.

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

In 2018, USD 272 322 was allocated to fund the projects in the programme. In 2019, the funding amounted to USD 185 179.

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

## **Programme: “Cultural and Creative Industries: Networking”**

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

Lithuanian Council for Culture

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

<http://www.ltkk.lt/en/>

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

The funding programme “Cultural and Creative Industries: Networking” seeks to encourage the contribution of cultural content by the cultural and creative industries (CCIs) in order to initiate and develop products and/or services that create economic value and contribute to the growth of cultural and creative industries' exports. In this programme, financial aid is provided to: 1. the CCI events promoting entrepreneurship and networking (fairs, conferences, competitions, presentations, creative workshops) and the CCI publicity projects of a similar nature organised in Lithuania; 2. presentations of Lithuanian CCI products and services at international fairs, business missions and similar events abroad, including preparation of marketing materials required for presentation and publicity costs; 3. participation of CCI professionals in international cross-sectoral events (trainings, seminars, conferences and similar events) promoting the development of competencies and international networking of the participating legal and/or natural persons.

**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?:**

Funding was allocated to 53 projects in 2018 and 19 projects in 2019.

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

In 2018, USD 653 459 was allocated to fund the projects in the programme. In 2019, the funding amounted to USD 250 809.

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

## 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

Linguistic diversity in media programming

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):**

The Radio and Television Commission of Lithuania (1996)

The Office of the Inspector of Journalist Ethics (2006)

The Association of Ethics in the Provision of Information to the Public (2015)

**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 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:**

### **Strategic Directions for Public Information Policy 2019–2022**

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

The Ministry of Culture

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

<https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/95c4cf60344211e99595d005d42b863e>

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

Strategic Directions for Public Information Policy 2019–2022 is the first strategic document focusing on public information policy. It aims to define the main public information policy directions, goals and objectives, its efficient and coordinated implementation and monitoring. In addition to strategic directions for public information policy, the action plan assigning tasks to different institutions was approved. The main goal of this policy document is to strengthen a sustainable, transparent and viable public information environment through implementation of the following strategic directions: sustainable and coordinated public information policy; high quality, diverse, accessible and credible public information; transparent and independent public information environment; sustainable state support and tax policy; society constantly developing its literacy skills and capable of resisting information threats. The Strategic Directions for Public Information Policy were developed in accordance with the Government programme, other strategic documents and with regard to the recommendations by the European Commission and the Council of Europe.

**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 Ministry of Culture supported initiatives on social resilience, critical thinking, media and information literacy (financial contribution). In April 2020, a study of the Lithuanian media monopoly and the competitive environment was launched with an aim to promote a fair competition in the media by developing, implementing and applying antitrust measures. The development of the Information System on Public Information Producers and Disseminators has been started and the system is planned to be installed by November 2020.

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

There is no dedicated budget for this measure.

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

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

The Ministry of Transport and Communications

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

Media Council under the Ministry of Culture

**Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Lithuanian National Radio and Television

**Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

The Office of the Inspector of Journalist Ethics

**Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

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## **Amendments to the Article 5 of the Law on the National Radio and Television**

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

Lithuanian National Radio and Television

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

<https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/fd64fc32508f11e98bc2ba0c0453c004?jfwid=-148pyylvjn>

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

In 2019, the Parliament of Lithuania adopted amendments to Article 5 of the Law on Lithuanian National Radio and Television, which set out quantitative requirements for the National Radio and Television to adapt its television programmes for people with hearing and visual disabilities: 1. at least 50 percent of the total monthly broadcasting time must include television programs with Lithuanian subtitles; 2. at least 20 percent of total monthly broadcasting time must include television programs translated into sign language; 3. at least 10 percent of total monthly broadcasting time must include television programs adapted for people with visual impairments. These amendments entered into force on 1 January 2020. Prior to the entry into force of these amendments, the national broadcaster was under no obligation to adapt programmes for the hearing and visually impaired people and was doing that based on its financial capabilities.

**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 amendments must be implemented gradually each year until the requirements set out in Article 5 are achieved. The National Radio and Television has the following obligations: - to increase the broadcasting time of television programmes with Lithuanian subtitles every year by 5 percent; - to increase the broadcasting time of television programmes translated into sign language every year by 1 percent; - to increase the broadcasting time of television programmes adapted for people with visual impairment every year by 1 percent.

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

There is no dedicated budget for this measure.

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

## **Survey on Media Literacy Level in Lithuania**

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

The Ministry of Culture

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

In 2017, for the very first time, the Ministry of Culture launched a survey on the assessment of media literacy level in Lithuania. The aim of this survey was to conduct a representative study on the population of Lithuania to evaluate people's ability to use the media, ability to critically evaluate the information provided by the media as well as people's communication skills and their opinions on the media. The survey was based on "The Methodology of Media Literacy Research", approved by the Ministry of Culture in 2016, and the methodological requirements for the design of a representative sample, technical performance and calculation of indicators. The survey revealed that the population lacks critical approach when consuming the media – "fake news" is rarely noticed, and the media is rarely seen as an instrument of exerting influence. It is therefore concluded that a relatively positive evaluation of the Lithuanian media is related not to its high-quality content, but rather to the consumers' inability to make an informed judgement.

**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 survey will be repeated every three years to evaluate the progress of media literacy level in Lithuania. The next evaluation will be completed by the end of 2020.

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

USD 28 272 was allocated to conduct the survey.

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

## **Information System on Public Information Producers and Disseminators**

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

The Ministry of Culture  
State Enterprise Centre of Registers

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

<https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/4ee29902fcd11e796a2c6c63add27e9?jfwid=-148pyyltsk>

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

In 2018, the Parliament of Lithuania adopted amendments to the Law on the Provision of Information to the Public, thereby endorsing the proposal to establish the Information System on Public Information Producers and Disseminators. Additional data on public information producers (disseminators) and their activities will become publicly available in the System, in order to ensure greater transparency of provision of information to the public and objectivity of public information. The Information System will provide the following additional data related to public information producers (disseminators): the name, type and category of the public media entity controlled by them; the first and last name of the person responsible for the content distributed by the public media entity, when the person responsible for the content is other than the manager of the legal entity; information concerning grave professional misconduct; information about public information producers/disseminators, who do not comply with the rules of professional ethics; information about the revenue of public information producers/disseminators gained from political advertising and funds received on the basis of a transaction or an administrative act, the source of which is the state or municipal budget or other foundation established by the state or municipality, or a state or municipal undertaking. The Information System will be launched by November 2020.

**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:**

The funding provided for the implementation of the System amounts to USD 236 835

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

## **VAT Incentives for Press**

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

State Tax Inspectorate

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

<https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalActEditions/lt/TAD/TAIS.163423?faces-redirect=true>

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

The publishing production in Lithuania has always had a special status in VAT system – it was either released from VAT or had a VAT incentive. This is still the case today – based on the current law, the standard VAT rate is 21 percent, while its reduction is applied to books and periodicals. Books have a VAT incentive of 9 percent. Incentive also applies to other non-periodical publications, such as textbooks, exercise books, encyclopaedias, dictionaries, manuals, informational brochures, photography and reproduction albums, children's picture, drawing or colouring books, music printed or in manuscript form as well as maps and hydrographic or similar charts. Reduced VAT rate does not apply to calendars, notebooks and similar printed materials. Since 2019, the reduced VAT rate of 5 percent has been applied to periodicals – newspapers, magazines and other periodic publications, excluding publications with erotic or violent content, publications that do not comply with professional ethics and printed materials where more than four fifths of content consists of advertising. Books and periodicals are considered to be important to the development of a more civic, informed and critically-minded society, whereas a regional press is an essential tool for informing citizens about current affairs, fostering discussions, mobilising communities and identifying "fake news".

**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?:**

Besides the mere impact on the cost of books and periodicals, VAT incentive is considered to have a positive effect on: 1. Reading. VAT incentive for the press reduces the cost barrier for consumers when choosing between easily accessible informational sources and printed books/periodicals that are usually associated with higher quality; 2. Quality of supply. VAT has a significant impact on the revenue of the publishers; therefore, the incentive may have an indirect impact on the main factors on the supply side: diversity of the production, professionalism, content quality and independence; 3. Separate segments of the publishing industry. Press outlets that earn little income from advertising (regional newspapers, cultural, scientific and other specialised periodicals) would be more susceptible to the increased VAT rate. VAT incentive is important to the survival of the less commercialised press; 4. Public goals. VAT incentive contributes to creating an environment conducive to reading and creates conditions for the formation of a critically minded, democratic and creative society.

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

There is no dedicated budget for this measure.

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

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

A study conducted in 2016 on the impact of the reduced VAT rate for the press on public finance and culture suggests that, considering the ongoing changes of reading habits and the ever-increasing role of technologies, VAT incentive for the press should be maintained as a factor contributing to the promotion of reading and therefore should become an integral part of the state's reading promotion strategy. One of the recommendations is to constantly observe and analyse VAT incentive for the press in a broader economic context: observe its cost in relation to other incentives, evaluate its significance in the press support budget, monitor the publishing sector's economic vitality, prices of publications and affordability. It is also recommended to consider applying the VAT incentive to digital publications.



## **Media Support Foundation**

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

Media Support Foundation

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

<http://www.srtfondas.lt>

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

Media Support Foundation is an independent public foundation in Lithuania, established by 20 shareholders in 1996 (by 19 civil society organisations and the Ministry of Culture). The majority of the shareholders are creative cultural organisations, but also there are associations of different sectors of private mass media. The Foundation is responsible for organising calls for financial support to cultural and educational projects in the mass media. The Foundation is an independent manager of public finance subsidies from the state budget. Since 2016, the Foundation's annual budget has amounted to up to EUR 2.7 million. The goals included mass media literacy goals which were not assigned to the Foundation before 2016. Horizontal goals to support projects for young people and minors as well as for national minorities are also set here. The total budget of the Foundation is distributed between six programmes in the following proportions: 1) periodic cultural and art press – 25 percent; 2) periodic national press – 10 percent; 3) periodic regional press – 25 percent; 4) national radio and TV – 16 percent; 5) regional radio and TV – 8 percent; 6) Internet (digital) media – 16 percent. A separate regional radio and TV programme has been included in the budget of the Foundation only since 2016. The sixth programme for the Internet (digital) media has also been allocated an enlarged portion of the budget since 2016. The greatest emphasis of the support policy for dissemination of the cultural educational content has been placed on the periodic cultural and art press as well as on the periodic regional press of Lithuania. .

**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 average number of projects supported by the Foundation in all programmes fluctuates at around 300 per year. Since the main factor for all supported projects is the original content and remunerations for content creation, the support of the Foundation reaches more than 3000 cultural content creators every year. Cultural periodicals are distributed by the Foundation to libraries of Lithuania.

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

The Foundation distributes USD 3.05 million annually.

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

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

The Ministry of Culture

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

Public Sector

Lithuanian Union of Art Creators

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

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Association on Ethics of Public Information

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

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Ministry of Education, Science and Sports

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

Public Sector

Association of Internet Media

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

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Lithuanian Association of Radio and Television

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

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Lithuanian Association of Periodic Press Publishers

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

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Lithuanian National Association of Regional Newspapers

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

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Lithuanian Association of Cable Television

**Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Lithuanian Association of Regional Television and Radio

**Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Lithuanian Society of Lawyers

**Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Lithuanian Union of Scientists

**Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

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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.):** NO

**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:** YES

**Percentage of the population with subscriptions to online cultural content providers (e.g. Netflix, Spotify, Amazon, etc.):**

25.00%

2020

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### **Programme: “Protection of Copyright and Related Rights”**

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

Lithuanian Council for Culture

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

<https://www.ltkl.lt/en/>

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

Since 2018, the Lithuanian Council for Culture has been managing the funding programme “Protection of Copyright and Related Rights”, under which the projects implementing the following activities are funded: 1. Creation, installation and adaptation of online platforms, websites and other online means providing the public with legal access to works of literature, science and art. In addition, activities contributing to the creation of a platform which is convenient to the users and encompasses content of various creative fields. 2. Creation and development of publicly accessible databases where information on literature, science and art works, subjects of related rights, rights' holders and management, and legal use of the works is collected and organised. 3. Creation and implementation of new modern collective-administration solutions and licensing models for copyright and related rights as well as creation and support of the systems for identifying and monitoring the use of works and the related rights' objects. 4. Cooperation between the providers of information society services and the copyright and related rights administration organisations in order to ensure the protection of the copyrights and related rights used online by applying online content recognition technologies and receiving information on the content used online with the aim of achieving more effective interoperability between the databases managed by collective-administration organisations and other databases. 5. Organisation of international and national scientific conferences and seminars on the topics of intellectual property at higher-education institutions (universities and colleges), as well as execution of scientific research or studies to solve relevant issues of implementing and protecting copyrights and related rights. 6. Preparation and implementation of educational activities on the topics of copyright and related rights at educational institutions and mass events. 7. Creation and publishing in the media of analytical and educational articles, radio and TV shows, video clips and other means of public information which promote legal use of the works along with respect for intellectual property and condemn illegal use of the works. 8. Various other innovative projects on the topic of copyright protection.

**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?:**

A total of 38 projects (including various internet platforms for cultural content, databases and educational initiatives) were financed through the program during the period of 2018–2019.

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

In 2018, USD 417 000 was allocated to fund the projects in the programme. In 2019, the funding amounted to USD 378 200.

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

## **Programme: “Dissemination of Digitised Cultural Products”**

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

Lithuanian Council for Culture

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

<https://www.ltkk.lt/en/>

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

In 2016 and 2017, the Lithuanian Council for Culture implemented the funding programme “Dissemination of Digitised Cultural Products”. Projects focusing on the following activities were able to receive funding: 1. Projects integrating digitised cultural products in education and the studying process. 2. Projects fostering the society's creativity and social cohesion. 3. Projects fostering cultural tourism and enriching the society's leisure time. 4. Projects fostering international collaboration in the field of dissemination of digitised content. A priority was given to the projects that included the following activities: 1. Projects that apply innovative methods and technologies for dissemination of digitised cultural objects. 2. Projects that facilitate the development of new digital services and products based on digitised cultural objects. 3. Projects focusing on socially deprived society groups as well as children and youth. 4. Projects ensuring a user-oriented approach in the developed digital services and products.

**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?:**

A total of 30 projects received funding through the programme.

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

USD 216 870 was allocated to implement the measure (USD 108 435 in 2016 and 2017).

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

## **Programme: “Cultural and Creative Industries: Cultural Start-ups”**

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

Lithuanian Council for Culture

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

Media Arts

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

<http://www.ltkl.lt/en/>

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

The goal of the funding programme “Cultural and Creative Industries: Cultural Start-Ups” is to encourage the contribution of cultural content to the cultural and creative industries (CCIs) to initiate and develop products and/or services that create economic value and contribute to the growth of cultural and creative industries’ exports. In this programme, financial aid is provided for the initiation, development, publicity (including the preparation of marketing material required for promotion), and popularisation of products and/or services (including video games and multimedia) developed by the creative industries in Lithuania and abroad.

**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?:**

A total of 9 projects received funding in 2019.

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

In 2019, USD 75 932 was allocated for the implementation of the measure.

## 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

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:**

Institutional working groups appointed to analyse and report on particular questions and make recommendations, always include representatives of concerned cultural organisations/associations.

**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:**

### **Advisory Councils to the Ministry of Culture**

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

The Ministry of Culture

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

<http://lrkm.lrv.lt/lt/struktura-ir-kontaktai/tarybos-kolegijos-komisijos-ir-darbo-grupes/tarybos-prie-ministerijos>

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

Over the years, the Ministry of Culture has developed a network of Advisory Councils that represent different cultural sectors. The goal of this initiative is to ensure closer collaboration with the civil society and the NGOs in the policy-making process and to strengthen self-regulation mechanisms of the cultural policy. Depending on the represented sector, Councils may have several different mandates: 1. to provide expert opinion and proposals on cultural strategy; 2. to evaluate cultural programmes and provide recommendations on their financing; 3. to make proposals regarding updates to the existing legislation or drafting new ones for different cultural sectors; 4. to evaluate the proposed nominees for cultural awards and prizes; 5. to analyse activities of state funded cultural organisations. Recommendations on the principles for establishing Advisory Councils and their mandates were approved in 2018. They also provide that each Council representing a different cultural sector delegates one member to the new Lithuanian Council for Culture and Art, whose goal is to analyse culture and art processes and discuss various questions on cultural policy. This Council also includes representatives from external organisations – Youth Council, Council for People with Disabilities, Council for Non-governmental Organisations and Association for Culture Self-governance. There are currently 18 Councils under the Ministry of Culture that represent different cultural fields (media, architecture, design, literature, museums, archives, cultural education, performing arts, etc.) and provide expert opinion on specific questions.

**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?:**

Each Council consists of experts from the specific field – representatives of organisations, public or educational institutions, the NGOs, etc. Councils analyse issues related to the specific cultural sector and contribute to the formation of cultural policy directions.

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

Members of the Councils are remunerated for their participation in the meetings from the budget of the Ministry of Culture. The remuneration amount depends on the number of meetings attended each year.

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

## **Amendment to the Agreement with the Trade Union of Cultural Workers**

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

The Ministry of Culture  
Public Cultural Institutions

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

<https://lrkm.lrv.lt/lt/naujienos/stiprinama-socialine-partneryste-kulturos-sektoriuje>

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

Aiming to strengthen social partnership in the cultural sector, the Minister of Culture and the Chairperson of the Trade Union of Cultural Workers have signed an Amendment to the Collective Agreement that improves the working conditions for the cultural workers. The Amendment, which was signed in December 2019, foresees that cultural institutions financed from the state budget must now allocate funding for training and competence development of their employees. The allocated amount must constitute at least 0.5 percent of the average salary of a cultural worker in that particular institution. Another condition laid out in the Amendment ensures that the timetable of employees working 5 to 6 days a week must be approved by the trade union and must ensure that employees get two days off at least once a month and at least one of those days must be Saturday or Sunday.

**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:**

There is no dedicated budget for this measure.

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

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

The Trade Union of Cultural Workers

### **Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

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## **Programme: “Strategic Funding for Art Creator’s Organisations”**

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

Lithuanian Council for Culture

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

<http://www.ltkk.lt/en/>

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

The goal of the funding programme “Strategic Funding for Art Creators’ Organisations” is to ensure the implementation of activities and creative programmes of art creators’ organisations. An art creator’s organisation is defined in accordance with the Law on the Status of Art Creator and Art Creator Organisations of the Republic of Lithuania. In 2020, the art creators’ organisations started a partnership dedicated to the implementation of the strategic directions of the Lithuanian Council for Culture and the strategic objectives of the Ministry of Culture.

**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?:**

18 organisations received funding in both 2018 and 2019.

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

In 2018, USD 785 482 was allocated to the programme. In 2019, the funding amounted to USD 849 759.

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



## 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.)

Specific visa policies or other cross border measures supporting the inward mobility of foreign artists and cultural professionals in your country (e.g. simplified visa procedures, reduced fees for visas, visas for longer durations)

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

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 supporting the inward mobility of foreign artists and other cultural professionals, notably from developing countries

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

#### Culture Internationalisation Policy

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

The Ministry of Culture

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

<http://lrkm.lrv.lt/uploads/lrkm/documents/files/THE%20CONCEPT%20OF%20THE%20CULTURE%20%20INTERNATIONALIZATION%20POLICY.pdf>

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

In 2018, the Ministry of Culture adopted the Concept of the Culture Internationalisation Policy, co-signed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The goal of the Culture Internationalisation Policy is to advance the internationalisation of Lithuanian culture in pursuit of the diversity of cultural expressions, enhancement of the competitiveness of creative products and quality of cultural services, contributing to the development of an open and dynamic society able to perform in an ever-changing world. The key objectives of the Policy are the following: 1. to develop the professional competences of artists and culture professionals by promoting international mobility; 2. to develop audiences, also in the digital environment, by creating the conditions for cooperation between Lithuanian and foreign cultural organisations, encouraging circulation of works, cultural exchanges and co-productions with foreign partners; 3. to develop the capacities of artists, culture professionals and cultural organisations by promoting their work in a meaningful way at the international level; 4. to achieve integrated coordination of the culture internationalisation policy, and to develop consistently the social, economic and diplomatic values of the internationalisation of culture and their synergies. The Policy highlights the cultural, economic, social and diplomatic values generated by the internationalisation of culture, setting preconditions at the policy-making level, through the knowledge and experience of the institutions concerned, to move towards focused and result-oriented integrated coordination of actions and related resources, based on established priorities, and the synergies of internationalisation of culture with foreign and economic policy. The Ministry of Culture coordinates the synergies of the culture internationalisation policy with the objectives of foreign and economic policy with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Economy and the Chancellery of the Government. The Minister of Culture forms an Integrated Culture Internationalisation Policy Management Group of the representatives of the institutions as well as experts in the internationalisation of culture.

**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 provisions of the Concept of Culture Internationalisation Policy are being implemented in the new strategic documents for the cultural sector, annual operational plans of the budget institutions under the Ministry of Culture, and the work regulations of the cultural attachés.

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

There is no dedicated budget for this measure.

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

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

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

The Ministry of Economy and Innovation

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

The Chancellery of the Government

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## **Free Visas for the Participants of Cultural Events**

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

The Ministry of Culture

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

<https://lrkm.lrv.lt/lt/veiklos-sritys/tarptautinis-bendradarbiavimas/del-tarpininkavimo-isduodant-vizas>

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

According to the agreement signed between the Lithuanian and Belarus governments on 26 November 2002 regarding the travel of both countries' citizens and agreement between the Lithuanian and Russian governments on 30 December 2002 regarding the travel of both countries' citizens, free visas can be issued to the participants of cultural events with the intervention of the Ministry of Culture. A free visa can be provided based on a written invitation by the event organiser and in most cases it is considered to be a sufficient proof for the traveller's destination.

**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:**

There is no dedicated budget for this measure.

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

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

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## **Programme: “Residencies for Artists and Cultural Creators in Lithuania”**

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

Lithuanian Council for Culture

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

<http://www.ltkl.lt/en/>

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

The goal of the funding programme “Residencies for Artists and Cultural Creators in Lithuania” is to promote intercultural and cross-sectoral cooperation by enabling cultural and artistic creators to become acquainted with the local cultural life, and to collaborate with other cultural or artistic creators and the local community. This programme finances the projects that allow Lithuanian and foreign cultural and art creators to reside and cooperate in Lithuania, when the residency period of one cultural or artistic creator lasts no longer than 3 months.

**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?:**

Funding was allocated to 14 projects in 2018 and 8 projects in 2019.

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

In 2018, USD 163 470 and in 2019, USD 76 286 was allocated for the implementation of the measure.

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

## **Programme: “Strategic Funding for International Events”**

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

Lithuanian Council for Culture

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

<http://www.ltkk.lt/en/>

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

The goal of the funding programme “Strategic Funding for International Events” is to ensure the continuity and the sustainable financing of international art events organised in Lithuania. The purpose of those events is to present, disseminate and popularise Lithuanian and foreign art of the highest artistic and professional level to the Lithuanian society, and to promote cultural or artistic development in Lithuania. In 2019, the selected international art events received funding for three years, starting the partnership in fulfilling the strategic directions of the Lithuanian Council for Culture and strategic objectives of the Ministry of Culture.

**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?:**

Funding was allocated to 16 projects in 2018 and 17 projects in 2019.

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

In 2018 and 2019 respectively, USD 136 200 and USD 130 744 was allocated for the implementation of the measure.

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

## **Study Visit Programme**

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

Lithuanian Culture Institute

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

<https://english.lithuanianculture.lt/visits-programme/about-the-visits-programme/>

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

The Lithuanian Culture Institute in cooperation with the Lithuanian cultural organisations and cultural attachés runs the Study Visit Programme for international art and culture professionals. Professionals (curators, producers, representatives of festivals or cultural organisations, publishers, etc.) active in a particular field are invited to Lithuania for uniquely tailored visit programmes – special performing arts showcases, visits to the museums, galleries and artists' studios. The aim of the Study Visit Programme is to strengthen international cultural cooperation, facilitate international projects and exchanges and expand international networks of Lithuanian artists and culture professionals. The Programme offers tailored visit agenda for groups or individual art and culture professionals, covers their travel expenses and accommodation.

### **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?:**

From 2014 to 2020, the Lithuanian Culture Institute financed and curated 771 visits of foreign experts of various artistic fields. The implementation of the Programme has resulted in an increasing internationalisation and visibility of Lithuanian culture through international partnerships: Lithuanian culture is presented in foreign cultural institutions and international festivals as well as press articles, while Lithuanian artists are often invited to art residencies abroad.

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

Financial resources allocated to implement the Programme vary each year. For 2020, a total of USD 65 000 is allocated for the Programme.

### **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  
Media Arts  
Music  
Publishing  
Visual Arts  
Performing Arts  
Cultural management

**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:**

-

**Value of direct foreign investment in creative and cultural industries (in USD):**

23,010,000USD

2019

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### Lithuanian Film Tax Incentive

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

Lithuanian Film Centre

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

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

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

<http://www.lkc.lt/en/tax-incentives/>

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

On 11 December 2018, the Lithuanian Parliament adopted amendment of the Law on Corporate Profit Tax of the Republic of Lithuania which enables the opportunity to save up to 30 percent of a film's production budget spent in Lithuania through the private investment scheme. The new amendment applies to the period of 2019–2023 and replaces the expired 20 percent tax incentive scheme that was in effect from 2014 until the end of 2018. The previous tax incentive scheme demonstrated positive results – since its introduction in 2014 there has been a rapid growth in the number of foreign film productions; this increase has stimulated the local film industry and fostered private investments in this sector. The new scheme was adopted to maintain these positive developments in the future and ensure Lithuanian film industry's competitiveness in the region. The newly confirmed tax incentive scheme is regulated by Articles 17–2 and 46–2 of the Law on Corporate Profit Tax of the Republic of Lithuania. These Articles provide the possibility for film producers to attract funding from private business entities (“donors”), who are incentivised to support film productions by the offer of tax benefits. The tax incentive is available for domestic films, co-productions and foreign films (produced under a service agreement with a local production company) where at least EUR 43 000 is spent on production in Lithuania. To be eligible for the scheme, productions must conform to cultural content assessment criteria and production requirements.

**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?:**

Since 2014, 157 productions have benefited from the Lithuanian Film Tax Incentive, bringing the country a total of USD 122.5 million in investment, with USD 83 million of this coming from the international companies and USD 39.3 million from Lithuanian ones. The scheme was used by 41 foreign films, 49 co-productions and 67 national films. Investments for film production were granted by 151 local companies in amounts ranging from USD 1100 to over USD 1.5 million. Lithuanian business companies invested more than USD 26 million through this scheme.

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

Investments through this measure cannot exceed USD 54.7 million per year.

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

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

The evaluation of the tax incentive was conducted for the period of 2014–2017 in preparation for the adoption of a revisited scheme of 30 percent. The main recommendations: The tax scheme needs to be adapted to remain competitive and attractive to would-be investors. With a view to reach its full potential as a driver of audio-visual growth, complementary policy measures should be adopted to strengthen local creative ecosystem and for the scheme to impact the entire audio-visual value chain beyond cinema production. Such policy measures include: 1. Increasing the flexibility of the tax scheme and the intensity of the benefit for producers; 2. Increasing the international visibility of the scheme and its usage; 3. Addressing the risk of labour shortage and skill gaps in the sector; 4. Expanding the scope of the tax scheme to include other digital audio-visual productions; 5. Further improving the regulatory ecosystem for the local film industry by implementing the amended AVMS Directive in a way that encourages distributors and broadcasters to invest in production, by lowering the VAT rate in relation to cinema admissions, as well as discouraging online piracy.

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

State Tax Inspectorate

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## **Translation Grant Programme**

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

Lithuanian Culture Institute

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

Publishing

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

<https://english.lithuanianculture.lt/translation-grant-programme/>

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

The Programme dedicated to promote translation of Lithuanian literature into foreign languages has been ongoing in Lithuania since 2001. It was first run by the public institution "Lithuanian Books" operating at the time, and since 2010 the work is being continued by the Lithuanian Culture Institute. The purpose of the Translation Grant Programme is to encourage foreign publishers to translate and publish Lithuanian literature or works which are related to Lithuania (books and other publications). The Programme consists of two parts, i.e. Books Translation Grant Programme and Sample Translation Grant Programme. The Books Translation Grant Programme provides grants for those who are interested in translating and publishing books by Lithuanian authors. Publishers may apply for either partial or total coverage of the costs of the translation. Grants can be allocated for the translation of original works of literature, fiction, children's literature, publications on cultural heritage or humanities (philosophy, literary criticism, non-fiction, history and other fields) as well as for the translation of other important books and publications. Meanwhile, the Sample Translation Grant Programme seeks to encourage translation of extracts from original works of fiction, children's literature, publications on cultural heritage and humanities (philosophy, literary criticism, non-fiction, history and other disciplines). In addition to the grant programmes, Lithuanian literary translators' seminar is being held every two years since 1999. Traditionally, within the scope of the seminar, translators become acquainted with the latest works by the Lithuanian writers, meet authors, attend lectures, participate in formal discussions and share professional experience.

**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?:**

Since the establishment of the Translation Grant Programme, translation of over 300 Lithuanian literary works into 30 languages was supported.

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

A total of USD 109 000 is allocated for the implementation of the Programme in 2020. The funding of the Programme varies each year.

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

## 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:**

NO

**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:**

YES

**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:** YES

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### **Baltic Culture Fund**

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

The Ministry of Culture

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

In 2018, the Agreement between the Ministries of Culture of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia was signed on the Establishment of the Baltic Culture Fund. The goal of the Fund is to promote cultural cooperation between the Baltic countries and strengthen the internationalisation of Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian culture through joint cultural projects and events. Grants are distributed annually and the deadline for applications is 20 May. The Baltic Culture Fund supports professional events and projects in architecture, visual art, design, literature, sound art, performing arts, libraries, museums and archives as well as interdisciplinary projects. Its prioritises new and unique cultural events outside the Baltic countries, such as concerts, exhibitions, festivals, performances, international events with a Baltic focus, and showcases and forums promoting the internationalisation of culture. The Fund is administrated by the national cultural endowments on a three-year rotation basis; the Cultural Endowment of Estonia is the first to coordinate the Fund's activities. The grants range from EUR 25 000 to EUR 100 000 per project. At least 20 percent of the total budget of the project must consist of additional financial resources. Only legal persons from Estonia, Latvia or Lithuania are eligible for support. The lead partner for each project must bring in partners from all three Baltic countries. Project applications are evaluated by the expert committee that consists of six representatives from different cultural domains that are appointed for a period of three years. Each country is represented by two committee members appointed by the supervisory board of the national cultural endowment.

**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 2019, a total of USD 434 188 was allocated to nine projects in fine arts, music and performing arts representing the creative potential of the Baltic states in international art festivals. In 2020, a total of USD 325 641 was allocated to eight projects in performing arts, literature, architecture and design.

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

Each Baltic country allocates USD 108 547 to the Fund annually. The Fund also accepts donations. In 2019, the Nordic Council of Ministers donated USD 108 547 for organising cultural events in the Nordic countries.

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

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

Lithuanian Council for Culture

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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# 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): 2**

**Social (e.g. social cohesion and inclusion, inequality and poverty reduction, values and identity, vulnerable and minority groups, empowerment and human capital, education): 2**

**Environmental (e.g. natural resources, reducing environmental impact of cultural industries and practices): 2**

**Cultural (e.g. cultural infrastructure, participation and access to culture, innovation, artists support): 1**

**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: NO**

**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):**

2017, participation total - 41 %: women -68 %, urban - 44 %, higher education - 41 %, youth and children -23 %

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### **Model for Sustainable Regional Cultural Development**

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

Lithuanian Council for Culture  
The Ministry of Culture

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

<https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/dd5150906f0a11e8b83be60b2e217f90>

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

The Model for Sustainable Regional Cultural Development was approved in July 2018. The aim of this model is to empower local communities by devolving decision making powers on culture policy priorities and distribution of funds for art and culture to the regional level. According to this model, 10 Regional Arts Councils (one for each county in the country) were established. Every Council includes two representatives of corresponding municipalities, i.e. one expert from the municipality and one elected expert from the local art/culture community. This initiative is expected to increase the democratisation of culture by bringing the decision-making process closer to local communities and creating a coordinated network of expertise and knowledge. It also encourages cultural project managers and communities to reconsider the identity of their region, the ways they collaborate with each other or internationally and the need to ensure accessibility to variety of cultural activities. The first achievement of this initiative is the increase in communication activities: various conferences and meetings between Regional Arts Councils and their communities have already been organised. It has resulted in growing activity of project managers from the regions and the increased trust in the Lithuanian Council for Culture as the main funding institution in the country for cultural projects.

**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 addition to the evaluation of cultural projects, the Regional Art Councils are also responsible for the provision of consultations to cultural communities, analysis of cultural processes and provision of recommendations to the Lithuanian Council for Culture. In 2019, regional development priorities for the period of 2020–2023 were identified and presented to the public. These development priorities are expected to enable the Regional Art Councils to participate in the regional policy making process more systematically and independently.

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

In 2019, a total of USD 3 242 250 was allocated to finance 487 regional cultural initiatives.

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

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

Association of Lithuanian Municipalities

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## **National Concept for Museums Based on Sustainable Development Goals**

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

The Ministry of Culture  
State Museums

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

<https://www.e-tar.it/portal/lt/legalAct/5e5f01d0d85311e8a1baff673bb7216a>

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

The National Concept for Museums adopted in 2018, defines the mission and vision of museums, their created values, sustainable development directions, network of the museums and its state governance, the obligations for the founders of museums and their financing principals. The Concept indicates that museums create added value for the state in cultural, educational, science, economic, environmental, social and cultural diplomacy areas. With regards to sustainability, the document states the importance of quality enhancement in the museum sector that is essential in meeting the current and future needs of the society. The Concept also indicates the importance to ensure the effective governance of the museums' network, i.e. timely and systematically determining museums' strategic goals and objectives, implementing their monitoring and evaluation, updating existing and drafting new legislation, coordinating museums activities, conducting analysis on the quantitative and qualitative developments in the museums.

**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?:**

According to Article 27 of the Concept, national and state museums are obliged to establish Museum Advisory Councils contributing to strategic planning process and presenting proposals on variety of different aspects of museum management. The regulations of national and state museums have been adapted to this provision.

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

There is no dedicated budget for this measure.

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

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

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

Public Sector

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## **Free Museum Visiting Programme**

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

The Ministry of Culture  
State Museums

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

<https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/5c9831d11d8711eabe008ea93139d588>

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

Free museum visiting first started as an initiative to provide this opportunity to schoolchildren and socially deprived citizens. In 2018, the Ministry of Culture approved this model and its implementation concept aiming that it will strengthen people's cultural identity, promote active citizenship and national self-awareness as well as contribute to sustainable and creative society formation. In 2019, free museum visiting concept was extended, i.e. everyone regardless age or socio-economic situation can visit state museums free of charge last Sunday of each month. This initiative contributes to encouraging families to choose museums as the way to spend their leisure time and is expected to contribute in developing habits to visit museums more often.

### **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 2018, museums attracted more than 227 000 schoolchildren. In 2019, more than 415 000 people visited museums for free.

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

In 2018, USD 428 783 was allocated for the implementation of the programme. A total of USD 1 582 040 was allocated for the renewed programme in 2019.

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

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

According to the surveys conducted by the museums, more than 50 percent of the respondents indicated that a possibility to visit museums for free was the main reason for their visit. 95 percent of the visitors were satisfied with their museum experience and 98 percent of the visitors emphasised their plans to visit museums in the future.

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

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

Public Sector

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## **Reading Promotion Programme**

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

The Ministry of Culture

The Ministry of Education, Science and Sport

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

Publishing

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

<https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/c6b27c80d1d711e8a82fc67610e51066?jfwid=14kagyzv2t>

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

The Reading Promotion Programme approved for the period of 2019–2024 was developed by the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport with the aim to implement national reading promotion policy. Its objective is to develop interest in reading for people of various age groups, including children and infants. Reading Promotion Programme includes measures that aim at developing a positive approach to reading, strengthening reading abilities of schoolchildren and engaging stakeholders of the publishing industry to contribute to reading promotion activities. One of the new measures in this programme is the “Bookstart” model designed for infants. The aim of this model is to introduce books to infants and encourage them to perceive reading as a source of knowledge and different meanings. Some measures in the programme are directed to the part of society that has little or no interest in reading, especially teenagers. Various events are foreseen to increase interest in reading, i.e. “Dads Read for Kids”, “Telling the Stories”, brain battles related to literacy topics, etc. Reading Promotion Programme will continue reading promotion activities of the similar programme which was implemented in 2006-2011. The survey conducted to evaluate the quality of the former programme, revealed that 84 percent of the respondents had a positive experience with the activities of the programme.

**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?:**

In 2019, for the first time in Lithuania a new programme for the formation of early reading habits (“Bookstart”) was launched. Along with this initiative, a training programme introducing to the theory and practice of the early reading was organised, where the methodology for parents and the book for infants were presented. Another project implemented in 2019 was the contest of the “Book of the Year” during which readers voted for the best Lithuanian book from the list composed by the literary critics.

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

The Ministry of Culture allocates USD 77 818 to Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania and USD 14 050 to the public libraries each year to implement the activities in the action plan approved for a period of three years. The total annual financing of the programme amounts to USD 91 868.

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

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

Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania

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

Public Sector

Municipal Libraries

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

Public Sector

Lithuanian Publishers Association

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

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

The Lithuanian Section of the International Board on Books for Young People

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

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

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## **Lithuanian Small Capitals of Culture**

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

Lithuanian Village Communities Association

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

Every year small towns and village communities can become Lithuanian Small Capitals of Culture. One small capital of culture is elected in each out of 10 Lithuanian districts by organising an open call. The goal of the programme is to foster cultural activity and creativity in smaller regions by engaging their communities, businesses, patrons and youth and making art and culture accessible to everyone. The programme is initiated by the Lithuanian Village Communities' Association. Partners include the Lithuanian Ministry of Culture, Association of Local Authorities in Lithuania and Association of Municipal Elders. The programme contributes to the strengthening of cultural traditions in the regions, making professional art accessible to village communities and developing cultural tourism and cultural life in the regions. The programme also helps to initiate cultural exchanges and new cultural projects between the small capitals of culture and encourages their continuation. During the period from 2015 to 2019, 40 towns and villages were awarded the title of the Small Capital of Culture.

**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 2018, around 21 000 people participated in the cultural events organised through this programme. In 2019, more than 49 000 people participated in the cultural events.

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

Since 2018, the Lithuanian Council for Culture allocates USD 54 040 annually to the implementation of the projects through this programme.

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

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

The Ministry of Culture

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

Public Sector

Association of Local Authorities in Lithuania

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

Public Sector

Association of Municipal Elders

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

Public Sector

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## **Development of Cultural Routes in Lithuania**

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

The Ministry of Culture

The Ministry of Economy and Innovation

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

<https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/ac1d6680a3ca11e9aab6d8dd69c6da66?jfwid=q8i88lp51>

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

The Concept for the Development of Cultural Routes in Lithuania was approved in 2019 by the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Economy and Innovation. The document contains current situation analysis of the cultural routes in Lithuania: their value, methods to implement their potential, goals and expected results. It also defines different types of cultural routes, necessary criteria and their administration system in Lithuania. The cultural routes are one of the main ways to foster the development of cultural tourism. The objective of this measure is to highlight the routes for travelling in the country that help to become acquainted with certain cultural environment (architecture, landscape or intangible cultural heritage), food, cultural events, visual and performing arts and other creative and cultural activities. Lithuania has favourable conditions for cultural tourism and the development of cultural routes due to its unique historical, natural, geographical and cultural features. It is expected that cultural routes in Lithuania will be included into the network of Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

**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 first cultural route was opened in 2019. It is dedicated to the famous Lithuanian painter and composer Mikalojus Konstantinas Čiurlionis and aims to highlight places where the artist lived and created.

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

There is no dedicated budget for this measure.

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

## **Programme: “Creative Community Initiatives”**

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

Lithuanian Council for Culture

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

<http://www.ltkl.lt/en/>

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

The goal of the funding programme “Creative Community Initiatives” is to encourage and enable the participation in creative activities of various (defined by location, social or economic situation, interests, etc.) communities and art lovers. It also seeks to create conditions for promoting artistic self-expression and creativity of the population by presenting initiatives for these communities (festivals, creative workshops, celebrations, educational programmes, etc.).

**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 2019, 43 projects received funding.

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

USD 217 995 was allocated for the implementation of the measure.

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

## **Programme: “Art for Well-being”**

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

Lithuanian Council for Culture

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

<http://www.ltkk.lt/en/>

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

The goal of the funding programme “Art for Well-being” is to promote cooperation of cultural and artistic organisations with other sectors of society and increase cohesion between culture, health and social security fields thus achieving a positive impact of art on human health and well-being. The programme supports pilot projects focusing on the accessibility of art in healthcare and social services institutions and fostering cultural participation of people using the services of these institutions. It also supports social innovation projects focusing on creative products, services and models that contribute to addressing social problems, i.e. ageing population, social exclusion, etc.

### **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?:**

Funding was allocated to 29 projects in 2018 and 16 projects in 2019.

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

In 2018, USD 141 289 and in 2019, USD 76 254 was allocated for the implementation of the measure.

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

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

1. There is no single database for cooperation between institutions involved in the implementation of the programme. 2. The funds of the programme are sufficient to respond to the supply of projects corresponding to the activities of the programme. 3. The main project promoters are from Vilnius; they also ensure the dissemination of the activities of this programme in Lithuania. 4. The involvement of professional actors (both in the management and creative parts) is important for collaboration and a targeted impact on segmented audiences. 5. The main results of the program are personal well-being (positive emotions) and access to art. Three directions for the development of activities of the programme: 1. The model of promotion of access to professional art; 2. The model of strategic financing of art for human well-being; 3. The model of inter-institutional cooperation.

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

The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania

### **Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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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:** NO

**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):**

17,166.86

2019

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### **Support for the Civil Society in Belarus**

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

Lithuanian Diplomatic Mission in Belarus

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

Media Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

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

<https://www.orangeprojects.lt/en/belarus/belarus-projects>

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

Over the last decade, Lithuania has consistently pursued bilateral initiatives in the development of an open civil society in Belarus paying special attention to youth, independent media, education and gender equality issues. During the period from 2017 to 2019, the following eight projects were implemented in Belarus in cooperation with the Eastern Europe Studies Centre, European Humanities University, state institution "Grodno Exhibition Hall", some private initiatives and the Belarusian NGOs aiming at supporting the civil society: The 8th International Painters' Plenary in Grodno/Training Workshop "Contemporary Trends and Tendencies in the Development of World Art"; World Belarusian Meeting of Culture; Science and Youth in Vilnius; Support to Independent Media and Pluralism; Creative Rehabilitation for Children with Disabilities "Let's Create Together"; Promoting the Use of the Belarusian Language as One of the Elements of National Identity; Social educational photography project "PHOTOSTART"; Lithuanian and Belarusian Regional Media Cooperation. The projects aimed at strengthening Belarus' civil society and cultural identity. Target groups were students from Belarus and Belarusian diaspora, youth, children with disabilities, intellectuals, scientists, media and cultural representatives. The main objectives of the projects were the development of the Belarusian civil society's pride in its culture, identity and history, promotion of intercultural dialogue, organisation of cultural events, which include Belarusian art exhibitions, music and/or theatre performances, presentation of cultural heritage, and public discussions with artists and scientists.

**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?:**

The projects contributed to supporting civil society in Belarus, strengthening independent regional media in the country, promoting Belarusian language, reducing social exclusion among young people in the Grodno region and enhancing social integration of children with disabilities.

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

A total of USD 61 079 was allocated for the implementation of the projects.

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

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

European Humanities University

**Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Eastern Europe Studies Centre

**Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Grodno Exhibition Hall

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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## **Strengthening Gender Equality in Belarus**

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

Lithuanian Diplomatic Mission in Belarus

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

Publishing

Visual Arts

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

<https://www.orangeprojects.lt/en/belarus/belarus-projects>

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

During the period from 2018 to 2019, three projects were implemented in Belarus in the field of strengthening gender equality in cooperation with the Lithuanian Centre for Equality Advancement and Belarusian NGOs. The implemented projects: Towards Ethical Media: Opportunities for Overcoming Gender Stereotypes, Earth Under White Wings and Cooperation Between Lithuanian and Belarusian Women's Organisations in the Area of Consolidation of Gender Democracy. The projects were aimed at strengthening gender equality and women empowerment. Target groups were women in the regions of Belarus and women's organisations. Projects' objectives were to inform women about the legal regulation and practical implementation of equal opportunities in social and economic environment and strengthen partnership between Lithuanian and Belarusian women's organisations in the field of gender equality.

**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?:**

The projects contributed to strengthening gender equality in Belarus and empowering local women.

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

A total of USD 11 717 was allocated for the implementation of the projects.

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

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

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

Lithuanian Center for Equality Advancement

**Type of entity:**

Public Sector

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# GOAL 4 - PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS



## GENDER EQUALITY

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

Exist but are not 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.):** -

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

-

**Percentage of total public funds given to female artists and cultural producers:**

69.90%

2019

**Percentage of women/men in decision-making /managerial positions in public and private cultural and media:**

In 2019 - 55,68 %

**Percentage of works from female/male artists displayed / projected in important festivals of the arts and cultural industries (film, book publishing, music industry etc.):**

In 2019 -55,63 %

**Percentage of women receiving art national prizes/awards:**

68.00%

2019

**Percentage of women participation in cultural activities:**

68.00%

2017

**Relevant Policies and Measures:**

### Working Environment Without Sexual Harassment

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

Lithuanian Film Centre

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

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

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

<http://www.lkc.lt/seksualinio-priekabiavimo-prevencija/>

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

In 2019, the Lithuanian Film Centre implemented the project tackling the issue of sexual harassment in the Lithuanian film industry. The project started with the survey conducted by the experts of the Centre for Equality Advancement and the Lithuanian Centre for Human Rights aiming to define the scope of the problem. It revealed that sexual harassment is a widespread problem in the local film industry with 24 percent of respondents indicating having experienced such behaviour from their colleagues usually occupying higher work positions. It also showed that women are 3 to 6 times more likely to be sexually harassed than men and that actors among all positions are more likely to encounter such behaviour. The second stage of the project included training sessions in small groups for film professionals. During these training sessions, participants learned to identify sexual harassment situations in the work environment and were analysing them. Groups led by the experts discussed the best possible ways to react to such unwanted behaviour and possible measures to prevent it. During the final phase of the project, the Centre for Equality Advancement in

collaboration with the Lithuanian Centre for Human Rights developed recommendations for the Lithuanian Film Centre and the members of the film industry on the actions that need to be taken to tackle the sexual harassment problem.

**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 Lithuanian Film Centre drafted recommendations for film producers regarding specific provisions to be included in film production contracts with creative and technical staff to ensure non-discriminative and free from harassment film production process. In addition, forms of contracts for film development, production and events financing, to be signed between producers and the Lithuanian Film Centre now also include the provision obliging producers to ensure a safe and non-discriminative environment.

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

USD 5800 was allocated for the implementation of the measure.

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

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

Centre for Equality Advancement

**Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Lithuanian Centre for Human Rights

**Type of entity:**

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

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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:** NO

**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.):** NO

**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:**

#### **Grants for Artists Receiving Significant International Awards**

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

The Ministry of Culture

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

<https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/5f54c8108b7f11e9ae2e9d61b1f977b3>

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

Regulation regarding grants for artists receiving significant international awards was approved in 2019. It defines the required conditions applicable to receiving EUR 20 000 grant. The aim of this initiative is to recognise artists' input in promoting the Lithuanian culture. It determines that grants can be allocated for artists who receive international recognition for their artworks or other cultural activity in the fields of architecture, libraries, circus, design, cinema, cultural heritage, literature, museums, music, dance, theatre, public information or visual arts. It is noted that an international award received by an artist must not include a monetary prize. It is also noted that the award must be significant worldwide, give artist a worldwide visibility and that the competition for such award must include artists from at least 10 different countries. The award must be in place for at least 3 years and must promote artist's international career. If an international award is received by a creative collective, the grant must be awarded in equal parts to each individual artist.

**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?:**

Two creative collectives were awarded with grants in 2019.

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

The amount of grant is USD 21 900.

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

## **Memorandum of Cooperation Aiming to Increase the Pay for Artistic and Cultural Employees in Municipal Cultural Institutions**

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

The Ministry of Culture

Municipalities

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

[https://lrkm.lrv.lt/uploads/lrkm/documents/files/10\\_04\\_Memorandumas\\_Del%20kulturos%20darbuotoju%20alyginimo\\_LU\\_galutinis.pdf](https://lrkm.lrv.lt/uploads/lrkm/documents/files/10_04_Memorandumas_Del%20kulturos%20darbuotoju%20alyginimo_LU_galutinis.pdf)

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

In 2018, the Minister of Culture and the representatives of the majority of municipalities signed a Memorandum of Cooperation. The aim of the Memorandum is to consistently increase the pay to artistic and cultural employees working in municipal cultural institutions. Based on the provisions of the Memorandum, municipalities agree to allocate the same amount to increase the pay for the employees as the amount allocated for this purpose by the government. It is expected that the average salary of art and cultural employees will be gradually raised to equal to at least 90 percent of the average salary in the country.

**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 2019, the Government and municipalities allocated USD 9 294 966 for the salary increase of art and cultural employees. In 2020, allocation of over USD 15 million from the state budget is foreseen for the salary increase of up to 10 percent on average. Over USD 2.1 million shall be additionally allocated by municipalities during the same year.

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

There is no fixed financing allocated to the implementation of this measure. The financing of the measure is negotiated each year.

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

## **1,2 Percent for Artists from Personal Income Tax**

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

State Tax Inspectorate

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

<https://lrkm.lrv.lt/lt/veikla/s-k-i-r-k-i-t-e-2-proc-menininkams>

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

Upon the implementation of the Law on Charity and Sponsorship of the Republic of Lithuania (No. XII-2202) and the Law on Personal Income Tax of the Republic of Lithuania (No. XIII-841) as of 1 January 2017, permanent residents of Lithuania were able to assign up to 2 percent of their personal income tax to natural persons who have the status of an art maker. The residents were able to assign up to 2 percent of their paid personal income tax not only to the organisations that are entitled to received sponsorship but also to art makers (writers, painters, composers, authors, translators, stage performers, designers, architects, folk artists, photographers, etc.) who have the status of an art maker and the right to be a beneficiary. Since 2019, after adopting amendments of the Law on Personal Income Tax, it is now possible to assign up to 1,2 percent of the personal income tax to artists. Such sponsorship is tax free, it shall be used for art creation and it must be accounted for.

**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:**

There is no dedicated budget for this measure.

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

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

The Ministry of Culture

**Type of entity:**

Public 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 2020 an inter-institutional working group, which was responsible for the preparation of the Lithuanian periodic report on the implementation of the 2005 Convention, announced a call for consultations among NGOs in the field of culture sector. The call for consultations among NGO's and civil society was announced through the websites of the Ministry of Culture, the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO and the Lithuanian Council for Culture. The working group evaluated the contributions of Lithuanian NGOs, considered them as relevant and decided to include 100% of the submitted measures and initiatives.

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

### **CULTURE FORUM**

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

National Association of Creative and Cultural Industries

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

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

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

The Culture Forum is an ongoing networking event of the National Association of Creative and Cultural Industries initiated in 2016. The annual forum which presents the latest research, current issues in culture and creative sectors highlights the economic and social value of culture. The Culture Forum bringing together cultural and political leaders and experts every year is dedicated to a specific topic. Every year we invite the cultural sector representatives from different levels, i.e. state, municipality, private, the NGOs. From the policy level we attempt to secure participation of state and municipal servants and politicians thus ensuring a dialogue, cooperation and the exchange of ideas between different levels of cultural policy and practice. The structure of the forum has evolved over the years and the event is divided into two major parts. The first part of the forum is devoted to the keynote speeches and a panel discussion. The representatives of the ministries, the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania, the Presidency of the Republic of Lithuania, and leaders of the creative sector take part in the panel discussion. The second part of the forum is dedicated to revealing the practical side of the main forum topic, i.e. lecturers are invited to present cases of research, programmes, strategies, projects, share experiences and recommendations.

**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 National Association of Creative and Cultural Industries organises the event on an annual basis, contributing to the networking and policy making in the cultural and creative sector in Lithuania. Chronology and the topics of the Culture Forum: "Culture and Sustainable Development" (2016); "Culture, City, Region" (2017); "Culture and Money" (2018); "Culture and Innovation" (2019); "Culture and Well-being" (2020).

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

### **MO Museum**

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

MO Museum

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

Visual Arts

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

<http://www.mo.lt>

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

The MO Museum's mission is to collect and present modern and contemporary Lithuanian art in an international context and to introduce never before seen works of art created behind the Iron Curtain to audiences worldwide. The MO Museum aims to be open and accessible to a wide range of audiences with the aim to build and foster a strong community through engaging exhibition topics and events programming and an education based on dialogue. Thus, the MO Museum is first and foremost intended as a cultural hub where all people feel welcome and where creative interaction around the art is encouraged. The MO Museum aspires to be a welcoming museum and to attract a wide range of audiences, local and international visitors, first-timers and art professionals. Public programmes such as film screenings, concerts and performances as well as freely accessible spaces (such as the sculpture garden and the terrace) are devised to lower the threshold for people without a particular background in art. The MO Museum aims to be a conversation partner, creating stories about and with people, embracing the latest exhibition and educational practices primarily to start a dialogue about the art. Through exhibition programming, mediation and content marketing, the MO Museum put Lithuania on the map as a creative and cultural hub. The basic principle that people give their own impulses in the cultural reflection process has been the driving force to engage with visitors and to continue providing a platform for dialogue and creative interaction. The empowerment and involvement of the entire community is of particular importance to us. Through our activities, we try to create opportunities for the broader public, which may not have an artistic education, to make inroads into the world of art appreciation. We aspire that through cultural understanding we will be able to rebuild our fractured and splintered identity as a Nation. A wide range of activities and services is developed to make the MO Museum an integral part of the community. Cinema screenings, lectures, meetings with artists are part of the offer alongside family-oriented activities. Family Sundays are especially dedicated to the very young. Children from 3 years of age can already participate in theatre workshops, printing workshops and special storytelling excursions. The book series titled "MOMuks" is developed with special tasks and fun facts about each new exhibition for children and their adult companions. Every first Monday of the month the Senior Citizens are the special guests at the MO Museum. They are invited for a free excursion and coffee or tea and a biscuit afterwards. Moreover, the MO Museum's free e-guides can be downloaded or streamed on any smart phone, using the free MO Museum wi-fi. The guides cover the current exhibitions as well as the museum's architecture and sculpture garden. Everything is translated into English. One hundred MO Museum's volunteers make up a unique community of art enthusiasts. Among them there are students as well as seniors, unemployed as well as active professionals. Their feedback is generally very rewarding: "it's good to do good and to be close to art"; "volunteering experience at the MO Museum is very exciting, I have learnt a lot and would like to stay longer"; "my dream of being a volunteer guide came true only at the MO". The MO Museum continuously seeks to involve different parts of the community. Building a permanent community of volunteers as well as starting museum membership programme – MODernists – are new practices in the Lithuanian museum sector. Here the specific aim is to accentuate active citizenship and to build a sense of ownership. The feedback of our Modernists to our programming and activities is frequently solicited and highly valued. Partnerships, events and programmes have expanded our community as well: tech communities through hARTcathon; communities of gardening enthusiasts through the MO garden project; bio-science communities through collaborations in the exhibition "Animal-Human-Robot" event's programme; school and teachers through Teacher's pass programme, etc. The MO Museum positively started a tradition of corporate and private sponsorship and relations with private sector.

**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 MO Museum has attracted a wide variety of people, even those who have never visited an art museum. This is wonderful as the offering of an art museum as a leisure alternative is one of the most difficult tasks. Since its opening, we have been striving to make the MO a museum that is always alive and we have succeeded. More than 300 000 people have visited the MO Museum since its opening on 18 October 2018. Since the opening and till the end of 2019, we have achieved the following results: more than 14 000 people participated in the MO Library's excursions; more than 63 505 people listened to the MO Museum's e. guide; 40 lectures; 31 meeting with different artists; 96 cultural events; 32 music and dance performances; 41 Family Sundays with a special programme for families with the aim to incorporate artists and their artworks in this programme; 3 art camps for children in summer; more than 12 000 children participated in different educational activities; more than 250 schools participated in the MO Museum's special programme for schools; 604 new artworks supplemented the MO Museum Collection (The MO Collections includes 5 580 artworks); the MO Museum in cooperation with the partners made 2 statues "talk" in 2019 (when implementing the project "Vilnius Talking Statues"). Now 18 statues "talk" in Vilnius and more than 53 240 of visitors have used the application which enables to "call" the statues of the MO Museum and investigate the issues of identity in the broadest sense of the word. The exhibition programming focuses on the connection between contemporary art and contemporary life. The first exhibition "All Art" is about us challenged viewers to look at the works through the prism of the Lithuanian identity. The second exhibition "Animal – Human – Robot" opened exploring the ever-changing identity of humans versus other beings. The MO Museum is quickly gaining a momentum in terms of social relevance and also in our collaborations with international artists. For "Animal-Human-Robot", the Museum attracted Oleg Kulik (Russia), Hito Steyerl (Germany), Katja Novitskova (Estonia) and Daiga Grantina (Latvia). The exhibition "Shared Habitats" was a collaboration with the Weimar Bauhaus University. The exhibition "The Origin of Species: 1990s DNA" interpreted the formative years of the renewed Lithuanian identity and was the most attended art exhibition in the history of independent Lithuania (more than 140 000 visitors). The exhibition "Mekas Winks Better" is a show dedicated to the avant-garde filmmaker and Fluxus master Jonas Mekas. An ambitious exhibition programme is planned for 2020: Peter Greenaway and Saskia Bodekke will present an immersive exhibition, including artworks from the collection "Why Is It Hard to Love?"; in collaboration with Adam Mickiewicz Institute in Warsaw and Museum Śląskie in Katowice the exhibition "Difficult Age" curated by Anda Rotenberg will be presented including the artworks by Szapocznikow, Wróblewski, Wajda. The Museum invests a great deal of effort and resources in educational programmes building a platform for non-formal education and aiming at cultural reflection and development of essential 21st century skills: creativity, problem solving and critical thinking. So, the Museum offers the following three types of educational programmes: integrated lessons (literature, biology, history, English), visual thinking and emotional intelligence. These educational

strategies are not limited to school children, adult groups regularly enjoy the benefits of unique MO-branded “serious games”. The founders of the MO Museum were named People of the Year and were awarded the title of Vilnius City Citizens of Honour. The Museum was also awarded as the Initiative of the Year, while the President Dalia Grybauskaitė referred to it as the Centennial Gift for Lithuania. The MO Museum was included in the TOP-10 of the world’s museums that are most worth visiting and TOP-5 of the most-anticipated museums. The MO Museum was also nominated for the Leading Culture Destination 2020 and the European Museum of the Year 2020 awards.

## **Vilnius International Film Festival (Vilnius IFF) Kino Pavasaris**

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

NGO “Kino pavasaris”

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

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

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

<https://kinopavasaris.lt/en>

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

Vilnius International Film Festival (hereinafter – Vilnius IFF or the Festival) “Kino Pavasaris” is the largest cinematic event in Lithuania and one of the biggest film festivals in the Baltic countries known for its high-quality film programme and a rich accompanying package of cinema-related events, workshops and special initiatives. For 25 years, the Festival has become a highly attended cultural phenomenon. In 2019, the Festival was visited by 126 542 quality cinema lovers, i.e. 10 thousand more than the previous year. Vilnius IFF takes place in more than a dozen different cities over two weeks. The Festival presents debuts and works from acknowledged film professionals. The programme of the Festival is divided into the following five categories: Discoveries, Festivals’ Favourites, Masters, Critics’ Choice, and Competition of European Debuts. Vilnius IFF believes in inclusivity and tries to make it easier for different social groups to attend films’ screenings. People with special needs are ensured a great experience by marking screening halls for people with movement disability, preparing special image audio translation for blind or visually impaired people and by preparing special subtitling for deaf or hard of hearing people. All films are subtitled in English to be understood by a wider audience. Vilnius IFF also collaborates with organisations from different cultures by presenting information about the films that could be of interest to the culture among the minorities and to get them to visit the Festival. To ensure participation of various age groups, Vilnius IFF provides special discounts to seniors and students. Special film programmes are created to be shown in the most convenient time for different age groups. Some films targeted to the youngest and the oldest audience are dubbed in the Lithuanian language. Vilnius IFF promotes the diversity of cultural expressions and hosts a large number of foreign artists creating them a platform to present their films and interact with their viewers. Vilnius IFF also pays special care in drawing attention to women in film, both behind and in front of the camera, and interlinking female filmmakers in the film sector. The pre-selection process of the film programme for Vilnius IFF aims to strengthen the position of women in films in the areas of directing, producing, acting, screenwriting, camera work, global distribution, etc. Since 2010, Vilnius IFF hosts an annual film industry event Meeting Point, i.e. Vilnius. Over 300 film professionals come to Vilnius every spring to participate in the events lasting for three days - conference on audio-visual topics, coming soon project presentations from the Baltic and Eastern partnership countries, industry screenings, Film Festival Forum and networking. The event is important for the Lithuanian film industry, allowing cinema professionals from other countries to discover the Lithuanian cinema market’s identity and foster partnerships across major international film festivals in Eastern and Central Europe. Founded in 2014, the company “Kino Pavasaris Distribution” (Operated by private limited liability company “Europos Kinas”) works as a subsidiary company of Vilnius International Film Festival. It aims to contribute to the diversity of art-house films in Lithuanian cinemas. The company specialises in the European, Northern and Latin American movies, including documentaries, culinary movies and focuses on festival distribution, theatrical distribution and alternative distribution with special events, open-air film screenings, cinema caravan in the small cities, video-on-demand distribution and TV distribution. To ensure a better access to culture from an early age, in cooperation with Vilnius City Municipality, Vilnius IFF has bought and sold film rights to schools - transferring films to legal viewing in educational programmes. Vilnius IFF is a socially responsible organisation that presents educational and social projects alongside numerous films and competition programmes. One of Vilnius IFF most successful projects is the Film Caravan. The project brings films to smaller towns located more than 25 km from the nearest cinemas and screens them for free. The main goal of the project is to bring auteur cinema to people who would not otherwise be able to see it. Vilnius IFF considers it as a priority to introduce young people to quality cinema based on their preference in films. In 2019, Vilnius IFF introduced a new initiative called Young Programmers. The project is co-organised with “Moving Cinema” and “Meno Avilys”, which implements the international film education project “Moving Cinema” in Lithuania. Eight 17-19-year-olds are offered an exciting opportunity to try out the roles of film programmers and select films that would be most relevant for their peers. Vilnius IFF pays a special attention to volunteering. Each year, around 300 film enthusiasts join the ranks of volunteers and become full-fledged members of the team while the festival is getting organised and taking place. Vilnius IFF welcomes volunteers of different ages, including the youth from 16 years old to seniors.

**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?:**

Vilnius International Film Festival over its running years has become a highly attended cultural phenomenon and the most visited cinema festival in Lithuania. Vilnius IFF attracted a total of 470 270 people from 2016 to 2019. In 2019, the festival was visited by 126 542 guests, i.e. 10 thousand more if compared to the last year. Overall, 75 percent of the Festival attendees were women. From 2016 until 2019, Vilnius IFF has expanded from

screening films in 5 biggest cities to 19 cities all over Lithuania. Vilnius IFF takes pride in its wide selection of films from various countries. By 2019 Vilnius IFF provided its audience with films from a total of 58 different countries. The programme mainly consisted of films from France (as many as 46, 30 of which were co-productions), Germany, United States. Vilnius IFF also offered films from Cameroon, Chile, Iran, Lebanon, South Korea, Sri Lanka, etc. Vilnius IFF hosted many international guests to help them engage in a dialogue with their audience. During the period from 2016 to 2019 guests from all over the world visited Vilnius IFF including those from Austria, Great Britain, Canada, Estonia, France, Germany, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Spain and Slovenia. Vilnius IFF hosted international guests to help them engage in a dialogue with their audience. Vilnius IFF believes in gender equality and seeks to include more women in the film industry. In 2019, Vilnius IFF screened around 170 films, 34 percent of which were made by women directors. Since 2016, Vilnius IFF has distributed 26 films directed by women (three of them directed films together with a male-director). Vilnius IFF had worked for long years to reach these numbers and aims to increase them in the future. Vilnius IFF plays a significant role in providing better access to culture. Vilnius IFF project the Film Caravan targeted smaller towns in Lithuania – more than 25 km from the nearest cinema and showed quality films in the open-air. In 2016 – 23 towns, in 2017 – 33 towns, in 2018 – 19 towns and 2019 – 17 towns were visited. Film Caravan attracted approximately 10 000 visitors each year. Vilnius IFF cares in attracting the youth to the cultural life of Lithuania by buying and selling film rights to schools, to include quality films to the education programmes and by introducing a new initiative called Young Programmers in 2019 which is expected to improve the attendance of youth in the festival in the future.

## **Design Week**

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

Association “Dizaino forumas” (Design Forum)

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

Design

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

<http://www.dizainosavaite.lt>

<http://www.dizainovacija.lt>

<http://www.dizainoprizas.lt>

<http://www.dizainoforumas.lt>

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

Association “Dizaino forumas” (Design Forum) seeks the acknowledgement of design as a catalyst for the development of modern society and a factor for sustainable economic growth, the deeper use of design in production, communication and public life. Design Forum organises initiatives to help promoting design of local creators in local environment and abroad, support and organisation of design related events, competitions, awards. The Lithuanian design prize “Geras Dizainas” (Good Design) was initiated by the Lithuanian Design Forum in order to show a seemingly obvious difference between good design and bad design (or its absence), to celebrate the creators of good design and the businesses able to harness its potential. “Geras Dizainas” is awarded each year to the ten best design works in ten different categories. The contest’s international jury chooses the three best submissions in every category: furniture and lightning, interior, interior elements, costume design, fashion accessories, concept, publication, services and social design, product/industrial design and visual identity. Dizainovacija.lt is a virtual database of local designers and their work, which aims to represent designers and facilitate their accessibility to potential clients, employers and manufacturers. It is also a platform to announce design competitions, job vacancies and an opportunity for designers to showcase work to potential employers, manufacturers and other designers. Design Week Lithuania is an annual event which is being organised since 2005. It is the only design event of such kind in Lithuania that emphasises the importance of original ideas, insightful solutions and professional design. The Festival introduces the public to the field of design, emphasises the added value and its impact and presents design as a strategic tool for creating change. Each year, the Festival brings together design professionals to find inspiration, provides an opportunity for design professionals to get acquainted with the latest design trends and present their work. All the latest design work, concepts and products are welcome to join the festival in various forms. The exhibition cycle “Design Lithuania” each year showcases the finest of Lithuanian design throughout Europe, and even a bit further. Exhibitions have been showcased abroad on 18 occasions already, including such cities as Berlin, London, Budapest, Jerusalem or Paris. The aim of the project is to present Lithuanian design and represent our country at Europe’s most important design events.

**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?:**

Designers’ database Dizainovacija.lt showcases Lithuanian designers and their works in various categories, i.e. interior design, interior elements, fashion accessories, jewellery, industrial design. Dizainovacija.lt is a website not only for professional and emerging designers but also for those who are just planning to start their career path as a designer. It encouraged to learn more about study opportunities in Lithuania by introducing all available design study programmes with descriptions in one place. It has been a useful platform to find all the design study programmes in Lithuania as well as Lithuanian designers, design studios and companies, their most successful projects. Good Design award each year emphasises the best design examples in the country. So far, the award has received 1084 submissions; 39 design experts from Lithuania and abroad have joined the award jury and 209 projects have been elected as winners. Good Design prize encourages young designers to present their work to international jury and gain more public attention. Design Week Lithuania is an annual event dedicated to the synthesis of insightful solutions, original ideas and

professional performance, while at the same time highlighting the value of good design. Over the last decade, the festival has become a regular fixture and the country's biggest design event organised by the Lithuanian Design Forum since 2006. It is an opportunity to showcase the most interesting work for both young designers and professionals. Since 2016, the number of participants has grown from 170 to 210 and the number of organised events has grown from 70 to 110 during the week of design. In 2019, the Festival staged its 14th edition, inviting designers, companies and educational institutions to present their latest projects to creative and curious audiences. Every year the festival's events take place in six cities in Lithuania, i.e. Vilnius, Kaunas, Klaipėda, Šiauliai, Telšiai and Anykščiai. Design Lithuania exhibition cycle was organised in various cities abroad (Budapest, Vienna, Paris, Caen, etc.) each time showcasing more than 25 contemporary Lithuanian design objects. The exhibitions introduced not only young designers but also experienced design companies. Design Lithuania represented the diversity of Lithuanian design sector in such countries like France, Austria, Hungary and Israel. Design Lithuania provides an opportunity to get an overall view of Lithuanian design and to reach out to foreign markets, the design community and field professionals.

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

#### **Cultural Accessibility Guide "Kaunas for All"**

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

Kaunas 2022

##### **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://kaunas2022.eu>

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

Cultural Accessibility Guide for everyone "Kaunas for All" is the project developed by Kaunas – European Capital of Culture 2022 ("Kaunas 2022"), Designing Happiness programme in 2019. This edition of guidelines is the first of a kind for cultural organisations, facility managers and event organisers to make cultural objects and events more accessible for all groups of society as well as people with special needs in Lithuania. In 2018, public organisation "Kaunas 2022" became a member of Design for All Europe Network. This is the act of the organisation's commitment to contribute to fostering a culture of accessibility and design for all. One of the main missions of the Designing Happiness programme is to foster design ideas for all. At its heart is the right adaptation of environment to the diversity of people. It is an intervention in the environment, products and services to ensure that everyone, regardless of their abilities, needs, culture, age or gender, can participate fully in a variety of social and cultural activities. Cultural Accessibility guide "Kaunas for All" is the first attempt in Lithuania to compile the most important grammar of accessibility culture, to define concepts, good practices, to put together tips and useful references. It is the first such toolkit for cultural organisations and operators that is open to wide public and well as seen as an open platform for further improvements. Why it is important? Because we all – temporarily or for a long time - face one or another barrier and only rarely we manage to avoid it. Society is ageing. Human cognitive or emotional disorders can be temporary or permanent, making it a serious problem in a daily life and old age. Accessibility promotes active aging and thus helps to reduce the burden of caring for older people in the society. According to sociologists, people with disabilities are not disabled by the existing scientific or psychological disorders, but by the social system of the state itself and the society in which they live. Public infrastructure operates according to the rules of non-disabled persons, according to which the disabled persons are not included in the social environment that is acceptable to healthy people. The term "accessibility" is often equated with disability, but in the field of culture and heritage, accessibility also means a situation in which the characteristics of any field can be accessed by all people without discrimination on grounds of sex, age, scientific status, etc. In other words, it is a situation where everyone can use infrastructure, services, equipment, goods and engage in activities independently, safely and conveniently. Cultural Accessibility Guide consists of theoretical and practical parts. The theoretical part defines the importance of accessibility, the notion of Design for All and Universal Design, describes the main steps to ensure accessible events emphasising communication, infrastructure, quality of different experiences (visual, acoustical, etc.) and accessibility services. Practical part consists of accessibility symbols and pictograms (over 30 signs) designed by partnering design agency "Critical". The created uniform system of signs and pictograms is open for everyone and is free to be downloaded and used by any private user or organisation for greater and better communication on accessibility to mark events and/or venues. There is a checklist prepared for cultural or other events' organisers at the end of the Guide to ensure the smooth organisational process, organising accessible events and understanding the scope of preparational work to be done on the way. Cultural Accessibility Guide is seen as an open platform where cultural and other operators as well as individuals are invited to give their feedback, comments and work together to ensure a greater accessibility in the city.

**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?:**

Cultural Accessibility Guide "Kaunas for All" was presented to local community of cultural operators and the Ministry of Culture at the end of 2019. It is worth to notice that the Guide is part of our wide communication campaign and among other projects dedicated to promoting accessibility topic to wider audience. In 2019, we invited Kaunas community to celebrate the International Day of Happiness and dedicated it to the topic of accessibility: 160 events were organised in total, 36400 people participated, 130 organisations got involved with various activations and actions, more than 1.5 million people heard our message. In 2018-2019 Designing Happiness programme held 4 strategic design for all workshops collaborating with the experts of EIDD (Design for All Europe) network and international partners to broaden the notion of accessibility and introduce design for all ideas focusing on physical and mental accessibility: more than 6 organisations, over 50 professionals and community members got involved. We are more than happy to notice that our communication campaign incited broader discussion on accessibility among cultural operators and inspired a great number of new projects in Kaunas and across the country. To mention just a few of them that are being planned by our partners: Kaunas Chamber Theatre plans to adapt up to 25 performances adjusting them for all and for people with special needs (deaf, blind, foreigners, teenagers); Kaunas Pažaislis Music Festival plans to prepare outbound musical programme to be performed in retirement houses and/or hospitals specially designed for seniors who can't go out for concerts; Historical Presidential Palace of the Republic of Lithuania in Kaunas plans to prepare 4 new guides for people with hearing and visual disabilities and in 4 foreign languages; Sugihara House Museum plans to create a new outdoor exposition for people with reduced mobility.

**GOAL 4 - Promote human rights and fundamental freedoms:****International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival INCONVENIENT FILMS****Name of CSO(s) responsible for the implementation of the measure/initiative:**

Lithuanian Centre for Human Rights

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

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

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

<http://www.inconvenientfilms.lt>

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

"Inconvenient Films" is an international human rights documentary film festival, taking place in various cities and towns across Lithuania. Established in 2007 as annual film event, it is currently the biggest documentary film festival in the country and the only film festival of this kind in the Baltic States. The Festival invites filmmakers, experts, activists and festival audience to appreciate and discuss the role of documentaries in reflecting and shaping our understanding of reality. The mission of the Festival is to use award winning author driven films in raising awareness about human rights issues around the world and encouraging public debate on the ways to address them. The Festival has also supported artists at risk or persecuted filmmakers, by raising awareness on their activities. The Festival is run on a non-profit basis and is aiming at accessibility for all. In addition to thematic debates and talks, the Festival also runs an educational platform for schools. The Festival is also a commitment to accessibility for viewers with special needs. This is a rather unique feature of the festival in the national context; none of the other film festivals come close to the scope of efforts, made by "Inconvenient Films". In 2018, the Festival became the first film festival in Lithuania to introduce a screening accessible to visually impaired audience. For this initiative, the Festival was also nominated at the National Equality Awards, which is yearly high-profile televised event, organised by the Equal Opportunities Ombudsperson institution (National Equality Body). Since 2016, the Festival has also been working towards increasing the number of screenings, which are made accessible to deaf persons or persons with reduced hearing abilities. The Festival is organised jointly by "Inconvenient Films" (IF) and the Lithuanian Centre for Human Rights (LCHR). LCHR is a Vilnius based NGO, which has been working in the field of human rights for nearly three decades. Since its foundation by private persons in 1994, the LCHR focused on human rights education, advocacy and research, implementing numerous projects and activities in the field. While IF is the organisation which organises International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival "Inconvenient Films" and encourages, promotes and distributes socially engaged documentary films in Lithuania.

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

**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?:**

During the last 4 years the Festival attracted almost 60 000 participants, organised close to a thousand screenings of human rights related documentary films, hundreds of debates, discussions or Q&A sessions. In addition, almost 5000 pupils attended educational activities, organised by "Inconvenient Films", while school education platform, run by the Festival, currently has more than 2000 active registered users (teachers and educators) who use human rights documentary films in their everyday work.

**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.:**

The Lithuanian non-governmental organisations, which took part in the CSO consultation process indicated the following main priorities to implement the Convention by contributing to: participation in the design and implementation of cultural policies; integration of creativity and cultural expressions as strategic elements in national sustainable development plans, that support regional equity in the distribution of cultural resources and/or facilitate inclusive access to such resources; increasing participation of all groups of society in cultural life and creativity, particularly the youth, as well as fragile social

groups (aged population, persons with disabilities) – culture for all; elaboration and implementation of programmes of arts education; support of mobility of artists and cultural professionals as well as stimulating the flow of cultural goods and services; support of activities of capacity building for artists and cultural professionals; fostering international cooperation in the field of culture; fostering cultural industries sector; building partnerships and strengthening local networking; ensuring gender equality, human rights education and awareness.

## 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):

During the period from 2016 to 2019, a wide range of policy initiatives and measures were introduced that support the implementation of the Convention. A number of measures introduced during the reference period are aimed at supporting sustainable systems of governance for culture. One of the main achievements in implementing this goal was the adoption of the Lithuanian Strategy for Cultural Policy. Based on the studies conducted between 2015–2019, public discussions and consultations, the strategy identifies the main problems in the cultural sector, contemporary challenges, needs, objectives and solutions needed for the period until 2030 as well as the long-term perspective. The strategy focuses on the measures that could have a horizontal impact on different cultural fields and therefore create the best positive effect. Another significant contribution to the development of informed, transparent and participatory systems of governance for culture was the strengthening consultations and cultural policy advocacy through the advisory councils' network under the Ministry of Culture. The network was extended by including new councils (Lithuanian Design Council, Council of Architecture, Media Council, Cultural Education Council, etc.). The network contributes to ensuring a continuous dialogue with the civil society on the most important issues of cultural policy. One of the main achievements in ensuring a balanced flow of cultural goods and services and increasing the mobility of artists and cultural professionals was the establishment of the Baltic Culture Fund. The goal of the Baltic Culture Fund is to promote cultural cooperation between the Baltic countries and strengthen the international outreach of Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian culture through joint cultural projects and events. Projects in fine arts, music, performing arts, literature, architecture and design have already been supported. Special attention has been paid to integrate culture in sustainable development frameworks. It focused on improving regional policies and resulted in the adoption of the Model for Sustainable Regional Cultural Development that aims at promoting cultural diversity, decentralisation of decision making and cooperation between artists and cultural organisations. Issues in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms were tackled by gender equality initiatives. For the first time in the cultural field, the project towards creating a safe work environment for men and women has been started and its activities are being continued further.

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

One of the main challenges encountered to implement the Convention is the dissemination of information about the Convention's underlying philosophy and goals and the lack of cooperation among institutions. As a result, implementation of the Convention's goals and other provisions is relatively unbalanced, i.e. some aspects of the Convention are emphasised more than others. Other challenges include the need to monitor national policies and measures and evaluate their impact, strengthen participation of the civil society and gather more detailed cultural statistics for a deeper analysis of the cultural policies and strengthen international cooperation policies that support developing countries. The main solutions envisaged to overcome those challenges are as follows: fostering inter-institutional cooperation in all areas of the Convention with a special focus on preferential treatment; ensuring effective partnering with the civil society in cultural policy formation; initiating studies on gender equality and digitisation issues in culture; initiating a broader statistical reporting framework on cultural fields.







### 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:

For the next reporting period it is important to create a mechanism that would strengthen collaboration between state institutions and the CSO organisations. Another area that needs more attention is international cooperation for sustainable development and preferential treatment. Initiatives to integrate culture as a strategic element in international and regional cooperation and assistance program for sustainable development in developing countries have so far been sporadic and a long-term strategy for such actions is needed. It is also important to harmonise the system of collection of statistical data with a reference to the 2005 Convention. Appropriate measures should be elaborated with regard to the specific needs in the field of gender equality including those that could activate men's participation in culture.

## 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.:**

**Attachment**

- 
-  Lithuanian Strategy for Cultural Policy
- 
-  Inter-Institutional Action Plan “Culture“
- 
-  Development Guidelines for Cultural and Creative Industries 2015–2020
- 
-  Strategic Directions for Public Information Policy 2019–2022
- 
-  Amendments to the Article 5 of the Law on the National Radio and Television
- 
-  The Concept of Culture Internationalisation Policy
- 
-  Amendment to the Article 17-2 of the Law on Corporate Profit Tax
- 
-  Model for Sustainable Regional Cultural Development
- 
-  The National Concept for Museums Based on Sustainable Development Goals
- 
-  The Concept for the Development of Cultural Routes in Lithuania
- 
-  Amendments of the Law on Personal Income Tax
- 
-  Procedure for Awarding Grants for Artists Receiving Significant International Awards

# SUBMISSION

**Designated official signing the report:**

**Title:** Ms.

**First name:** Gintautė

**Family name:** Žemaitytė

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

**Position:** Vice-Minister

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**Date of submission:**

2020

**Electronic Signature:**



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