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**Ministry of Culture
of the Republic of Latvia**

**Guidelines
on National Identity, Civil Society and Integration Policy
(2012–2018)**

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Abbreviations

AIPY	Agency for International Programmes for Youth
CEC	Central Election Commission
CEIHC	Cultural Education and Intangible Heritage Centre
CHL	Commission of the Historians of Latvia
C	Cabinet
CE	Council of Europe
CSB	Central Statistical Bureau
EC	European Commission
EEA	European Economic Area
EEA Financial Mechanism	EEA Financial Mechanism 2009–2014 “ NGO Fund” Grant Scheme
EFITCN	European Fund for the Integration of Third-country Nationals
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
ERF	European Refugee Fund
ESF	European Social Fund
EU	European Union
LLA	Latvian Language Agency
LNMA	Latvian National Museum of Art
NHML	National History Museum of Latvia
LR	Republic of Latvia
LTV	Latvian Television
MC	Ministry of Culture
MD	Ministry of Defence
MEPRD	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development
MES	Ministry of Education and Science
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MH	Ministry of Health
MI	Ministry of the Interior
MJ	Ministry of Justice
MOL	Museum of the Occupation of Latvia
MW	Ministry of Welfare
NAL	National Archives of Latvia
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NCE	National Centre for Education
NEMMC	National Electronic Mass Media Council
NFCL	National Film Centre of Latvia
NGOs	Non-governmental organizations
NLL	National Library of Latvia
OCMA	Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs
PROGRESS	Community Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity PROGRESS 2007–2013

RE	Register of Enterprises
SACIS	State Agency “Culture Information Systems”
SC	State Chancellery
SCCF	State Culture Capital Foundation
SEA	State Employment Agency
SIF	Society Integration Fund
SLI	State Labour Inspectorate
UN	United Nations Organization
UoL	University of Latvia

Latvia needs every Latvian and Latvian citizen (including those who do not live in Latvia) - every inhabitant of Latvia.

1. Introduction: Problems and Goals

1.1. Clarification of Concepts*

National identity – a part of a person’s identity connecting him or her with other persons having similar national cultural features. Language, body of values, models of behaviour and cultural symbols and social memory are the foundation on which a person’s affinity with a nation and mutual unity of those belonging to a nation are formed and maintained. National identity includes the idea of each nation’s uniqueness but not its superiority, distinctiveness from other nations, the idea of mutual community of the people belonging to a nation and the idea of a nation’s continuity.

People – a community considering itself to be an independent cultural body based on one or more national cultural criteria (especially those such as language, populated area, history, way of life and culture).

Nation – people having their own Nation State or fighting to achieve one. The Latvians have been a nation since the beginning of the 20th century, when the idea of Latvian national self-determination began to spread among the Latvian people. This came into being in 1918, when, using the people’s freedom of self-determination, the Nation State of Latvia – Latvia, was established. The Latvians had developed as a cultural nation earlier – in the 19th century. The features of a cultural nation: unifying national culture, language, feeling of community, common national interests and readiness to defend them.

Nation State – a State whose national cultural identity is determined by the constituent nation. The language of the constituent nation is the official language – common language of communication and democratic participation for all the population. The culture of this nation, the way of life and social memory is common to the whole population. In a Nation State it does not exclude the existence of national minority languages and cultures alongside these common elements.

Constituent Nation – a nation having created its own Nation State and determining its national cultural identity. Latvians are the constituent nation in Latvia.

Latvian – a person who by at least one national cultural criterion (especially language, culture, origin) and feeling of subjective belonging, identifies himself as belonging to the Latvian nation. The concepts “Latvian” and “Latvian nation” are wider than the concept “Latvian citizen” because someone belonging to the Latvian nation may not necessarily be a Latvian citizen.

National minorities – Latvian citizens differing from Latvians in terms of language and culture having traditionally lived in Latvia for generations and belonging to the State of Latvia and the Latvian society but simultaneously wishing to preserve and develop their culture and language.

Latvian citizen – a person having Latvian citizenship according to the law. In accordance with Article 64 of the Constitution, the body of Latvian citizens is the collective State legislator consisting of citizens enjoying full rights.

Latvian people – the bearer of the sovereign power of the State of Latvia as prescribed in Article 2 of the Constitution. The “Latvian people” are all the citizens regardless of the nationality and those belonging to the Latvian nation regardless of whether they are citizens or not. All those belonging to the Latvian nation must have the right to the citizenship of their State

* The clarifications of concepts used in the Guidelines shall be considered as reference points allowing to understand better the text and proposals of the Guidelines. The clarifications are not absolute and apply only to these Guidelines.

that, when obtained, gives them the right to participate in the democratic governance process of the State of Latvia.

Immigrants – foreigners living in Latvia with fixed term or permanent residency permits, as well as Latvian non-citizens. Within the meaning of the Lisbon Treaty they are third country nationals. There are three groups of immigrants in Latvia. The largest group are the former citizens of the USSR who arrived to Latvia as a result of the USSR occupation policy and their descendants to whom the so-called ‘Law on Non-citizens’ has granted special privileges in comparison with other immigrant groups (non-citizens do not have to apply for residence or work permits as do new immigrants; non-citizens have the right of naturalisation and to join the body of Latvian citizens thus acquiring all the rights, including the right to vote.) The second immigrant group are long-term or permanent residents with non EU, EEA or Swiss Confederation citizenship (mainly Russian citizens who have renounced their Latvian non-citizen status). The third group: the new immigrants who arrived to Latvia after 1992 from the countries which are not Member States of the European Union (mainly from the former USSR republics).

Latvian non-citizens – former USSR citizens and their descendants to whom, according to the law, have been given special status and who have the right of naturalisation on an individual basis.

Social integration – inclusion of all people living in Latvia into society notwithstanding of their national belonging and self-identification. The common basis for the integration is the Latvian language, the feeling of belonging to the State of Latvia and its democratic values, respect for Latvia’s unique cultural space and development of a shared social memory. Social integration promotes civil participation focussed on the democratic and rational solution of social problems, as well as strengthens mutual cooperation and trust between individuals. At the same time, integration means openness and respect of the constituent nation for the uniqueness of national minorities and their right to maintain their distinctive identity. The task of integration is also to promote the inclusion of immigrants into society, providing motivating means and opportunities to engage in a cohesive society.

Civic participation – activity for the benefit of the society, protection of interests and the engagement of the society in local government, State and EU political processes are an important foundation for democracy. Civic participation is achieved by involvement in various organizations, political parties and by participating in elections, meetings, marches and pickets, by doing voluntary work and making donations etc.

Civil society – a form of society of a democratic State characterized by the responsibility of an individual for the common problems of society and the State, the ability to work together on reaching common goals and participation in decision making through democratic institutions. An active civil society promotes development of the State and cohesion of the nation, and participation in civil society increases each person’s social capital.

Latvian cultural space – Latvian language, environment, tangible and intangible culture, social memory and way of life (traditions, symbols, historical events, historical personalities, common representations, public holidays, art heritage and creative work, ways of communicating, nature and the attitude to nature, cultural environment developed over the centuries, geographic designations, building traditions, sense of colour etc.). The Latvian cultural space has been influenced and supplemented by the contribution of other nations over the centuries. The unique cultural space promotes the strengthening of national identity, and in circumstances of globalization, maintains and strengthens the feeling of belonging to Latvia.

Two-community society – it is characterized by division between two communities. Unlike a Nation State, in a two-community society there is no common official language and the social integration is much more difficult as it does not take place on the basis of common values, cultural space and social memory. In Latvia with the formation of a large Russian speaking

community of immigrants during the occupation, signs of a two-community society can be observed: separate information spaces, an observable rift in the political sphere based on national characteristics, differing social memories, language segregation at the workplace, in schools and kindergartens.

Common values – Latvian language and the Latvian cultural space, allegiance to Western democratic values: individual freedom and responsibility, rule of law, human dignity, human rights, tolerance of diversity, civic participation, and belief in ideas passed down from the Age of Enlightenment about progress and the ability of people to make a better world.

Social memory – a shared understanding about history, events of the past and socio-political processes, their interpretation. This understanding is formed by individual memories, national policy, content of education, days which are celebrated, remembrance rituals, etc.

1.2. Latvia – a European Nation State

At the beginning of the 20th century, Latvians, using the people's freedom of self-determination, created their own State to secure the Latvian nation's existence and lasting, democratic self-determination.

In Latvia, just as in other European States, there are a constituent nation determining the national and cultural-historical identity of the State, as well as national minorities and immigrants. The national and cultural-historical identity of a constituent nation determines the national and cultural-historical identity of the State, and is based on a common language, culture and social memory.

The Latvian constituent nation and national minorities form the Latvian people. Latvian identity – the Latvian language, culture and social memory – unifies the Latvian people. It is the common foundation connecting all the people of Latvia, making it a democratic participatory community. Therefore, it is in the interests of the State of Latvia and its people not only to strengthen Latvian identity, which consolidates the community, making it stronger in the current circumstances of globalization, but also to broaden it so that national minorities and immigrants can also be embraced within it.

At the same time it is in Latvia's interests to maintain the uniqueness of national minorities, thus preserving the cultural diversity of the Latvian people. The Latvian cultural space has been open and it has been enriched by the influence of other cultures over the centuries. However, only a connection with Latvian culture determines Latvia's uniqueness, making it different from any other place in the world.

In Latvia, just as in other European countries, there are immigrants, whose inclusion into society is a national responsibility. If, up till now, it was assumed that the maintenance of immigrant identity was a short-term phenomenon, then more and more European countries have to recognize that segregated groups are able to live in their "parallel worlds" for many generations. Latvia is not unique in this sense, although the historical and political circumstances were different – the State of Latvia was occupied and it was not possible to restrict immigration in any way. As in other European countries, the majority of immigrants arrived here from 1950's to 1980's. A large proportion of them has successfully integrated themselves in the society and has gained Latvian citizenship, however a significant proportion of immigrants continues to isolate themselves from this process. It negatively influences the functioning of democracy, creates tension in the society and the risks of radicalism. The State has to reduce this isolation by offering opportunities and skills to join in the democratic community of the Nation State. It has to be a long-term task of the integration policy. The success or failure of this policy will influence the quality of democracy in the State of Latvia in the most direct way.

In Latvia democracy can function well only when all the population of Latvia takes responsibility for their country and participate in the rational solution of social problems through democratic institutions. It is important that the skills of mutual collaboration and participation are gained both - through the formal education process and through participation in the activities of the civil society and by organizing them. Such activities should be promoted by national policy in the interests of the society as a whole. An active and participative society strengthens the cohesion of the society and a feeling of belonging to the democratic State of Latvia. Integration policy has to encourage people's collaboration on the basis of general civil values fixed in the Constitution. These civil values are an integral part of Latvia's national identity.

Latvia is in the community of the European States. Its present and future are closely connected with the European traditions, values and principles. Every European State has its own national identity, and its maintenance is the task of every European State.

Current globalization processes create new, unparalleled opportunities. They provide dialogue among different cultures, social mobility and economic opportunities. At the same time globalization carries within it threats of standardization and levels out differences between various countries. Therefore, the cultivation of local and national uniqueness requires more active national policy which is necessary to create a sustainable and conscious feeling of belonging. A State creates the framework in which democracy can operate, and democracy cannot function without people who feel they belong to the particular country and who feel responsibility for it.

Therefore, a feeling of belonging to Latvia and responsibility for it are a precondition for the sustainability of the democratic State of Latvia, the Latvian nation and the Latvian people. Latvia is the only place in the world where the Latvian language and culture can fully develop. The Latvian language and culture are values in themselves and simultaneously a resource to attract people to Latvia, and the cornerstone of the State of Latvia, as well. The responsibility and duty of the Latvian society and the State of Latvia are to preserve, strengthen and develop it both for future generations and in order to make the contribution to the world's diversity. Countries maintaining and developing their national and cultural-historical identity gain significant comparable advantages in the global world.

1.3. Continuity and New Challenges

The national identity and social integration policy of the State of Latvia has to respond both to the new challenges of the 21st century and has to continue the work on society cohesion commenced in the 1990's.

Latvia is a part of the Western political and economic space. Joining the European Union opened up new opportunities for the people of Latvia. At the same time it caused a wider focus to be placed on national identity and social integration policy tasks. A large proportion of the population of Latvia has headed off to work in other countries, some planning to stay in these countries for a short time only, others planning to live there for a long time. Young people from Latvia are getting educated in schools and universities in Europe and elsewhere in the world. National policy on national identity and social integration, including citizenship policy, has to be concerned with strengthening national identity, feeling of belonging to Latvia, and to attract to it every Latvian, every Latvian citizen, no matter where they are, as well as to encourage their return to Latvia.

National minorities are a traditional part of the Latvian society. They have lived in Latvia for many generations and consider themselves to belong to the State of Latvia and the Latvian society, at the same time maintaining their separate national cultural identities. They are an integral part of Latvia with their diversity enriching Latvian cultural space. The right to maintain their individuality is guaranteed in the Constitution. National identity and integration policy

have to encourage society's openness to the contribution of national minorities and have to consolidate their affiliation with Latvia.

In two decades since the independence of Latvia was renewed, much has been achieved to overcome the reality of the two-community society that formed during the occupation of Latvia. As a result of the deliberate Russification policy implemented by the Soviet Union aimed at securing Latvia as an integral part of the USSR, 1.5 million USSR citizens arrived to Latvia over the fifty years, about a half of whom remained living in Latvia. After the collapse of the Soviet Union the sudden placement in another independent State created tension in the society basically consisting of the Russian speaking community's post-Soviet "lost fatherland" trauma and insecurity about their future prospects in Latvia, as well as the Latvians' uncertainty about their prospects of renewing, maintaining and developing the Latvian cultural space. A significant part of this trauma is a conflicting social memory based on the Soviet ideological interpretation of the occupation of Latvia, Latvia's fate in the World War II and life under the Soviet regime.

A targeted official language and education policy, i.e., establishment of a unified general education system, development of bilingual education, ensuring the learning of the Latvian language as the second language, - the activities which promoted the obtaining of citizenship have provided the opportunity for a large proportion of arrivals from the Soviet period, especially the younger generation, to become successfully a part of the Nation State of Latvia and to supplement the community of citizens. However, the deliberately promoted change in the ethnic composition of Latvia's population in the decades of Soviet occupation makes it obvious that the task of social integration will be a long-term task; it has to be a priority of the national policy for years and decades to come. At the same time an active and immediate national policy is required to bring Latvian society together, to promote mutual trust among people and common feeling of belonging which is the basis of social solidarity, as well as to act strongly against the possibility of the development of divided two-community society. Thus integration is a multilateral process.

European Union citizens and new immigrants have also settled in Latvia. The integration policy has to efficiently anticipate and provide opportunities for these people to learn the Latvian language, to get acquainted with common values and the Latvian cultural space so that new ethnically separated groups or a rift in inter-cultural dialogue do not develop in the society.

1.4. Main Goal of the Policy

The goal of Latvia's national identity, civil society and integration policy is a strong, cohesive Latvian people: a national and democratic community ensuring the maintenance and enrichment of its unifying foundation – the Latvian language, culture and national identity, European democratic values and the unique cultural space aimed at the balanced development of the democratic Nation State of Latvia.

2. Policy Principles

Open Latvianness

The Latvian constituent nation is inclusive. It has an obligation to strengthen its identity and at the same time to be open to those who wish to join it. It means that one can be not only born a Latvian but also consciously become one. Each person's choice determines whether alongside his or her Latvian identity, which is the common one, he or she wishes to maintain also his or her national uniqueness and minority's identity.

Responsibility and participation

Every Latvian citizen and inhabitant and every Latvian in the world carry within them a part of the responsibility for Latvia. Civic participation in the rational solution of common social problems increases both a person's individual and society's joint social capital. A highly developed civil society is the foundation for a State's political, cultural, economic and technological development.

Belonging to Europe

Latvia is a member of the family of European States, and its present and future are closely related to the European traditions, values and principles. The basis of the value system of the State of Latvia is a belief in fundamental European values – democracy, rule of law and human rights. European identity is a value identity, which is a part of the national identities of various European countries. The social integration policy has to strengthen the ties between Latvian and European identity, and has to strengthen Europe's common social memory in Latvia.

Maintenance of the uniqueness of national minorities

National minorities and their culture are an integral and important component of the Latvian society and its cultural space. In Latvia every member of a national minority has the right to maintain and develop his or her own language, ethnic and cultural individuality and the State supports it.

Each person's free choice and human rights are respected

In the area of social integration each individual is free and has the right to choose his or her own identity tactics. All choices are free and are respected. The duty of the State of Latvia is to interact and collaborate with all the population notwithstanding of their choice. The duty of the State is to unite society on the basis of the common values, encouraging this process by democratic means.

Identities are complementary, not exclusionary

The policy on the national identity of the Latvian society, civil society and integration emphasizes the principle of identities being complementary, in accordance with which, the various identities do not exclude but rather enrich each other. National minority identities exist and develop alongside the Latvian identity. An individual can simultaneously have a number of identities (that of a national minority, Latvian, European, global).

3. Description of the Situation

3.1. Civil Society and Integration

An active civil society promotes common development of the State and participation in it increases each person's social capital. A civil society encourages the cohesion of a nation on the basis of both national and democratic values. Therefore, the task of the civil integration policy of Latvia is to reduce the barriers for the development of Latvia's civil society and to promote civic participation skills of the population and opportunities to become involved in the solution of society's common issues.

3.1.1. Civic Participation

Civic participation helps to create a lasting connection between an individual and the State and increases people's responsibility for the society in which they live. Civic participation includes a wide spectrum of activities: participation in elections, political parties and political organizations, trade unions, employer organizations, NGO's – associations and foundations, professional associations and self-governing bodies. It includes joining together in informal societies, as well as meeting in one's own and in society's interests.

A whole range of mechanisms for political participation has been developed in Latvia. Over the last decade, a large proportion of citizens has participated in a number of referendums on significant issues relating to the development of the State. They have improved the quality of the public policy even when a quorum was not reached at a referendum. The activity of Latvian voters overall is not lower than the average indicators in the European Union. However, when compared with the first part of the previous decade the participation of citizens has dropped in the Parliament (Saeima), as well as in local government elections.¹

One of the most important reasons for insufficient participation is the lack of belief of the population in its ability to influence social and political processes. Only 15% of respondents hold the view that they can influence decision-making in the State.² There is a very low level of trust in legislator in the society, and in the public institutions and institutions of society. In 2010, 6% of the population had faith in political parties, 20% in the government and 15% in the Saeima.³ There is a conflicting view prevailing about the role of the State among the population of Latvia. On the one hand there is a high level of distrust in the public institutions, on the other hand there is an expectation that the State should have a significant role in the economics and other areas of life. A large proportion of the population of Latvia does not try to get involved in the development of public policy by getting engaged in political parties.⁴ At the same time it should be noted that no alternative opportunities are used to increase voters' participation in Latvia. For example, the State does not provide the opportunity to vote, using modern information and communication technologies; they could increase participation within individual social groups, especially among young people and Latvian citizens living abroad.

¹ 71.51% of voters participated in the 8th Saeima elections in 2002, 60.98% of voters - in the 9th Saeima elections in 2006, 63.12% of voters - in the 10th Saeima elections in 2010 but 59.49% of voters - in the 11th Saeima elections in 2011. 61.98% of voters participated in local government elections in 2001 and 52.85% and 53.8% of voters in the elections of 2005 and 2009, respectively.

² *Sabiedrības viedoklis par NVO sektoru Latvijā*. Rīga: Latvijas Fakti, 2011. [Public Opinion on the NGO Sector in Latvia. Rīga: Latvian Facts, 2011.] – p. 7.

³ Standard Eurobarometer 74 (2010). Main results from the National Report about Latvia. <http://tinyurl.com/3m6hnp9> (See 02.08.2011).

⁴ Only 1.2% of the population admit to being members of political parties and their support organizations. *Study on citizens participation in the Baltic Sea region*. Strömsborg: Council of the Baltic Sea States Working Group on Democratic Institutions, 2006. http://www.politika.lv/temas/pilsoniska_sabiedriba/11931/ (See 02.08.2011).

In 2004, new legal arrangements came into effect simplifying the operation of the non-governmental sector. In the last five years, the number of public organizations, their associations, societies and foundations has increased by 12%, and in August 2011, according to information provided by the RE 14,704 organizations were registered in Latvia. However, a comparatively small proportion of the population of Latvia has joined up in these organizations, besides it has a tendency to decrease.⁵ A large proportion of non-governmental organizations operates in the areas of culture, sport and recreation (39%) but a much smaller in – protection of human rights, combating corruption, solution of ecological problems and similar areas. A trend exists for linguistically separate – Latvian and Russian – non-governmental organizations to be formed.⁶ Latvia's non-governmental organizations are still financially and administratively weak, are disproportionately frequently established in Riga,⁷ and they have a small number of members. In addition, only a small proportion of organizations is financially sustainable.⁸ However, in the conditions of socio-economic crisis, exactly NGOs were those that provided services in the areas of social and non-formal education where the public administration budget was limited. At the same time, organizations of the civil society are not adequately included in the development of public policy which reduces trust in the public administration. Taking these problems into account, integration policy has to improve legal and financial arrangements in order to promote institutional capacity of associations and qualitative participation of NGOs in the decision-making process by strengthening them as social partners, as well as to encourage the delegation of the tasks of the State to associations and foundations in the areas where it is permitted and possible, especially in terms of civic education.

Along with the non-governmental organizations, also the development of new forms of participation characterises the civic activity in Latvia – community funds, public forums, informal associations and the use of social media. They often provide original approaches for solution of social and political problems. The Big Cleanup (50,000 participants in 2004, 190,000 in 2011) may be mentioned as an example of innovative participation unifying various community groups.⁹ Donating, philanthropy, voluntary work and patronage traditions, as well as private-public partnership can also be considered to be new forms of participation in Latvia which have begun to develop in the past decade and encompass a considerable number of people. Therefore, the integration policy has to not only promote traditional civic participation, but also has to strengthen sustainability of the new participation forms.

Democracy cannot function fully without independent and qualitative media. Under the influence of the economic crisis, the reduced purchasing power of consumers and a drop in advertising revenue have negatively affected the media's financial self-dependence and independence. Therefore it is critically important to consolidate independent and professional public media. The presence of the public media in the internet environment, which is being used by an increasing number of people, especially young people, has to be increased. Surveys show that the market proportion of Russia's electronic media in Latvia's information space is

⁵ If in 2003 53% of persons were not members of any NGO, by 2008 this figure reached 65.8%. Informative report on the implementation of the national programme "Pilsoniskās sabiedrības stiprināšanas programma 2005.-2009. gadam" ["Civil Society Strengthening Programme for 2005-2009"] .

⁶ M.Golubeva, I.Ījabs. *Konsolidējot pilsoniskās sabiedrības dienaskārtību. Proaktīvs pētījums par latviešu un krievu pamatvalodas NVO sadarbības spējām.* [Consolidating the Civil Society Agenda. A Proactive Survey About the Possibilities of Collaboration Between Latvian and Russian Primary Language NGO's.] Rīga: PROVIDUS, 2009. – p. 2. <http://tinyurl.com/3oq5rew> (See 02.06.2011.)

⁷ 46% of organizations are registered in Rīga, 16% - in the Rīga region. Baltic Institute of Social Sciences. *Pārskats par NVO sektoru Latvijā. Pētījumu rezultātu atskaite.* [Review on the NGO Sector in Latvia. Report of Survey Results] Rīga: Society Integration Fund, 2011. - p. 21.

⁸ Ibidem p. 11.

⁹ Results of the big cleanup, <http://www.talkas.lv/?page=567> (See 02.06.2011)

increasing,¹⁰ and therefore the role of Latvian public media has to be immediately strengthened within the Russian-speaking audience.¹¹

In the context of civic participation, the duty of the State is to guarantee that no individual or social group is discriminated due to their different identity and that they may participate in the civil society. These individuals or groups of people are unable to integrate into society due to poverty, insufficient education, unemployment, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, geographic isolation or other circumstances, thereby unable to exercise their rights and use their opportunities. The task of the public administration is both - to consolidate already existing social safety nets and to provide innovative actions using all of the local community resources to help them to integrate into society – including, schools, NGOs, libraries, culture centres and other cultural institutions.

An institutional mechanism has been developed in Latvia for introduction and evaluation of the policy on non-discrimination. An anti-discrimination normative framework has been developed. The main problem is the society's attitude: discrimination often is not recognized, whereas when it does get recognized, it often goes unpunished. In such a situation particular groups of population have the greatest risk of discrimination, for example the Roma (gypsies). There is little case-law and there are no regular surveys and information campaigns which would make this problem more visible in public consciousness. A positive attitude to diversity should be promoted in the society in order to ensure a tolerant and respectful attitude to diversity and those who are different.

3.1.2. Civic Education

The task of civic education is to promote individual responsibility for national development, as well as to teach every individual civic participation skills, knowledge, attitudes and values. It is a way of strengthening national and civic identity and an understanding about Latvian society's body of values.

Civic education issues are included in Latvia's general school programmes within various social science subjects however, the achievements of Latvia's schoolchildren in civic education are lower than other EU State indicators, and have become even worse in the past decade. As a result, Latvia's young people stand out against Baltic, as well as other European nations with their poorer knowledge about the civil society system and principles, as well as about civic participation and the skill of mutual collaboration;¹² it is expressed in negative attitude against the State. Overall, in schools with Latvian as the language of instruction civic education results are higher than in schools where the national minority educational programmes are implemented. This is evidence of a greater estrangement from the State in the national minority schools. Latvian and national minority schoolchildren have different views about their connection with Latvia and Latvian citizenship. For young Latvians identification with the

¹⁰ In 2005, 9.7% of the TV audience watched the *Pirmais Baltijas* channel, but in 2011 it was 11.3%. *TV kanālu auditorijas dati*, TNS Latvia. [TV Channel Audience Data, TNS Latvia.] <http://tinyurl.com/439ddqy> (See 24.07.2011.)

¹¹ In the Guidelines, the concept *Russian-speakers* is used as a sociological category which describes the community of respondents or residents of Latvia, who nominate the Russian language as the language of communication within their families. Latvia's Russian-speaking community is made up of various ethnic groups, which not always consider the Russian language as their native language.

¹² The average achievements of Latvian schoolchildren in civil education (482 points) are lower than in Lithuania (505 points) and Estonia (525 points). The results of an international civil education survey in 2009 show that Latvian schoolchildren results are statistically significantly lower than the average indicators for Europe. I. Čekse, A. Geske, A. Grīnfelds, A. Kangro. *Skolēnu pilsoniskā izglītība Latvijā un pasaulē. Starptautiskā pētījuma IEA ICCS 2009 pirmie rezultāti*. Rīga [Schoolchildren's Civil Education in Latvia and in the World. International Survey IEA ICCS 2009 first results]: UoL Faculty of Education, Psychology and Art's Institute of Educational Research, 2010, p. 35. <http://www.ppf.lu.lv/v.3/eduinf/files/2010/gramata.pdf> (Last visited 24.07.2011).

nation and State are not mutually exclusive categories. On the other hand young people of national minorities separate the State from the place of their birth; the view becomes consolidated within them, that identification with the State threatens their ethnic identity.¹³ The State has to support the civic education that would reduce the development of such contradictory views. The bilingual education system and the compulsory 60% teaching of subjects in the official language at the national minority secondary schools have improved the knowledge of the Latvian language among young people. However, it can also be deduced from the research that the linguistic difference in Latvian schools and in national minority schools with Russian language as the language of instruction reproduces the segregation, estrangement and inter-group prejudices.¹⁴

The civic education results in Latvian schools are influenced by at least three differing factors: the direct teaching process in lessons, extra-curricular activities (including schoolchildren local government and participation in various projects) and the school's overall civil culture.¹⁵ The schoolchildren's civic attitude and intense civic activity is, to a large degree, determined not so much by the content of the teaching subject itself, as the prevailing atmosphere in the school which depends on the director and teachers' style of work and the openness of the school.¹⁶ The task of the integration policy is to support the development of a democratic and open education system that would encourage children's and young people's self-initiative and collaboration skills and that would increase civic participation skills and a feeling of responsibility for what is happening in the country. The operation of young people's NGOs should be particularly supported, as it strengthens democratic participation practices.¹⁷ The civic and organizational activities of young Latvians living abroad should be encouraged, both abroad, as well as when they are collaborating with young people living in Latvia. The obtaining of civic education by all age groups in Latvia should also be ensured and promoted.

3.1.3. Citizenship Issue

Latvian citizenship is the basis for creating a lasting legal connection with the State of Latvia. Citizenship policy cannot ignore the increasing mobility of people in the 21st century. Therefore, in order to maintain and consolidate people's feeling of belonging to the State,

¹³ See R.Rungule, I.Koroļova. *Jauniešu iekļaušanās analīze identitātes un līdzdalības diskursu kontekstā// Sabiedrības integrācijas tendences un pretendences. Latvijas un Igaunijas pieredze. Etnisko attiecību aspekts*, ["An Analysis of Young People's Involvement in the Context of Identity and Participation Discourse", "Society's Integration Trends and Anti-trends. Latvia's and Estonia's Experience. Ethnic Relations Aspect."] L.Dribins (ed.) Riga: SFI, The Academic Press of the UoL, 2008.

¹⁴ L.Curika. *Dalīta izglītība – dalīti pilsoņi?* Riga [Divided Education – Divided Citizens? Riga]: PROVIDUS, 2008/2009. <http://tinyurl.com/3ljlgxj> (Last visited 24.07.2011).

¹⁵ I.Kunda, I.Strode. *Pilsoņi, patrioti un citplanētieši: dažas dilemmas pilsoniskās izglītības praksē//Pilsoniskās izglītība jēdziens, prakse un rezultāti: virzība uz darbībā balstītu modeli sabiedrības saskaņas veicināšanai.* [Citizens, Patriots and Aliens: Some Dilemmas in Civil Education Practices//The Concept, Practice and Results of Civil Education: the Movement to an Activity Based Model in Promoting Harmony in Society.] Latvia's Commission of Strategic Analysis under the Auspices of the President of the Republic of Latvia, Riga, October 2008.

¹⁶ R.Rungule un I.Koroļova. *“Jauniešu iekļaušanās analīze identitātes un līdzdalības diskursu kontekstā”, “Sabiedrības integrācijas tendences un pretendences. Latvijas un Igaunijas pieredze. Etnisko attiecību aspekts*, ["An Analysis of Young People's Involvement in the Context of Identity and Participation Discourse", "Society's Integration Trends and Anti-trends. Latvia's and Estonia's Experience. Ethnic Relations Aspect."] L.Dribins (ed.) Riga: SFI, The Academic Press of the UoL, 2008.

¹⁷ In comparison with 2009 (3%), the number of young people who do not wish to get involved in youth organizations increased in 2010 (6%), with this reluctance being characteristic of people of other nationalities. In 2010, 70% per cent of young people had not been involved in any political activity. *Jauniešu iespējas un dzīves kvalitāte Latvijā 2009.-2010.gada rezultāti.* Riga [Young People's Opportunities and Quality of Life in Latvia. Riga]: FACTUM, 2010. <http://tinyurl.com/3ghfwzu> (Last visited 24.07.2011).

Latvia's citizenship policy has to simultaneously be both principled, as well as flexible. Changes are required to the Citizenship Law, providing dual citizenship possibilities with the EU, EEA and NATO Member States. Dual citizenship would allow maintenance of the connection with citizens who have left Latvia at different times, would encourage them to return to Latvia or make their contribution to the development of Latvia when living abroad.

A significant problem continues to be the comparatively large number of non-citizens, which was 14% of the population of Latvia in 2011. However the proportion of non-citizens has reduced considerably since the 1990's¹⁸. Interest in naturalization has been expressed mainly by young people, who see opportunities in the Latvian citizenship, but the older generation has the lowest motivation to naturalize. In addition, the opportunities for participation which are broadened by Latvian citizenship do not seem sufficiently important for many non-citizens in order to naturalize. Reduction in the number of non-citizens will be an important task for integration policy in the future as well.

3.2. National identity: Language and Cultural Space

The Latvian language and cultural space create the foundation for national identity; strengthens feeling of belonging to the nation and the State of Latvia. This is why the maintenance and consolidation of the Latvian language and cultural space is Latvia's long-term development priority.¹⁹

3.2.1. Knowledge and Use of the Latvian Language

The Latvian language is the official language; it is the language of democratic participation and the means of communication in Latvia, as well as the basis for a cohesive society. Reduction in the use of the Latvian language would be a threat to the successful social integration.²⁰ In order to improve the quality of Latvia's human capital, the task of the State is to ensure that all the population of Latvia knew and used the Latvian language. At the same time proficiency in English as an international language of communication, as well as in other European Union official languages has to be encouraged.

Since the renewal of the independence of Latvia a clear and consistent policy of Latvian language as the official language has been implemented. The proportion of people knowing the Latvian language has increased significantly, but was very low during the period of the Soviet occupation as a result of the deliberate Russification policy.²¹ Even though the level of official language proficiency varies among non-Latvians, the overall trend reveals continuing improvement. In the previous decade, the proportion of people who knew the Latvian language at the highest level has increased among the national minorities in all age groups and the number

¹⁸ According the CSB, in 1996 27% of population in Latvia were non-citizens, in 2006 – 18%, but in 2011 – 14%.

¹⁹ *Latvijas ilgtermiņa attīstības stratēģija līdz 2030. gadam (Latvija2030)*. [Latvia's Sustainable Development Strategy until 2030 (Latvia 2030).] Adopted in the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia in June 2010, - p. 10.

²⁰ On the 21st December 2001, the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Latvia, in its decision on the issue of language decided: "Taking into account the fact that in the circumstances of globalization Latvia is the only place in the world where the Latvian language can be safeguarded and consequently the survival and development of the original nation, the reduction in the realm of the use of the Latvian language as the official language in the State's territory cannot be permitted and can also be considered to be a threat to the State's democratic system."

²¹ In 1989, 61.7% of residents who were members of national minorities in Latvia knew the Latvian language, in 2000 – 79%, but in 2008 – about 93%. See V.Poriņa. *Valsts valoda daudzvalodīgajā sabiedrībā: individuālais un sociālais bilingvisms Latvijā*. Rīga [The Official Language in a Multi-language Society: Individual and Social Bilingualism in Latvia. Rīga.]: Latvian Language Institute, 2009, - p. 125; I.Mežs. *Latviešu valoda statistikas spoguļi*. [The Latvian Language in the Statistical Mirror.] Rīga, Jāņa sēta, 2004.

of people who knew the Latvian language poorly has decreased.²² One of the important stimuli for the national minorities to have Latvian language skills is related to the economic factor, i.e., involvement in the labour market.²³

Currently, schoolchildren of primary and secondary schools have the widest opportunities to learn the Latvian language. For other target groups, paid Latvian language courses are fragmentarily available, besides the learning programmes are not tailored to professional requirements. Since 1990, about 75,000 people have learnt the Latvian language in training courses financed by foreign funding and the State budget. However, the Latvian language skills of many non-citizens, especially those aged over 60 years, continue to be inadequate. According to OCMA data on Latvian language tests, in 2008 28% of citizenship applicants failed, in 2009 – 38% but in 2010 – 43%. The lowest Latvian languages skills are in the Latgale region where only 2% of non-citizens have a good command of the Latvian language (freely speak, read and write).²⁴ It provides evidence of a need to place greater emphasis in language training on particular groups of the population, including students, people who did not receive their general education in the bilingual way, and older people.

Even though Latvian language skills have increased significantly in the past twenty years, a number of trends still indicate that the use of the Latvian language in the public sphere is not showing equal achievements. The self-sufficiency of the Russian language is obvious in the public space, especially in the cities where there is a large proportion of national minorities. Less than half (47%) of Russian-speaking respondents indicate that in the public and local government institutions everything takes place in the Latvian language; in shops and the service sector – 15% but in the private business sector it was admitted by 12% of respondents.²⁵ Social integration on the basis of the Latvian language is influenced by the Latvians' reluctance to speak in Latvian language when communicating with Russian-speakers.²⁶ However, at the same time positive trends are observed in the use of the Latvian language – the proportion of economically active population using only the Russian language in communication is decreasing.²⁷ Overall, the annual surveys of language knowledge and use have shown that in situations where formal language procedure regulates its use, for example in workplaces, the use of the official language strengthens more rapidly, but in situations in which the choice of languages is up to the individual, for example, on the street, in shops or in conversations with friends, the Russian language is often used.²⁸ Therefore the policy has to support corresponding legal arrangements for the language, its effective introduction and monitoring, further language

²² Valoda. *Latvijas iedzīvotāju aptauja*. [Language. Survey of Latvia's Residents.] Riga, Baltic Institute of Social Sciences, 2000; Valoda. *Latvijas iedzīvotāju aptauja*. [Language. Survey of Latvia's Residents.] Riga Baltic Institute of Social Sciences, 2008., pp. 22-23. For a comparison see also: V.Poriņa. *Valsts valoda daudzvalodīgajā sabiedrībā: individuālais un sociālais bilingvisms Latvijā*. Rīga [The Official Language in a Multi-language Society; Individual and Social Bilingualism in Latvia.] Riga Latvian Language Institute, 2009. – p. 172.

²³ The SCDC conducts testing of official language skills, issuing a certificate about Latvian language proficiency at a certain level.

²⁴ In Latgale 64% of non-citizen respondents have poor Latvian language skills (use individual sentences and phrases – 28%, know a few words – 21%, don't know the language 15%). *Nepilsoņu viedoklis par Latvijas pilsonības iegūšanu*. [Non-citizen Views on Obtaining Latvian citizenship.] Riga, OCMA, 2011, <http://tinyurl.com/3dx8zoy> (Last visited 24.07.2011).

²⁵ *Informatīvais ziņojums „Par Valsts valodas politikas pamatnostādņu 2005.–2014.gadam īstenošanu no 2006.gada 4.oktobra līdz 2009.gada 31.decembrim (27.07.2010)* [Informative Report “On the Implementation of the Official Language Policy's Guidelines for 2005-2014 from 4 October 2006 to 31 December 2009 (27.07.2010)].

²⁶ If in 2002, 76% of Latvian respondents spoke mainly or only in the Latvian language on the street, in 2008 there were only 65%; in 2002, 69% spoke mainly or only in the Latvian language at work, but in 2008 – 57%. [Language. Survey of Latvia's residents.] Riga, Baltic Institute of Social Sciences, 2008. – p. 20.

²⁷ In 2004, 31% of working non-Latvians used only the Russian language in the public arena (at work, with friends, on the street, in shops), whereas in 2008, it was only about 20% of working Russian-speakers. *Valoda. Latvijas iedzīvotāju aptauja*. [Language. Survey of Latvia's residents] 2008. – p. 6, p. 9.

²⁸ *Ibidem* p. 7.

training, as well as has to strengthen the motivation of the national minorities to use the Latvian language in the public sphere. Simultaneously with these policy tasks, it is important to motivate Latvians to use the official language in communication with Russian-speakers. To achieve this goal, special social campaigns are required.

3.2.2. Latvian Language in the Labour Market

In private businesses in Latvia, especially in Riga and its environs, the practice to ask for knowledge of the Russian language and its use in the work sphere where it is not justifiable on a professional basis is observed. It creates discriminatory hurdles in the labour market, especially for young Latvians whose Russian language skills have declined in the last 20 years.²⁹ Legal arrangements and the control of their introduction have to ensure that Latvians in Latvia do not get discriminated in the labour market because they do not know the Russian language or do not wish to use it at work.

One of the main hurdles that national minorities come into contact with in the labour market in Latvia is related to Latvian language skills. This hurdle, as well as the ethnical isolation tendencies prevent representatives of the national minorities from working in the public administration.³⁰ A proportion of the unemployed from the national minorities with low Latvian language skills has much fewer opportunities of moving from being registered as unemployed to being employed and a greater chance of remaining in the lines of the long-term unemployed.³¹ However, the labour market provides the stimulus to learn the Latvian language at a suitable level.

The integration of new immigrants into the Latvian language space is a new challenge for Latvia's integration policy. New arrivals consider important to learn the Latvian language at the basic knowledge level; as they have a possibility to make contact with the population of the State also in the Russian language, they lack the motivation to learn the Latvian language. The community of third-country nationals³² – the new immigrants (16,516) - in Latvia is composed of people who arrived mainly from post-Soviet countries after 1992.³³

The lack of Latvian language skills reduces the opportunities for new immigrants to upgrade their professional development, to follow events in the State and to participate in the social life.³⁴ The immigrants' poor official language skills and the limited offer of the language learning opportunities create the need for a separate policy area in the framework of which a system of integration measures, both prior to the arrival of an immigrant to Latvia, as well as directly after receiving a residence permit should be developed.

²⁹ In the age group from 15 to 34 years, for people whose native language is the Latvian language, 54% speak Russian well, 38% speak it rather poorly, but 8% don't know Russian at all. *Valoda. Latvijas iedzīvotāju aptauja*. [Language. Survey of Latvia's Residents] 2008. – p. 7. In general day teaching programmes not much more than a third (in the 2007/2008 school year – 35.02%, in the 2010/2011 school year – 34.1%) of students chose to learn the Russian language as a foreign language. *MES Policy Coordination Department's unpublished data*.

³⁰ M.Hazans. *Ethnic Minorities in the Latvian Labour Market, 1997-2009: Outcomes, Integration Drivers and Barriers// How Integrated is Latvian Society?* N. Muižnieks (ed.) Riga, The Academic Press of the UoL, 2010; A.Pabriks. *Ethnic Proportions, Employment and Discrimination in Latvia*. Riga, Nordik, 2002.

³¹ See M.Hazans. *Ethnic Minorities in the Latvian Labour Market - 1997 to 2009: Outcomes, Integration Drivers and Barriers*.

³² Third country national— a person who is not a citizen of the Republic of Latvia, other European Union Member States, European Economic Area States or the Swiss Confederation.

³³ On 1st January 2011, the total number of third country nationals with fixed-term and permanent residency permits was 45,483, including citizens of other States permanently residing in Latvia – 28,967 (renounced their Latvian non-citizen status and mainly gained Russian citizenship), third country nationals with fixed-term residency permits – 7,519 (of these 6,154 from post-Soviet States), third country nationals with permanent residency permits – 8,997 (of these 8,175 from post-Soviet States). Source: OCMA unpublished data.

³⁴ See R.Kaša, D.Akule. *Imigrantu integrācija Latvijā: valsts valodas apguve un pilsoniskā izglītība*. [Immigrant Integration in Latvia; Acquisition of the Official Language and Civil Education] Riga, PROVIDUS, 2011.

3.2.3. Latvian Language in Education

In the last 10 years, at all levels of education, there has been a drop in demand for educational establishments which do not implement teaching programmes in the Latvian language only. These trends lead one to think that this reduction is only partly connected with the overall low birthrate in the country and provide evidence about the gradual strengthening of the Latvian language as the language of education.³⁵ In 2010/11 school year, the total number of schoolchildren was 216,307, of these 26.2% studied at the national minority schools and 9.8% - at the dual-stream schools. The position of the Latvian language was significantly strengthened by the education reform implemented in 2004 which prescribed that, starting from the tenth grade, 60% of the learning content at a secondary school would be taught in Latvian. The achievements of the national minority schoolchildren have not deteriorated as a result of the reform.³⁶ In addition, the use of the Latvian language among the national minority schoolchildren on the street, in the shops, on public transport and in contact with Latvians has grown.³⁷ Research reveals that schoolchildren, their parents and teachers as a whole have a positive attitude to bilingual education.³⁸

Learning and use of Latvian language should be supported from a very young age. To achieve this goal, the State has the task to provide the opportunity for all children of the national minorities to learn the Latvian language at the pre-school educational establishments already at such a level, that they might start learning at schools with the Latvian language. In addition to this policy area, the desire of the parents of the national minority children to send their children to pre-school educational establishments where teaching is conducted in the Latvian language should be promoted by providing special teaching support for the complete learning of the official language. A pre-condition for an effective policy at the pre-school education level is the gathering of information about the quality of the learning of the Latvian language in national minority pre-school educational establishments; whether the official language is taught by Latvian language teachers or primary school teachers, or pre-school teachers; how large are the groups in which language is taught; how widespread are other opportunities for preparing children to receive education in Latvian schools. There is no also a comprehensive research on the Latvian language skills of the children of the national minorities – the first year schoolchildren.

The dispersion of the national minority schools is not even and the education reform of 2004 has not attained the desired results everywhere – they vary in different regions. There are also socio-demographic groups that have a more sceptical attitude towards bilingual education. Individual surveys reveal that among Russian-speakers, the attitude to bilingual education or

³⁵ Comparing the number of students in general education day schools in the 2000/01 school year with the 2010/11 school year, at schools with Latvian as the language of instruction, the number of students had fallen by 31%, while at schools with Russian as the language of instruction – by 50%; in dual stream schools in programmes with both Russian as a language of instruction, as well as Latvian as a language of instruction, the number has fallen by 56%. In 1992, 46% of all children attended kindergartens with Russian as the language of instruction, but in 2010 – 24% of children. Source: Central Statistical Bureau.

³⁶ B.Zepa. Education for Social Integration// *How integrated is Latvian Society?* N. Muižnieks (ed.) Riga, The Academic Press of the UoL, 2010, pp. 193–224.

³⁷ In 2004, the Latvian language was used by 39% of students, but in 2010 – 61%. B.Zepa. *Vidusskolēnu pilsoniskās un lingvistiskās attieksmes, apgūstot mazākumtautību izglītības programmas*. [High School Students' Civil and Linguistic Attitudes in Studying in Education Programmes for Minorities] Riga, Baltic Institute of Social Sciences, 2010, p. 9.

³⁸ B.Zepa. Op.cit. 6; 31.

education in the Latvian language only is determined by the level of the official language skills: the lower it is, the less they support the teaching of subjects in the Latvian language.³⁹

A direct relationship exists between the level of education of the parents of the children of national minorities and the desire that their children knew the Latvian language: the greatest support (96%) is expressed by the parents with the higher education.⁴⁰ Children of parents with a lower level of education are less motivated to learn the Latvian language, possibly because they also have fewer opportunities to improve their Latvian language skills within the family. In its turn, the relatively low self-appraisal of the official language proficiency of the university students shows that improvements are needed in the bilingual education system. Students at the private universities have the greatest problems with the use of the Latvian language; likewise students who have graduated professional educational establishments have lower language skills.⁴¹

Various regional and socio-demographic differences have to be taken into account in developing social integration policy. Special attention at all levels of education has to be focussed on Riga and the Latgale region, where the Russian language has a high level of self-sufficiency. In addition, education in the Latgalian written language is not available in the Latgale region, which is the native language for many students of this region and the one used within the family. That is why students in Latgale should be given the opportunity to learn the Latgalian written language as an optional or compulsory teaching subject.⁴² It should be taken into account, that the use of the Latvian language is also influenced by socio-economic factors, material well-being, social groups with which young people come into contact each day and the overall access to the culture.

Teachers, who teach subjects in national minority schools bilingually or in Latvian, are provided with support in acquiring the Latvian language. However, teachers' endeavours to improve their qualifications and perfection of their Latvian language skills vary substantially, and continuity is not always provided in the teaching of subjects in Latvian language from the pre-school educational establishment to the secondary school.⁴³ Hence, in schools with the Latvian language as the language of instruction, not all teachers have experience in working with schoolchildren of different ethnic origins, and it reduces their ability to work qualitatively with such audience.

³⁹ V.Poriņa. *Valsts valoda daudzvalodīgajā sabiedrībā: individuālais un sociālais bilingvisms Latvijā*. [The Official Language in a Multi-language Society: Individual and Social Bilingualism in Latvia.] Rīga, Latvian Language Institute, 2009, p. 152.

⁴⁰ *Valoda. Latvijas iedzīvotāju aptauja*. [Language. Survey of Latvia's Residents.] Rīga, Baltic Institute of Social Sciences, 2008.

⁴¹ Students also point out the poor Latvian language skills of docents. *Latviešu valodas prasme un lietojums augstākās izglītības iestādēs: mazākumtautību izglītības satura reformu rezultāti*. [Latvian Language Skill and Use in Higher Educational Establishments: Results of Minority Education Curriculum Reform] Rīga, Latvian Language Agency, 2010, p. 41; *Latviešu valodas lietojums profesionālajā izglītībā- situācijas izpēte un ieteikumi* [Use of the Latvian Language in Professional Education- Situation Analysis and Recommendations] Rīga: Latvian Language Agency, 2010, pp. 40 – 41 (The survey reflects the situation at the Riga Food Producers Secondary School and the Daugavpils Trade School.)

⁴² I.Šuplinska, S.Lazdiņa. *Valodas Austrumlatvijā: pētījuma dati un rezultāti*. [Languages in Eastern Latvia: Research Data and Results.] *Via Latgalica: Humanitarian Sciences Journal, Supplement 1*. Rēzekne: Rēzekne Higher Education Institution, 2009, – p. 315.

⁴³ *Latviešu valodas prasme un lietojums augstākās izglītības iestādēs: mazākumtautību izglītības satura reformu rezultāti*. [Latvian Language Skill and Use in Higher Education Institutions: Results of Minority Education Curriculum Reform] Rīga, Latvian Language Agency, 2010, p. 13.

3.2.4. Latvian Cultural Space

Latvian culture forms the foundation of the Latvian cultural space. Over the centuries it has been influenced and enriched by Latvia's national minorities and the cultures of other countries. This aggregate and its interaction form the special attraction of the Latvian cultural space. Both, historically and today the Latvian cultural space is a part of Europe's cultural space.

Professional art has a significant role in the cultural space. It influences and creates national identity, strengthens the feeling of belonging to Latvia and also has a great social integration potential. Luminaries of both Latvian, as well as other nationalities, whose names are known in Europe and the rest of the world belong to the Latvian cultural space. In evaluating various activities the State could undertake to strengthen patriotism, the majority of the population (54%) considers the support for culture to be necessary to encourage outstanding achievements.⁴⁴ Within the professional art framework, the Latvian cultural education system operates as a good integration mechanism – music and art schools at all levels where children and young people of various nationalities are integrated by a common base of music and art values by joining the Latvian cultural space and after finishing the school continue to participate in its development. But, there is a lack of research to assist in planning the operation of cultural education institutions so they could promote social integration. In the same way, a clear operational policy is needed on how to utilize professional art products (movies, theatre performances, etc.) in social integration.

In addition to the professional art, the amateur art also offers significant collaboration opportunities. It strengthens both the local community and national identity, as well as provides a platform for intercultural dialogue. Cultural institutions (cultural centres, libraries, museums and music/art schools) have significant potential to create an enduring feeling of belonging to Latvia among Latvians, as well as people of other nationalities. The Nationwide Song and Dance Celebration is a shared, nation-unifying tradition for Latvians: the involvement of the national minorities therein should be encouraged with participation both by groups from national minorities and individuals. This process should especially be encouraged among the young people of the national minorities.⁴⁵

Even though the Latvian cultural space has a great integration potential, a range of barriers exist which hamper its effective utilization. The Latvian cultural space does not appear in its diversity in formal and informal education programmes, allowing people of other nationalities to find their roots and contribution, to form their attachment to Latvia, enabling them to identify themselves with it and to encourage their participation in its development. Many teachers of national minorities consider that Latvian national minorities are insufficiently represented in textbooks.⁴⁶ It is also important to recognize that for a proportion of the representatives of national minorities in Latvia, their social memory mainly encompasses only three generations and those who settled in Latvia during the Soviet occupation period lack ties successively connecting them with the Russian, Jewish, Belarusian, and other national minority communities that have historically lived in Latvia on a continuing basis. Representatives of both the constituent nation, as well as national minorities lack historical knowledge about the contribution of the national minorities to the establishment of the Republic of Latvia and the growth of Latvia in the inter-war period, as well as the culture of the earlier period of history. A

⁴⁴ *Situācija patriotisma jomā Latvijas sabiedrībā*. [The Situation in the Field of Patriotism in Latvian Society] SKDS, 2008.

⁴⁵ Almost every fifth student of Latvian nationality has been a participant at the Song Celebration, whereas among Russian students – it is only one in twenty. *Jauniešu identitātes veidošanās un līdzdalība*, [The Creation of Young People's Identity and Participation.] Rīga: UoL Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, 2005, p. 87.

⁴⁶ L.Curika. *Dalīta izglītība – dalīti pilsoņi?* [Divided Education – Divided Citizens] Rīga: PROVIDUS, 2008/2009.

widespread practice among the national minorities too, is assimilation within the Russian-speaking environment.⁴⁷ Thus on the one hand, national minorities are not adequately included in the Latvian cultural space, but, on the other hand, the national minorities themselves are not always sufficiently interested in finding out about the roots and history of their ethnic groups. Integration policy has to observe an equality principle in relation to the identities and cultures of all of Latvia's national minorities. Initiatives should be supported at the national minority schools focussed on the restoration of this disappeared social memory and which provide a possibility for the development of the national minorities' intelligentsia based in the Latvian cultural space.

The development and integration of a feeling of belonging of the population of Latvia in a shared cultural space is also hampered by prejudices between the groups. For example, a relatively large proportion of Latvians (36%) consider that people of other nationalities with different traditions and customs cannot really belong to Latvia even if they have lived here for many decades.⁴⁸ In its turn, a large proportion of Russian-speakers do not wish to recognize Latvian culture as the unifying element of the Latvian cultural space and the Nation State of Latvia. The view that the unity of Latvian society should be based on the Latvian language and culture is accepted by twice as many Latvians than Russian-speaking respondents (89% as opposed to 46%). Latvia's culture too, invokes patriotic feelings in Russian-speakers much more rarely than among Latvians.⁴⁹ It is a similar case with cultural heritage and achievements in art and literature – Latvians pride themselves more on these than do Russian-speakers. In contrast, Russian-speakers, more than Latvians, tend to be more proud of the cultural heritage that has developed in Latvia due to other nationalities (67% as opposed to 72%).⁵⁰ Therefore, it is possible that respect for Latvia's culture among Russian-speakers could be positively encouraged if the contribution of the national minorities is highlighted in the understanding of culture. An overwhelming number of respondents (85%), irrespective of nationality, admit that Latvians have to respect other cultures if they wish representatives of other nationalities to be Latvian patriots. Similarly, quite a large proportion of people (47%) in both communities agree that traditions have to be created in Latvia and events organized which would unify Latvians and representatives of other nationalities.⁵¹ In promoting the consolidation of the Latvian cultural space, the integration policy has to be based on the principle of recognition and dialogue of different cultures accepted by the society.

The uniqueness and richness of the Latvian cultural space is made up of local and regional differences and their diversity. The State has the duty to support local cultural-historical uniquenesses and preservation of the different traditions. Latgale region has an important role in the development of Latvia's identity both historically and today. The Latgalian language and the cultural-historical heritage form an enduring regional individuality. The preservation of the Latgalian cultural space and its further development is in the interests of the State of Latvia. Latvia's culture has been influenced by Livonian culture, traditions and language and its preservation enriches the Latvian cultural space.

⁴⁷ Jews, Belarusians, Tatars, Ukrainians, Poles and Germans can be mentioned among the most Russified nationalities. 27.4% of Latvia's population is Russian but the 2000 census shows that 39.6% of residents consider the Russian language to be their native language, including 79.1% of Jews, 72.8% of Belarusians, 67.8% of Ukrainians, and 57.7% of Poles. This language community cannot in any way be considered as a minority. By providing specific rights to this language community, hurdles are being created in the maintenance of the national identity of minorities.

⁴⁸ B.Zepa. *Nacionālās identitātes dimensijas dažādu sabiedrības grupu skatījumā*. [The Dimensions of National Identity in Looking at Various Community Groups] Riga, Baltic Institute of Social Sciences, 2011.

⁴⁹ 32% of Latvia's Russians see themselves as patriots of Russia and the majority of them live in Riga and its environs. Survey of Latvia's Residents. *Situācija patriotisma jomā Latvijas sabiedrībā*. [The Situation in the Field of Patriotism in Latvian Society] Riga, SKDS, 2008.

⁵⁰ Ibidem.

⁵¹ Ibidem.

Supporting Latvians living abroad by promoting the feeling of belonging to the Latvian cultural space has to be considered to be a special policy area. The Latvian diaspora, which developed in the West as a result of the occupation of Latvia, has invested great personal resources and voluntary work in maintaining Latvianness. However, with the change of generations, the task of the renewed State of Latvia of getting involved and helping to maintain the Latvian identity and the feeling of belonging to the Latvian cultural space for Latvians living in other countries is becoming more and more important. Choirs, dance groups and folklore ensembles are active in the Latvian diaspora and create the Latvian cultural life in the countries in which they live, with some participating in the Nationwide Song and Dance Celebration in Latvia; but the number of such groups is not known in Latvia, and methodological assistance to them is inadequate. Overseas Latvians have very limited access to Latvian professional art. Latvian theatre and concert performance tours outside Latvia take place to a very minimal degree. There is a lack of information about events in the cultural life outside of Latvia and specially prepared teaching and educative materials about Latvian culture and traditions for the younger diaspora generation, who has minimal opportunities for meeting with people of their own age in Latvia and to find out about the Latvian cultural space in person. The State does not stimulate their interest in Latvia, the desire to create a Latvian identity and the feeling of belonging to the Latvian cultural space, which would motivate them to return to Latvia some day.⁵² A long-term policy is needed which would allow Latvians living in other countries, including those who do not plan to return for a long time, to maintain their identity and connection with Latvia. In the current situation there is also a lack of deeper research to understand the needs of Latvians in other countries, their desires and opportunities to belong to the Latvian cultural space.

3.3. Shared Social Memory

National identity is rooted in a common perception of a nation's history. Social memory shaped by knowledge and perception of the most significant historical events consolidates the society. Properly organised social memory provides landmarks for moral standards; it strengthens the feeling of being a part of the State and geopolitical entity. Divided social memory means a divided society. Previous integration policy has ignored the problems related to perception of the history of Latvia, as well as the potential of the politics of memory in social integration.⁵³

Ever since Latvia regained independence, a different perception of Soviet occupation and its consequences among a part of the Russian speaking population has become a significant challenge for building a cohesive national and civic identity. There is a growing trend among the Russian speaking population to view incorporation of Latvia into the Soviet Union as a voluntary act: in 2004 this view was held by 44 %, whereas in 2009 – the share was 55 %.⁵⁴ A significant share of Latvians (29 %) hold that people who believe that after WWII Latvia was

⁵² 2011 Eurobarometer data show that 62% of young people in Latvia wish to work in some other European country. *Flash Eurobarometer 319b: Youth on the move*. The Gallup Organization, 2011. <http://tinyurl.com/3ulzhhp> (See 27.08.2011); From 2005 to 2010, the largest long-term emigration has taken place specifically among young people, particularly in the able-bodied ages of 20 to 34 years. Overall in the period mentioned, 5,000 persons aged from 25 to 29 years have left Latvia.

⁵³ See I.Kunda. *Vai sabiedrības integrācijas fonda atbalstītie projekti ir sekmējuši etnisko integrāciju Latvijā?// Cik integrēta ir Latvijas sabiedrība? Sasniegumu, neveiksmju un izaicinājumu audits*. [Have Projects Supported by the Social Integration Fund Promoted Ethnic Integration in Latvia? // How Integrated is Latvian Society? Audit of Success, Failure and Challenges] N.Muižnieks (ed.). Riga: LU Akadēmiskais apgāds, 2010, –pp. 61–92.

⁵⁴ V.Zelče. *1940. gads: notikums un izrāde. Pārdomas par pagātni, sabiedrību, cilvēkiem un neatbildētiem jautājumiem// Pēdējais karš: Traumas komunikācija*. [1940: Event and Performance. Reflections on the Past, Society, People and Unanswered Queries // The Last War: Communication of Trauma] M.Kaprāns and V.Zelče (eds.). Riga: UoL Advanced Social and Political Research Institute, Mansards, 2011, p. 58.

liberated by the Soviet Union may not be deemed patriots of Latvia. A similar position is shared by very few Russians (9 %).⁵⁵ This position maintained by a part of the Russian speaking population towards the Soviet occupation period creates obstacles for a shared understanding of Stalinist crimes and the victims to be commemorated, this being an important part of Latvian social memory.⁵⁶ It is also at odds with European social memory where Communism is seen as a totalitarian regime and Stalinist crimes are denounced in a way similar to the crimes of the Nazis.⁵⁷ Thus, a different understanding of the events of WWII manifested by a considerable part of the society jeopardizes not only the Latvian national identity but also its geopolitical identity or affiliation to the Western world.

These differences in the perception of events of WWII are manifest also among schoolchildren: 40% of the native Russian-speaking schoolchildren believe there has been no occupation, whereas among Latvian schoolchildren this view is shared by only 12%.⁵⁸ Although in national minority schools, the history of Latvia is taught according to the standards approved by the Cabinet, surveys bear evidence that in some cases schoolchildren have acquired a distorted representation of the Soviet occupation and WWII, as well as of more distant periods of Latvian history.⁵⁹ Thus, though there is formal compliance with the requirement of teaching shared understanding of history in national minority educational establishments, the intended goal is not always achieved. An important task to be accomplished is the use of textbooks and materials published in Latvia rather than in Russia during Latvian history classes.

The divided nature of social memory in Latvian society is evidenced in the public attention focussed on the observance of March 16 and May 9 as unofficial commemoration days. The idea that March 16 should be observed as a commemoration day of the Latvian legionaries is shared by 61% of Latvians, whereas among the Russian speaking community this approach is shared only by 17% of the respondents. On the other hand, May 9th or Victory Day is recognised as a red-letter day by 69 % of the Russian speaking population and 32% of Latvians.⁶⁰ During the past five years it has been celebrated by 59% of the Russian-speaking population and by only 11% of Latvians.⁶¹

In order to eliminate this obstacle standing in the way of integration, a politics of memory should be developed at the national level and implemented in particular projects. In democratic countries politics of memory is a specific policy area, which, without prejudice to academic historical studies, aims at reducing the ways in which conflicting representations of history might increase the present social discord. Such politics respects diversity of opinions, while taking a principled stance against the falsification of history.⁶² The goal of an effective politics of memory of Latvia should aim at achieving a State when a major part of Latvian society

⁵⁵ *Situācija patriotisma jomā Latvijas sabiedrībā. Latvijas iedzīvotāju aptauja.* [Patriotic Sentiment in Latvian Society. Survey of Latvian Population] Riga, SKDS, 2008, p. 37.

⁵⁶ Over the past five years, national days commemorating victims of deportation have been observed by an average 18% of Latvian respondents and by only 6 % of Russian speaking respondents.

⁵⁷ See resolution adopted on 25 January 2006 by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe condemning the crimes of totalitarian communist regimes and declaration adopted by the European Parliament on 22 September 2008 declaring August 23 a European commemoration day of the victims of Stalinism and Nazism.

⁵⁸ L.Curika. Op.cit. p. 17. On the situation in Riga see also V.Makarovs, I.Boldāne. *20. gadsimta vēstures pretrunīgo jautājumu pasniegšana Latvijas skolās un muzejos.* [Controversial Issues of 20th Century History as Represented by Schools and Museums in Latvia] Riga, PROVIDUS, 2008.

⁵⁹ M.Golubeva. *Different History, Different Citizenship? Competing Narratives and Diverging Civil Enculturation in Majority and Minority Schools in Estonia and Latvia.* Journal of Baltic Studies, 2010, 41(3), pp. 315–329; L.Curika. Op.cit. 15, 16.

⁶⁰ *Population Survey of Latvia.* Riga, SKDS, 2008, November. Contractor: Social Studies Department of UoL.

⁶¹ *Population Survey of Latvia.* Riga, SKDS, 2010, November. Contractor: Social Studies Department of UoL.

⁶² The events that took place in Latvia during the 1940s have been clarified in the *Declaration on the Occupation of Latvia* adopted by the Saeima on 22 August 1996 and in the *Declaration on Condemnation of the Totalitarian Communist Occupation Regime*, adopted by the Saeima on 12 May 2005.

conceives the occupation of Latvia and its consequences in a way that is consistent with democratic values. An important pre-condition of such politics is the quality of the history teaching at educational establishments and the popularization and approbation of the best practice on regular basis among history teachers both in Latvian and national minority schools. Thus, there is a need for more systematic clarification of facts, showing that Stalinist deportations affected the more successful, entrepreneurial and educated Latvian citizens, among them many national minority representatives. For the implementation of history policy skilful use of other infrastructural social memory elements (movies, museums, and new media) consolidating different mnemonic communities is of importance. The Latvian Museum of Occupation is deemed to be one of these infrastructural elements which should receive long-term support by the State; it has been positively evaluated by both Latvians (78%) and a significant part (41%) of the Russian speaking community.⁶³

On the policy level there is a need to promote a positive attitude towards celebrating the foundation day of Latvia on 18 November. Presently it is the only public holiday related to Latvian history that plays an integrating role. It is observed by 66% of Latvians and 46% of other nationalities.⁶⁴ It is important that attitudes are expressly positive also among the younger generation: 18 November is positively evaluated by 98% of Latvian schoolchildren and by 79% of Russian schoolchildren.⁶⁵ Problems relating to organising the celebration of 18 November and tailored messages for the target audience noted by social researchers indicate that the potential of this national holiday has not been fully utilised for consolidating Latvian society and promoting positive identity.⁶⁶ In social memory it is important to stress the role played by national minority representatives in the foundation of the State of Latvia and during its growth between the two World Wars. In parallel with the National Day - 18 November, there is a need to support participation of people in other historically meaningful commemoration days which emphasize meaningful landmarks in Latvian statehood, identity of its independence and democracy: 11 November, 25 March, 4 May, 14 June, and 23 August.

WWII has left a tragic imprint in the social memory of national minorities of Latvia. During the holocaust 70,000 Jews who were Latvian citizens were exterminated, more than 20,000 were deported from Western Europe and killed in Latvia. Due to the active efforts of the Jewish non-governmental organizations there has been a lot of research in Latvia on the Holocaust and knowledge is being transferred to the general public. The public predominantly has negative attitude towards Latvian participation in the Holocaust.⁶⁷ There is less information of those Latvians who were involved in saving the Jews. The Nazi regime killed many representatives of the Roma community. During WWII approximately 2,000 Latvian citizens from the Roma minority, which is about half of the Roma who lived in Latvia, were exterminated.⁶⁸ The scope of these tragic events has not yet been fully understood and studied. There is no tradition of memorial events dedicated to commemorating the extinction of the Roma. There is a need for consolidating memory of Nazi crimes towards national minorities during the occupation period as a part of the shared social memory of the Latvian people.

The history of Latvia is a part of the European history, but among the majority of the people there is but little awareness of Latvian history before the 20th century.⁶⁹ It narrows down

⁶³ *Population Survey of Latvia*. Riga, SKDS, 2010, November, p. 39.

⁶⁴ *Mēs. Svētki. Valsts. Valsts svētku svinēšanas socioloģiskā izpēte*. [We. Celebrations. The State. A Sociological Study of Celebrating National Holidays] B.Zepa (ed.) Riga, Baltic Institute of Social Science, 2008, pp. 70–71.

⁶⁵ *Ibidem*.

⁶⁶ *Patriotisms Latvijas sabiedrības skatījumā. Kvalitatīvais pētījums – fokusa grupu diskusijas*. [Patriotism as Seen by the Latvian Public. Qualitative Research – Focus Group Discussions] Riga, SKDS, 2008, pp. 23–26.

⁶⁷ *Population Survey of Latvia*. Riga, SKDS, 2008, November. Contractor: Social Studies Department of UoL.

⁶⁸ M.Vestermanis. *Čigānu genocīds vācu okupētajā Latvijā (1941-1945)*. [Genocide of Gypsies in German-occupied Latvia (1941-1945)]. *Latvijas vēsture*, 1993, No 4 (11), pp.37-40.

⁶⁹ *Population Survey of Latvia*. Riga: SKDS, 2010, November. Contractor: Social Studies Department of UoL.

the concept of national identity and does not facilitate seeing it in a broader cultural, historical and geopolitical framework as a part of the European history. Research shows that about 20% of the people of Latvia feel they are a part of Europe.⁷⁰ However, the share is significantly higher among the younger generation (50%).⁷¹ The European historical context may serve as a resource for positive identity building and integration. However, it is still rather rarely utilised to emphasize self-confidence promoting historical events and personalities representing the people of Latvia as creative, successful and innovative. As a result, historical events and people are not seen as an important reason for being proud of the country.⁷² The task of the national policy is to promote a more fundamental understanding of Latvian history and use it as a basis to increase the possibilities for building a positive identity. For successful implementation of history related policy, it is necessary to increase government support for producing cultural products aimed at promoting Latvian history as a part of the European history. This work would require much more active involvement of public media and institutions storing evidence related to history of Latvia – National Library of Latvia, National History Museum of Latvia, National Archives of Latvia, Latvian National Museum of Art, regional museums and libraries.

Also, Latvian local mnemonic communities may serve as a sustainable basis for building a shared and politically unbiased social memory. The strongest affiliation felt by the people of Latvia is to their native village, parish or town.⁷³ Besides, on the local identity level there are no essential differences between Latvians and national minorities. Therefore local history, including awareness of the events that took place during the years of occupation, should be particularly promoted as a subject in Latvian schools, and both Latvian and national minority schoolchildren should be purposefully involved in the teaching process. Focus on the history of the town or the county and emphasis on the local significance rooted in history of the official commemorative days lead to building a stronger identity with Latvian history both on the national and local level. It is important to involve expatriate Latvians in strengthening local identity, thus maintaining their affiliation to Latvia.

⁷⁰ B.Zepa. *Nacionālās identitātes dimensijas dažādu sabiedrības grupu skatījumā*. [National Identity Dimensions as Seen by Different Societal Groups] Riga, Baltic Institute of Social Sciences, 2011.

⁷¹ *Jauniešu identitātes veidošanās un līdzdalība*. [Formation of Identity Among Young People and Their Participation] Riga, UoL Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, 2005.

⁷² 30% of Latvians and only 17% of Russians feel proud of Latvian history. *Population Survey of Latvia. Patriotic Sentiment: Situation in Latvian Society*. Riga, SKDS, 2008, p. 27.

⁷³ *Patriotisms Latvijas sabiedrības skatījumā*. [Patriotism as Seen by the Latvian Public]. Riga, SKDS, 2008, p. 146.

4. Definition of the Problems Requiring Implementation of a Specific Government Policy

The principal problems hindering integration have been defined on the basis of the description of the situation.

- A large part of population in Latvia does not believe in its ability to influence social and political processes.
- The NGOs of Latvia are not sufficiently strong financially and administratively, and lack sustainability.
- There is no comprehensive system for monitoring and preventing discrimination. There is a lack of regular research and awareness campaigns on social exclusion and discrimination in Latvian society.
- Children and young people in Latvia have insufficient level of civic education and therefore there are gaps in collaboration and participatory skills.
- Current legal arrangements regarding the citizenship create obstacles for maintaining a national link with expatriate Latvians.
- Non-citizens are becoming less motivated to acquire Latvian citizenship, naturalization is slowing down, and the possibilities for political participation resulting from Latvian citizenship do not lead to sufficient motivation for naturalization.
- Although the Latvian language skills have significantly increased, however separate trends indicate that the use of the Latvian language in the public domain does not show similar success. Self-sufficiency of the Russian language in the public domain is obvious, especially in cities where there is a great proportion of national minorities. Social integration on the basis of the Latvian language is also influenced by the passivity of Latvians as regards the communication with aliens in Latvian
- Unjustified requirements for Russian language skills and use of the language in the workplace setting are gaining foothold. This is discriminatory for Latvians in the labour market.
- Part of the national minority school teachers has insufficient knowledge of Latvian. Alternatively, in the Latvian general educational establishments and higher educational establishments there is a lack of experience among teaching staff in working with students of different ethnical backgrounds.
- Latvian cultural space is not reflected in its diverse manifestations within formal and non-formal educational curricula allowing people of a different ethnic background to find their own linkage to Latvia. A sense of belonging and integration into a single cultural space is also hindered by ethnic prejudice.
- There is no targeted national programme for supporting expatriate Latvians willing to learn and maintain the Latvian language, culture and traditions. There is limited access to professional Latvian art.
- Part of society is dominated by misconceptions based on false historical facts about the occupation of Latvia and its consequences. It leads to divided social memory in Latvia and hinders consolidation of society.
- Most of the population have but little idea about Latvian history before the 20th century. This narrows down awareness of national identity in the broader context of the European identity.

5. Policy Results and Outcome Indicators for Their Achievement

Table 1. Policy results and outcome indicators for their achievement

Policy result	Outcome indicator	2007-2011	2014	2018
Stronger feeling of belonging to Latvia among schoolchildren	Share of schoolchildren (%) in national minority programmes of comprehensive schools who feel closely or very closely linked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latvia • Europe 	(2010) ⁷⁴		
		30 51	50 60	75 70
Broader involvement of people in forms of civic participation	Share of voters (%) who have participated in elections of the Saeima	63.12 ⁷⁵ (2010)	65	68
	Share of people (%) who believe they can influence the decision making process in Latvia	15.3 ⁷⁶ (2011)	18	21
	Share of young people (%) involved in voluntary work activities	12 ⁷⁷ (2009)	15 (2013)	35
	Average number of NGOs per 1,000 people in Latvia	6.6 ⁷⁸ (2011)	7.8	9.0
Higher political participation of Latvian citizens living abroad	Number of voters (persons) who have voted outside Latvia ⁷⁹	13917 (2010)	25000	45000

⁷⁴ *Vidusskolēnu pilsoniskās un lingvistiskās attieksmes, apgūstot mazākumtautību izglītības programmas*. [Civic and linguistic attitudes among schoolchildren enrolled in secondary school minority programs] Riga, Baltic Institute of Social Sciences, 2010, p. 11. The indicators in 2004 were 70% and 25% respectively.

⁷⁵ Data of the Central Election Committee http://web.cvk.lv/pub/upload_file/Sa10/aktiv/Novadi.pdf

⁷⁶ *Sabiedrības viedoklis par NVO sektoru Latvijā*. [Public opinion on the NGO sector in Latvia] Riga, Latvijas Fakti, 2011, p. 7.

⁷⁷ Youth policy guidelines for 2009-2018, MES, Riga, 2009, p. 66.

⁷⁸ The indicator has been calculated on the basis of statistical data – distribution of NGOs across the regions of Latvia, *Lursoft* data (August, 2011): <http://www.lursoft.lv/lursoft-statistika/Sabiedrisko-organizaciju-to-apvienibu-biedribu-un-nodibinajumu-dibinasanas-dinamika&id=41> and population statistics data of the Central Statistical Bureau as of 01.01.2011 <http://www.csb.gov.lv/statistikas-temas/iedzivotaji-galvenie-raditaji-30260.html>

Data of the Central Election Committee http://web.cvk.lv/pub/upload_file/Sa10/aktiv/Arzemes_Valstis.pdf (as of 24.08.2011)

Higher involvement of national minority representatives in the public sector, increase in the share of population trusting the people of other ethnic backgrounds living in Latvia	Share of people (%) employed in the public sector, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> national minority representatives 	24.0 ⁸⁰ (2007)	25	26
Lower number of non-citizens and higher awareness level on citizenship issues across the population	Share of non-citizens (%) among the population of Latvia	14.61 ⁸¹ (2009)	12.1	9.8
	Number of persons (persons per year) who have acquired citizenship through naturalization	2336 ⁸² (2010)	5300	5500
Lower difference in employment levels between ethnic groups	Share of ethnic groups (%) among the long-term unemployed ⁸³ : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Russians Roma 	(2011)		
		31.6 0.8	29.5 0.6	27.4 0.4
Better awareness of discrimination and tolerance issues among the population of Latvia	Number of applications received by the Ombudsman on alleged discrimination (number of applications)	91 ⁸⁴ (2010)	200	200 ⁸⁵
Provision of an effective system for including the Roma children in comprehensive schools	Share of the ethnic Roma (%) who believe the Roma should have at least 9 years of mandatory schooling	80 (2011) ⁸⁶	85	90

⁸⁰ Mihails Hazans. Op.cit. p. 159.

⁸¹ Central Statistical Bureau data as of 01.01.2011. IS09. Nationality status of permanent residents (beginning of the year).

⁸² Data of the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs <http://www.pmlp.lv/lv/statistika/Naturalizacija.html>.

⁸³ Calculation is based on the State Employment Agency data <http://www.nva.gov.lv/index.php?cid=6&mid=330&txt=336&t=stat> as of 01.07.2011. The output indicator has been selected in relation to the share of the ethnic group in the total number of population (number of population as of 01.01.2011, data of the Central Statistical Bureau).

⁸⁴ Ombudsman's Report, 2010. Changes in number of applications: 2007 – 304, 2008 – 320, 2009 – 181. .

⁸⁵ Position of experts and Ombudsman's Office. The public is being educated on issues of discrimination and their recognition. Therefore, on the one hand, there might be fewer cases of conscious discrimination; on the other hand, people will be more focused on protecting their rights in cases of discrimination.

⁸⁶ Ibidem, p. 33.

More shared information sources for the population of Latvia, a large part of the population of Latvia on a regular basis obtains information from Latvian public media and trusts them	Share of Latvian population (%) who are regular viewers of Latvian language based TV channels: LTV1, LTV7, LNT, TV3	41.1 ⁸⁷	44	48
	Average share of audience by ethnicity (%) of news programmes broadcasted by Latvian language based TV channels: LTV1, LTV7, LNT, TV3 (%) ⁸⁸ , including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latvians • Other ethnic groups 	(2011) 36.7 8.3	40 10	44 15
Better knowledge of the Latvian language among other native language speakers	Share of people who have successfully passed the Latvian language test against the total number of those who have taken the test (%)	57.1 ⁸⁹ (2010)	66	75
Conditions for a comprehensive immigrant integration policy	Number of people (individuals) involved in acquiring integration programmes, including the programmes of diverse levels for learning the official language	150 ⁹⁰ (2010)	300	600
	Number of active immigrant NGOs and NGOs representing their interests (number of NGOs)	15 ⁹¹	18	22

⁸⁷ Ibidem, p. 8.

⁸⁸ Ibidem, p. 14.

⁸⁹ Calculation based on OCMA data http://www.pmlp.lv/lv/statistika/dokuments/Naturalizacija_1995_2010.pdf.

⁹⁰ Data from project results of the multi-annual programme of European Fund for the Integration of third country nationals.

⁹¹ Internal data base of the Ministry of Culture.

Better Latvian language skills in different age groups and educational system levels	Grade 9 results of centralised test in official language (Latvian language and literature) by levels ⁹² (%):	(2011)		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B • C • D 	12.93		
		38.65		
		27.34		
	Grade 12 results of centralised test in official language (Latvian language) by levels ⁹³ (%):	(2011)		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B • C • D 	18.80		
		31.19		
		26.32		
	Latvian language skills of the share of respondents who are native speakers of other languages (good and average language skills) (%)	75 ⁹⁴	78	80
Promotion of amateur art in building the cultural space and strengthening identity through maintaining the number of amateur art groups	Number of amateur art groups per 1,000 of population (number)	1.7 ⁹⁵ (2011)	1.7	1.7
Stronger affiliation to Latvia among national minorities and their participation in the cultural space	Number of amateur art groups of the national minorities participating in the Song and Dance Celebration process (number)	52 ⁹⁶ (2008)	52 (2013)	52 (2018)
Strengthened European dimension in the Latvian cultural space through participation in European culture networks and processes	Projects supported in the EU "Culture" and "Europe for Citizens" framework (number)	22 ⁹⁷ (2010)	20	20

⁹² National Centre for Education http://visc.gov.lv/eksameni/vispizgl/statistika/2011/dokumenti/ce_rezult_sadalijums_limenos.pdf.

⁹³ Ibidem.

⁹⁴ Socio-linguistic Study of the Latvian Language Situation. 2009 (Latvian Language Agency).

⁹⁵ The indicator is based on data from the database of the Ministry of Culture "Digital Map of Latvian Culture".

⁹⁶ Data of the Cultural Education and Intangible Heritage Centre.

⁹⁷ Data of the Ministry of Culture.

Support system established for retaining Latvian identity and Latvian language learning	Number of Latvian "weekend (Sunday) schools" outside Latvia (number)	30 ⁹⁸ (2010)	35	45
	Number of children born abroad who have been granted Latvian citizenship (number)	2326 ⁹⁹ (2010)	2500	2500
Higher participation of national minorities in celebrating national holidays related to Latvian history	Share of non-Latvian respondents (%) who celebrate Proclamation Day of the Republic of Latvia	46 ¹⁰⁰ (2008)	56	66

Other results of the policy implemented and outcome indicators for their achievement

Better awareness of democracy and participatory skills among young people	Increase of the share (%) of young people who acquire information about their rights, obligations, responsibilities and opportunities from educational establishments ¹⁰¹	20 (2009)	45 (2013)	90 (2017)
	Share of schoolchildren in national minority programmes (%) who believe in the importance of participation in political and social activities in defence of their interests and opinions	27 ¹⁰² (2010)	35	45
Promotion of broader involvement in civic participation of different forms	Emotion-based sense of belonging to Latvia depending on ethnicity ¹⁰³ (%):			
	• Latvians	70.5	75	80
	• Russians	44.4	55	55
	Share of people who during the past three years have donated clothing, furniture, food, etc. to charity organizations (%)	17 ¹⁰⁴ (2011)	18	20

⁹⁸ Data of the Latvian Language Agency.

⁹⁹ Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs.

¹⁰⁰ Zepa, B. (sc.ed.) (2008). *Mēs. Svētki. Valsts. Valsts svētku svinēšanas socioloģiskā izpēte*. [We. Celebrations. The State. A Sociological Study of Celebrating National Holidays] Rīga, Baltic Institute of Social Science, p. 71.

¹⁰¹ Youth Policy Guidelines for 2009-2018, p. 70.

¹⁰² Vidusskolēnu pilsoniskās un lingvistiskās attieksmes, apgūstot mazākumtautību izglītības programmas [Civic and Linguistic Attitudes Among Schoolchildren Enrolled in Secondary School Minority Programmes] Rīga, Baltic Institute of Social Sciences, 2010, p. 16. Indicator for 2004 – 42 %.

¹⁰³ B.Zepa, Nacionālās identitātes dimensijas dažādu sabiedrības grupu skatījumā [National Identity Dimensions as Seen by Different Societal Groups] UoL, 20 April 2011.

¹⁰⁴ Ibidem. p. 11.

	Share of people who during the past three years have carried out voluntary work (%)	10.2 ¹⁰⁵ (2011)	13	15
Higher participation of national minority representatives in the public sector	Share of public administration staff who believes that public institutions should attract personnel from among national minorities (%)	49 ¹⁰⁶ (2010)	54	60
Provision of national minorities with possibilities for maintaining their ethnic identity	Number of active cultural associations among the national minorities (number)	55 ¹⁰⁷	55	55
Higher awareness level of discrimination and tolerance among the population of Latvia	Share of people who have been personally affected by discrimination (%)	15 ¹⁰⁸ (2009)	14	13
	Share of people who have witnessed a case of discrimination (%)	23 ¹⁰⁹ (2010)	23	23
	Share of people who know of their rights in a case of discrimination (%)	24 ¹¹⁰ (2009)	30	40
	Share of people who admit feeling uncomfortable when living in the same neighbourhood with representatives of the Roma (%)	59 ¹¹¹ (2008)	55	50
	Share of people who believe that the Roma have little chance of being employed (%)	27 ¹¹² (2007)	24	17
Provision of an effective system for inclusion of the Roma children in comprehensive schools	Share of the Roma schoolchildren who drop out of comprehensive schools because of poor financial circumstances (%)	39 (2011) ¹¹³	25	20

¹⁰⁵ Ibidem. p. 11.

¹⁰⁶ M.Golubeva, I.Kažoka, O.Rastrigina, Dažādības vadība publiskajā sektorā: attīstīto valstu pieredze un Latvijas situācijas novērtējums [Diversity Management in the Public Sector: Experience of Developed Countries and Evaluation of the System in Latvia] Rīga, 2011, p. 22.

¹⁰⁷ Data of the Ministry of Culture as of 01.07.2011.

¹⁰⁸ EU average indicator – 16%. Special Eurobarometer survey No. 317. Op.cit. 23. http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_317_en.pdf (last visited 18.07.2011.).

¹⁰⁹ EU average indicator – 26% of respondents have been witnesses to a case of discrimination over the past year. Ibidem. p. 27.

¹¹⁰ Special Eurobarometer survey No 317. http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_317_fact_lv_en.pdf, p. 35. EU average indicator – 33%

¹¹¹ Special Eurobarometer survey No 296. Discrimination in the European Union: perception, experiences and attitudes, European Commission, 2008. p. 121. http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/eb_special_en.htm. EU average indicator – 56%.

¹¹² Convention for the Protection of National Minorities – Prevention of Discrimination and Preservation of Identity. Rīga, UoL Akadēmiskais apgāds, 2007, p.21.

¹¹³ Romu tiesības uz izglītību: īstenošanas situācija Latvijā. [Rights of the Roma to education: State of Implementation] Rīga, IIC, 2011, p. 30.

Developed intercultural dialogue with involvement of all target groups of integration policy	Share of population having a favourable attitude to representatives of other ethnic groups (%)	51 ¹¹⁴ (2007)	59	65
More information sources shared by all people in Latvia; majority of the population regularly gets information from Latvian public media and trusts them	Share of representatives from other ethnic groups who watch the Latvian language based channels: LTV1, LTV7, LNT, TV3 (%)	13.0 ¹¹⁵ (2010)	15.0	20
	Level of trust in information sources by ethnic groups living in Latvia ¹¹⁶ (%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latvian public television: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Latvians ○ Russians • First Baltic channel: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Latvians ○ Russians • Other Russian channels accessible in Latvia: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Latvians ○ Russians • Public radio: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Latvians ○ Russians 	88 58 27.6 62 33 73 73 49.5	89 65 23 54 29 64 80 55	90 70 20 45 24 55 88 60
Population of Latvia uses Latvian or mainly Latvian in the public domain (on the street/at work)	Share of Latvian respondents who use only Latvian or mainly Latvian language ¹¹⁷ (%): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • on the street • at work 	(2008) 65 57	70 61	75 65
	Share of working non-Latvian respondents who use only Russian language in the public domain (at work, among friends, in the	20 ¹¹⁸	18	15

¹¹⁴ Data of 2008. Research on Topical Issues of Integration and Citizenship. Contractor: ĪUMSILS. p. 28.

¹¹⁵ Situācijas izpēte elektronisko plašsaziņas līdzekļu nozares attīstības nacionālās stratēģijas 2012.-2017.gada izstrādei. [Background Research For Elaboration of National Guidelines for the Development of the Electronic Media Industry for 2012–2017]. Baltic Institute of Social Sciences. Riga, 2011, p. 9.

¹¹⁶ I.Šulmane, Mediji un integrācija [Media and Integration], N.Muižnieks (ed.) Cik integrēta ir Latvijas sabiedrība? [How Integrated is Latvian Society?] Riga, Latvijas Universitāte, 2010. p. 231.

¹¹⁷ *Language. Population Survey of Latvia*. Riga, Baltic Institute of Social Sciences, 2008, p.19.

¹¹⁸ *Ibidem*. p. 6.

	shops, on the street) (%)	(2011)		
Better Latvian language skills among non-Latvian native speakers	Share of national minority representatives who have average or high level knowledge of the Latvian language (%)	72 ¹¹⁹ (2008)	75	78
Stronger affiliation to Latvia among national minorities and their participation in cultural space	Share of Russian-speaking audience among Latvian theatregoers (%)	25 ¹²⁰ (2008)	27	30
Majority of the public has a shared understanding of the occupation of Latvia	Share of Russian speaking respondents who believe that in 1940 Latvia joined the Soviet Union on a voluntary basis (%)	54.9 ¹²¹ (2009)	45	25
	Share of Russian speaking respondents who recognize the deportations of 1941 and 1949 as the worst events that have happened in Latvian history of the 20 th century (%)	13.2 ¹²² (2010)	18	25
	Share of Russian speaking respondents who have favourably evaluated the Museum of Occupation of Latvia (%)	41.5 (2010) ¹²³	50	60
People of Latvia feel more affiliated to the European history and there is a growing feeling of affiliation to the EU	Decreasing share of respondents who do not at all feel affiliated to the European Union (%)	21.9% (2008) ¹²¹	15	10
	Increasing share of respondents who feel affiliated to the European Union (%)	20.6 ¹²⁴ (2011)	25	30
An increasing number of national minority representatives identify themselves with the democratic Republic of Latvia instated in 1918	Share of Russian-speaking respondents who are proud of the foundation of the Republic of Latvia as a democratic State (%)	13.1 (2008) ¹²⁵	20	40

¹¹⁹ Ibidem. p. 20.

¹²⁰ *Teātru apmeklējuma noteicošie faktori un mērķauditorijas identificēšana*. [Factors for Theatre-going and Identification of the Target Audience] Riga, Baltic Institute of Social Sciences, 2008, p. 23. http://www.km.gov.lv/lv/doc/starpnozares/petijumi/teatru_apmeklejum.doc.

¹²¹ Population Survey of Latvia. SKDS, 2009.

¹²² Population Survey of Latvia. SKDS, November, 2010.

¹²³ Ibidem.

¹²¹ Population Survey of Latvia. SKDS, September, 2008. Survey commissioned by the Ministry of Defence.

¹²⁴ B.Zepa. Nacionālās identitātes dimensijas dažādu sabiedrības grupu skatījumā. [National Identity Dimensions as seen by Different Societal Groups] UoL, April, 2011.

¹²⁵ Population Survey of Latvia. SKDS, November, 2008. Survey commissioned by the Ministry of Defence.

Additional indicators required to describe policy results

Number of new immigrants who have received Latvian language training (number of individuals)/share of the persons having passed the language test successfully (%)
Latvian language skills among children who are non-native Latvian speakers when they commence studies in bilingual or Latvian language programmes ¹²⁶
Differences in annual equivalent income levels between Latvians and representatives of other ethnic groups
Share of Latvian and other ethnic group representatives who believe that different ethnic groups have the same opportunities and social status in Latvia
Ratio of the Roma children who have completed the school year to the number of children who have started the school year in comprehensive schools
Number of teachers (at all educational levels) who have been enrolled in courses on intercultural dialogue and programmes developing ability to work with students who have a different level of Latvian language skills
Successfully implemented activities as share (%) of total number of activities listed in the action plan in relation to the declared goal and planned budget
Growth in population share that trusts people of a different ethnic background living in Latvia
Share of schoolchildren (%) in Latvian educational programmes of comprehensive schools who feel closely or very closely affiliated (to Latvia, to Europe)
Share of people who have participated in pickets, rallies and demonstrations
Share of people who have been on strike

¹²⁶ Research "Latvian Language Skills of Grade 1 Schoolchildren in National Minority Comprehensive Schools at the Beginning of the School Year" carried out in 2009 by the Bilingual Education Centre of Daugavpils Municipal Administration on Education shows that 80% of the children who have been taught Latvian at nursery schools can cope with a bilingual programme or attend a Latvian school.

6. Medium Term Policy Goals and Activity Areas

1. Activity area: Civil society and integration

- 1.1. To develop civic education by using formal and informal education methods.
- 1.2. To strengthen the traditional and non-traditional forms of civic participation.
- 1.3. To promote inclusion of socially excluded groups into the society and to prevent discrimination.
- 1.4. To strengthen democratic information space of high quality and increase the role of media in integration.

2. Activity area: National identity – language and cultural space

- 2.1. To ensure the use of the Latvian language in the public space of Latvia.
- 2.2. To strengthen the Latvian language skills of the Latvians living abroad, national minorities, non-citizens and new immigrants.
- 2.3. To strengthen the Latvian cultural space as a cohesive framework of the society and to promote the affiliation to the cultural space on local, national and European level.
- 2.4. To strengthen the Latvian identity and affiliation to Latvia of the Latvians residing abroad.

3. Activity area: Shared social memory

- 3.1. **To enhance understanding of the World War II and the Soviet occupation in Latvia based on true facts and according to democratic values.**
- 3.2. **To promote exploration, research and understanding of local and European history.**

7. Links with National and International Legislation, as well as Other Development Planning Documents

The Guidelines have been elaborated with due regard to Articles 2, 4, 91, 98, 99, 101, 102 and 114 of the Constitution of the Republic of Latvia.

The Guidelines have been elaborated with due regard to Paragraph 8.1 of the tasks targeted by the Action Plan of the Cabinet led by Valdis Dombrovskis.

The Guidelines are elaborated in accordance with the EU, CE and other binding international legislation:

- Lisbon Treaty;¹²⁷
- Stockholm Programme;¹²⁸
- Communication from the Commission "Europe 2020: A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth";¹²⁹
- European Pact on Immigration and Asylum;¹³⁰
- Framework for the Integration of Third-Country Nationals in the European Union;¹³¹
- Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of Regions. European Agenda for the Integration of Third-Country Nationals;¹³²
- EU common framework for the inclusion of the Romas;¹³³
- Communication from the Commission concerning an EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020 (05.04.2011);¹³⁴
- EU Council conclusions on an EU framework for national Roma integration strategies up to 2020;¹³⁵

¹²⁷ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2010:083:0047:0200:LV:PDF> (Last visited on 15.07.2011.).

¹²⁸ The Stockholm Programme — An Open and Secure Europe Serving and Protecting Citizens (17024/09). Official Journal of the European Union. Adopted on December 10-11, 2009.

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2010:115:0001:0038:LV:PDF> (Last visited on 15.07.2011.).

¹²⁹ Communication from the Commission. Europe 2020: A Strategy for Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth. Brussels, 03.03.2010, Com (2020). http://ec.europa.eu/eu2020/pdf/1_LV_ACT_part1_v1.pdf (Last visited on 15.07.2011.).

¹³⁰ <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/lv/08/st13/st13440.lv08.pdf> (Last visited on 15.06.2011.).

¹³¹ On 19 November 2004 the Council for Justice and Home Affairs adopted conclusions, defining a common EU framework for immigrant integration policies (14615/04). For further information about common guidelines for immigrant integration see "A Common Agenda for Integration - Framework for the Integration of Third-Country Nationals in the European Union" <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2005:0389:FIN:LV:PDF>

¹³² Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of Regions. European Agenda for the Integration of Third-Country Nationals SEC (2011).

¹³³ Country Position on the Council Draft Project on Inclusion of Gypsies (Romas) approved by the Cabinet (Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting No 37, § 53, 2 June 2009).

On a Common Framework for the Inclusion of the Romas (Gypsies) see Council Paper 10394/09. <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/09/st10/st10394.en09.pdf> (Last visited on 15.07.2011.)

¹³⁴ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of Regions. An EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020. http://ec.europa.eu/justice/policies/discrimination/docs/com_2011_173_en.pdf (Last visited on 15.07.2011.).

¹³⁵ Council conclusions on an EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020. 3089th Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council meeting Brussels, 19 May 2011. http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/lisa/122100.pdf (Last visited on 15.07.2011.).

- Council Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin;¹³⁶
- Council Directive 2000/78/EC of 27 November 2000 establishing a general framework for equal treatment in employment and occupation;¹³⁷
- Council Directive 2003/86/EC of 22 September 2003 on the right to family reunification;¹³⁸
- Council Directive 2003/109/EC of 25 November 2003 concerning the status of third-country nationals who are long-term residents¹³⁹;
- Council Directive 2004/83/EC of 29 April 2004 on minimum standards for the qualification and status of third-country nationals or stateless persons as refugees or as persons who otherwise need international protection and the content of the protection;
- Resolution of the European Parliament on the situation in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania adopted 13 January 1983.

The Guidelines have been developed taking into account the following international instruments binding for Latvia:

- The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948¹⁴⁰;
- The European Human Rights Convention of 1950¹⁴¹;
- The UN Convention on refugee status of 1951;
- The European Social Charter of 1961;
- The UN International Convention on All Forms of Racial Discrimination of 1965¹⁴²;
- The UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 1966¹⁴³;
- The UN International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of 1966¹⁴⁴;
- The UNESCO Convention on World Cultural and Natural Heritage¹⁴⁵;
- The UN Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities of 1992¹⁴⁶;
- The Framework Convention of the Council of Europe for the Protection of National Minorities of 1995¹⁴⁷;
- The Framework Convention of the Council of Europe on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society of 2005¹⁴⁸.

Country position approved by the Cabinet (Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting No 31, § 54, 17 May 2011) on the conclusions on an EU framework for national Roma integration strategies up to 2020 at the meeting of EU Council of Ministers for Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council on 19 May 2011.

¹³⁶ Official Journal of the European Union *L 180*, 19/07/2000, pp. 0022 – 0026.

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/lv/dd/20/01/32000L0043LV.pdf> (Last visited on 15.07.2011.)

¹³⁷ Official Journal of the European Union *L 303*, 02/12/2000, pp. 0016 – 0022. <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=DD:05:04:32000L0078:LV:PDF> (Last visited on 15.07.2011.)

¹³⁸ Official Journal of the European Union *L 251/12*, 03.10.2003. <http://eurlex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=DD:19:06:32003L0086:LV:PDF> (Last visited on 15.07.2011.)

¹³⁹ Official Journal of the European Union *L 016*, 23/01/2004, pp.0044-0053 <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32003L0109:LV:HTML>, (Last visited on 15.07.2011.)

¹⁴⁰ <http://pro.nais.lv/naiser/text.cfm?Key=0240181948121032769> (Viewed on 15.07.2011).

¹⁴¹ http://www.tiesibsargs.lv/lat/tiesibu_akti/eiropas_padomes_dokumenti/?doc=60 (Viewed on 15.07.2011).

¹⁴² <http://www.humanrights.lv/doc/vispaar/jebkdisk.htm> (Viewed on 07.15.2011).

¹⁴³ <http://www.mkparstavis.MFA.gov.lv/lv/@id=24> (Viewed on 07.15.2011).

¹⁴⁴ <http://pro.nais.lv/naiser/text.cfm?Key=0240111966121632770> (Viewed on 07.15.2011)

¹⁴⁵ <http://pro.nais.lv/naiser/text.cfm?Key=0240111972111632769> (Viewed 15/07/2011).

¹⁴⁶ http://www.tiesibsargs.lv/lat/tiesibu_akti/UN_dokumenti/?doc=91 (Viewed on 07.15.2011).

¹⁴⁷ http://www.coe.lv/konv_sar.php?kid=161 (Viewed on 07.15.2011).

¹⁴⁸ <http://pro.nais.lv/naiser/text.cfm?Key=0103012006030232775> (Viewed on 07.15.2011).

The Guidelines have been developed taking into account the goals and objectives set out in the following national policy development documents:

- National Development Plan for Latvia for 2007 - 2013 (Cabinet Regulation No. 564 of 4 July 2006);
- Sustainable Development Strategy for Latvia until 2030 (adopted by Parliamentary Resolution No.953/Lm9 of 10 June 2010);
- Lifelong Learning Policy Guidelines for 2007 - 2013 (Cabinet Order No. 111 of 23 February 2007);
- Education Development Policy Guidelines for 2007 - 2013 (Cabinet Order No. 742 of 27 2006);
- The Guidelines for the State Culture Policy for 2006 - 2015. The Nation State (Cabinet Order No. 264 of 18 April 2006);
- The Guidelines for the State Language Policy for 2005 - 2014 (Cabinet Order No. 137 of 2 March 2005);
- The Policy Guidelines for Strengthening Civil Society for 2005 - 2014 (Cabinet Order No. 98 of 15 February 2005);
- Promoting of Civil Society Programme for 2008 - 2012 (Cabinet Order No.366 of 30 June 2008);
- National Programme 'Livs in Latvia' for 2008 - 2012 (Cabinet Order No.463 of 4 August 2008);
- Youth Policy Guidelines for 2009 - 2018 (Cabinet Order No. 246 of 20 April 2009);
- Joint Inclusion Memorandum of Latvia (approved by the Law 'On Joint Memorandum on Social Inclusion adopted on 17 June 2004);
- The concept of a single authentication mechanism for the introduction of options in State information systems (Cabinet Order No.140 of 30 March 2011);
- Latvian National Reform Programme for the Implementation of 'Europe 2020' Strategy (26.04.2010, Cabinet Protocol No. 27 (§ 34) of 26 April 2010).

The following Latvian planning region territory development planning documents are taken into account in the development of policy guidelines:

- Riga Region Development Programme for 2005 - 2011 (approved at Riga Planning Region Development Council meeting on 7 January 2005);
- Latgale Planning Region Spatial Plan for 2006 - 2026 (approved at Latgale Planning Region Development Council meeting on 3 October 2007);
- Zemgale Planning Region Development Programme for 2008 - 2014 (approved at Zemgale Planning Region Development Council meeting on 16 September 2008);
- Vidzeme Planning Region Development Programme for 2007 - 2013 (approved at Vidzeme Planning Region Development Council meeting on 19 September 2007);
- Kurzeme Region Development Strategy for 2004 - 2013 (approved by Kurzeme Planning Region Development Council on 11 February 2004).

8. Ex-ante Evaluation of the Proposed Solution

Since 2001 the social integration policy of Latvia has been implemented under the National Programme 'Social Integration in Latvia'. During the period of ten years new threats to social integration have been identified or have emerged: the active emigration of the population of Latvia to other countries, the increase in immigration, the diminishing role of the Latvian language in the public sphere, the fragmented social memory etc. The role of the Guidelines is to address the mentioned issues. The new policy has three activity areas: the civil society, the language and cultural space and the social memory. The main activity areas set out in the Guidelines include the national identity and social integration policy. The activity areas specified in the Guidelines include the main components of the national identity and social integration policy. Tasks determined for the achievement of the goals of the Guidelines in each activity area are interrelated and complementary.

Implementation of the Guidelines will increase the civic knowledge and skills of the population of Latvia, especially of young people, that will promote civic participation in its various forms. The new policy also emphasizes the need to encourage public participation and self-help initiatives, to increase the mutual cooperation and trust between the population and the public administration, as well as the number of the population of Latvia. At the same time the political participation and the strengthening of ties with Latvia of the population of Latvia abroad will be supported.

The Guidelines envisage fostering of the Latvian language proficiency, the role of the Latvian language in the public space, employment and pre-school education. In the framework of the future policy a support system for children who lack proficiency in Latvian and their parents, schools and teachers will be developed, so that no one would encounter obstacles for learning at schools with Latvian as the language of instruction. The Guidelines also envisage strengthening of the Latvian cultural space as a social integration platform. To ensure this, the culture policy makers will systematically evaluate the relationship between the social diversity and the contribution of cultural institutions (music schools, art schools etc.) to the social integration. The new policy will result in increased interest of non-Latvians in participation in the amateur art events. The Latvian cultural space will also have a much greater effect on relations with Latvians abroad.

An important social problem is the different understanding of the occupation of Latvia and the Second World War. Such differences split the community. By implementing certain policy, it may be expected that the attitude of the national minorities of Latvia based on the true historical facts regarding the events of the forties of the 20th century will become stronger and the knowledge about Latvia between wars will increase. Similarly, in the coming years the State and local government support for identifying and promoting of local history and European heritage of Latvian history will increase. It will reduce the opportunities of the past to split the community at the national level, at the same time increasing the potential of history as an integration resource.

9. Tasks and Activities Proposed in the Future Action Planning

Table 2. Plan of the tasks and measures envisaged in the Guidelines

No.	Tasks and main measures for the achievement of the determined goal	Deadline	Responsible authority and involved institutions	Direct performance results ¹⁴⁹	Additional funding required in Lats			Funding and its sources
					2012	2013	2014	
1	Activity area for the achievement of the goal: CIVIL SOCIETY AND INTEGRATION							
1.1	Policy goal defined in the guidelines: To develop civic education by using formal and informal education methods							
1.1.1.	Task: Monitoring of civic education in the comprehensive school curricula.	2012, 2015, 2018	MC ¹⁵⁰ , MES, MD	In 2012 an assessment of the content regarding the reflection of the civic education issues at the general education programmes carried out and proposals for civic education content development elaborated.				Within the existing budget allocation
1.1.2.	Task: Improvement of civic knowledge and skills of children and young people at all levels of education.							
1.1.2.1.	Measures: Support for inter-school civic initiatives, including those for disadvantaged children and young people subject to social expulsion risk (special support for initiatives in which a dialogue is created between the Latvian and national minority, as well as bilingual schoolchildren).	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, SIF	At least 2 measures per year supported.				2013-2016: indicatively -EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.

¹⁴⁹ The direct operating results described are attributed only to operational policy for two subsequent years (2012-2013). After the environmental and impact assessment of the first stage of the programming document the implementation plan of the Guidelines for the next period of 2014 – 2015 will be developed.

¹⁵⁰ The institution indicated first is the main responsible institution for the implementation of the task or measure and holder of the budget.

1.1.2.2.	Demonstration of Latvian movies at schools and/or libraries followed by an educational discussion on civil society and social integration issues.	Every year	MC, NLL, NFCL	In 2012 and 2013 the movie demonstration to schoolchildren at least once a year at each planning region of Latvia.				Within the existing budget allocation.
1.1.3.	Task: Information and communication infrastructure accessible and comprehensible to the population for effective participation of civil society in policy making.							
1.1.3.1.	Measures: Information campaigns on the participation opportunities in the decision-making processes involving local governments and their resources (libraries, cultural centers, museums, schools, NGOs).	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, SIF, SC	At least one information campaign per year held.				2013-2016: indicatively -EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
1.1.3.2.	To provide information on the Cabinet website under the 'Easy to read' section in simple language on public participation opportunities in the decision-making by the Cabinet	2014	SC, MC					Within the existing budget allocation.
1.1.4.	Task: To develop civic education within the lifelong education programme.							
1.1.4.1.	Measures: Measures providing knowledge and developing civic skills and attitudes of professionals and the general public of all ages.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, SIF, MES	One training workshop on civic skills per year held.				2013-2016: indicatively- EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
1.1.4.2.	Measures for public sector employees on the role of public participation in decision-making.	Every year	SC, MC	In 2012 and 2013 at least one measure for public sector employees on public participation held.				Within the existing budget allocation.
1.2.	The policy objectives defined in the Guidelines: To strengthen the traditional and non-traditional forms of civic participation							
1.2.1.	Task: To promote political participation of the population.							

1.2.1.1.	Measures: Adoption of the draft law 'Amendments to the Citizenship Law', allowing for dual citizenship within the EU, EEA and NATO Member States.	2011, 2012	MI, MW, MJ, MC, MFA	The Draft Law 'Amendments to the Citizenship Law' submitted.				Within the existing budget allocation.
1.2.1.2.	Provision of opportunities for electronic voting and introduction of electoral register at the Parliamentary elections.	2013, 2014	MI, MJ, CEC, MFA, MT, MEPRD	In 2013 provision of opportunities for electronic voting; 2014 deadline for introduction of electoral register at the Parliamentary elections.				Within the existing budget allocation.
1.2.1.3.	An opportunity for the entirety of citizens to propose the Parliamentary and Council meeting agenda.	2012	MJ, MI, CEC, MC, MEPRD	Legal framework evaluated and relevant amendments to regulatory enactments adopted.				Within the existing budget allocation.
1.2.1.4.	Public participation in policy making and implementation process on local government, public administration and the European Union level.	Every year	Ministries, local governments	In 2012 and 2013 a system of public involvement at different levels of policy making and implementation (public meetings, advisory boards, and working groups, including measures aimed at different target groups) improved. In 2013 measures of the 'European Year of Citizens' implemented.				Within the existing budget allocation
1.2.1.5.	Discussions on the issue regarding the citizenship of the Republic of Latvia, including as regards the children of the non-citizens.	2012	MC, MFA, MI	Discussion organized and relevant action based on the results of the discussion made.				Within the existing budget allocation.

1.2.2.	Task: To support measures (workshops, public debate and consultations, website development, information materials) aimed at promoting growth of the proportion of citizens in Latvia and motivation of non-citizens to acquire Latvian citizenship.	Every year	MC, SIF, MI	OCMA home page section on naturalization matters improved. Information days on the opportunities and conditions of naturalization organized. Information materials on the naturalization procedure published. An Internet resource - the naturalization exam e-test for support of the study process developed.				2012-2015: EFITCN. 2013-2016: EEA indicatively- Financial Mechanism.
1.2.3.	Task: To promote civic participation of young people ¹⁵¹ .							
1.2.3.1.	Measures: To support young people's formal and informal participation in social processes.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, SIF, MES, AIPY	Two events per year held.				2013-2016: EEA indicatively- Financial Mechanism. Latvian - Swiss Cooperation Programme 'NGO Fund' Latvian - Swiss Cooperation Programme 'Support for the development of youth initiatives in peripheral or disadvantaged regions'. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.

¹⁵¹ Objective in accordance with the targets of the Guidelines for Youth Policy for 2009 – 2018.

1.2.3.2.	To support young people's transnational initiatives in the field of civic participation, interest education and learning experience.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, SIF, MES, AIPY	Two events per year held.				2013-2016: indicatively- EEA Financial Mechanism. Latvian - Swiss Cooperation Programme 'NGO Fund'. Latvian - Swiss Cooperation Programme 'Support for the development of youth initiatives in peripheral or disadvantaged regions'. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
1.2.4.	Task: Improving conditions of operation for non-governmental organizations.							
1.2.4.1.	Measures: Development of the legal arrangements for the programme 'Latvian NGO Fund' and development of NGOs and ensuring of their sustainability.	2012	SIF, MC, MF, SC	Legal arrangements for the programme 'Latvian NGO Fund' adopted.				Within the existing budget allocation.
1.2.4.2.	Development of the programme 'Latvian NGO Fund'. Allocations for funding of the projects of NGOs (45 projects – each for 10 000 lats) – 450 000 lats. Allocations for the management of the fund (10% wages, taxes, administrative costs) – 50 000 lats.	Every year, starting with 2013	SIF, MC, MF, SC			500 000	500 000	Additional budgetary funding required.

1.2.4.3.	Update of the Manual for the work of public benefit organizations.	2014	MF, MC					Within the existing budget allocation.
1.2.4.4.	Performance evaluation of the programme 'NGO Fund' of the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism during the period from 2009 to 2014.	2015-2016	SIF, MC					2015-2016: indicatively- EEA Financial Mechanism.
1.2.4.5.	Establishing of cooperation network for cross – ethnic NGOs.	2013 - 2016	MC, SIF	One event per year held.				2013-2016: indicatively- EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
1.2.4.6.	To promote mutual cooperation of NGOs and cooperation of NGOs with public administration, ensuring availability of information on different NGOs (to develop a single NGO sector classification; to establish in the regulatory enactments the legal basis for making a relevant entry, the legal status of the relevant records and the order for making public in order to ensure entering records on belonging of a relevant subject to a certain field of activity of the NGO sector in the registers maintained by the Register of Enterprises and to ensure their public availability; to develop and implement appropriate technical solutions according to the provisions contained in the regulatory enactments).	2012 - 2014	MC, MJ	In 2012 single NGO sector classification by MC prepared. In 2013 legal framework to ensure entering records on belonging of a relevant subject to a certain activity area of the NGO sector in the registers maintained by the Register of Enterprises and making them available to the public by MJ developed; In 2014 recording and maintenance of data allowing the identification and selection of associations and foundations according to their field of activity in the relevant register maintained by the Register of Enterprises by MJ ensured.				Within the existing budget allocation (2012 - 2014). Amount of the additional funding required will be determinable following the development of the relevant regulatory framework.
1.2.5.	Task: Development of traditional and non-traditional forms of civic participation.							

1.2.5.1.	Measures: Workshops on public and non-governmental sector cooperation and partnership promotion.	2014, 2017	MC, SC					Within the existing budget allocation.
1.2.5.2.	To promote donation, sponsorship and philanthropic tradition.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, SIF	One informative campaign per year held. One awareness raising workshop for the NGO sector per year held.				2013-2016: indicatively- EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
1.2.5.3.	Support for self - initiatives of the population and development of geographic communities.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, SIF, MEPRD, local governments	Two projects per year supported.				2013-2016: indicatively- EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
1.2.5.4.	Popularization of the role of social media in civic participation.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, SIF, SC, MEPRD	One workshop for the NGO sector per year held. One workshop for the public administration employees per year held.				2013-2016: indicatively- EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
1.2.5.5.	Establishment of a system of regional coordinators for consolidation of the civic society and social integration.	Every year, starting with 2015	MC, MEPRD, local governments	System established, a coordinator in each planning region operates.				Additional budgetary funding required.
1.2.6.	Task: Support for volunteer work.							
1.2.6.1.	Measures: Support for measures promoting public awareness of the nature and the value of volunteer work (including identifying opportunities for estimating of the economic value of volunteering).	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, SIF, MF	Two events per year held.				2013-2016: indicatively- EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.

1.2.6.2.	NGO capacity building in order to ensure opportunities for establishing environment favorable for volunteer involvement in NGOs.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, SIF, MES	Two projects per year supported.				2013-2016: indicatively- EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
1.2.6.3.	Support for measures promoting cooperation of different generations within the framework of voluntary work, using libraries, culture centers, community houses and schools.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, SIF, MES, MW	Two events per year held.				2013-2016: indicatively- EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
1.2.7.	Task: Creation of a national-level coordinating system in order to support immigrant participation.							
1.2.7.1.	Measures: The National Integration Center for support of immigrant participation, including access to the information necessary for participation (a single website, informational materials, counseling).	2012-2013	MC, MI (OCMA)	A support system for third country nationals , coordinated by the MC project implementation unit - National Integration Centre, established.				2012-2015: EFITCN.
1.2.7.2.	National level Advisory Council with participation of immigrants and representatives of their organizations.	Regularly, starting with 2012	MC, MI (OCMA), MES, MW, MH, MFA, local governments	An advisory board composed of the ministry and local government representatives and representatives of non-governmental organizations and third-country nationals established.				Within the existing budget allocation.
1.2.7.3.	Regular review of legal arrangements and development of legislation required in order to ensure fundamental rights of third-country nationals (employment, education, health care, social support and other issues).	2012, 2013, in subsequent years as necessary	MC, MI, MW, MH, MES	Legal arrangements assessed and appropriate amendments to legislation made or new legislation adopted.				Within the existing budget allocation.

1.2.7.4.	Measures to encourage integration of refugees and persons with subsidiary protection.	Every year	MC, MI, MW, MES;	Support measures for integration of refugees and persons with subsidiary protection implemented, including the opportunity to learn the Latvian language, access to education improved, support for solution of health care and social issues provided..				Within the existing budget allocation. ERF.
1.2.8.	Task: To perform the situation analysis on civic participation process.							
1.2.8.1.	Measures: To perform a study on the development of civic participation in Latvia by establishing indicators for regular monitoring of civic participation in Latvia.	2013	MC, SIF, SC	Study published, indicators established.				2013: indicatively-EEA Financial Mechanism.
1.2.8.2.	To monitor the development, obstacles and challenges of the processes of civic participation, including to provide regular evaluation of the legal environment of the civic society activity and to identify improvements.	2015, 2017	MC, SC	Every year evaluation of the legal environment of the civic society activity provided and improvements identified.				Within the existing budget allocation.
1.2.8.3.	To carry out research on citizenship status (including dual citizenship) in the context of Latvia and the EU.	2013	MI	Study published.				Within the existing budget allocation.
1.2.8.4.	Development of a study on identification and mitigation of administrative barriers to NGO activity (including, as regards effective uptake of the funding, drafting of annual accounts, bookkeeping).	2014	MC, SIF	Study published.				2014: indicatively-EEA Financial Mechanism.
1.2.8.5.	Study on the NGO sector of Latvia.	2013, 2015	MC, SIF	Study published.				2015: indicatively-EEA Financial Mechanism.
1.2.9.	Task: development of information systems and electronic services							

1.2.9.1.	Measure: Establishment of a multi-lingual block and machine translation infrastructure for provision of e-service accessibility	2012-2013	MC (KIS)	In 2013 ensured that it is possible to translate every web page from Latvian to English and Russian.				ERDF.
1.3.	The policy goal defined in the Guidelines: To promote inclusion of socially excluded groups into the society and to prevent discrimination							
1.3.1.	Task: Inclusion into society of persons who are marginalized due to poverty and geographical isolation.							
1.3.1.1.	Measures: To support NGO, library, culture centre and community house cooperation as social support centers and to provide access to cultural activities, especially for the poor (such as cultural passports, free Internet access points in libraries), as well as for the visually impaired persons. Co-financing of the programme for acquisition of books, periodicals, electronic information resources necessary for the social support functions for 832 libraries (832 libraries x 500 lats per year) – 416 000 lats; Co-financing of the programme for organization of training and measures (832 x 341,35 lats per year) – 284 000 lats.	Every year, starting with 2014	MC, MW, MEPRD				700 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
1.3.1.2.	Support measures for the groups of population subdued to the social exclusion risks, including the Roma, for accessibility and provision of social services and health care services.	Every year, starting with 2014	MW, MC					Within budgetary allocation framework. 2014- 2018: indicatively- ESF “Human Resources and Employment” sub-activity 1.4.1 ‘Social inclusion’.

1.3.1.3.	To support activities of youth centers for marginalized groups of young people.	2012 - 2017	AIPY	Work with young people at local governments supported.				Swiss financial instrument
1.3.2.	Task: Regular educational and awareness raising measures on migration and integration of third-country nationals for different target groups of society, including awareness raising measures with the participation of immigrants and measures for the representatives of the media.	2013 - 2015	MC, MI, MFA	At least 5 events per year held.				2012-2015: indicatively-EFITCN.
1.3.3.	Task: To inform the public and to train professionals of various supporting professions ¹⁵² in respect to tolerance and social exclusion, intercultural competencies and case law relating to discrimination.							
1.3.3.1.	Measures: Workshops based on the results of the study of Latvian anti-discrimination laws, their application and case law (see measure 1.3.4.1.).	2012, 2013	MC, MW, MJ, Office of the Ombudsman	In 2012 four workshops in the regions and two in Riga, with 180 people trained held. In 2013 four workshops in the regions and two in Riga held .				2012-2014: indicatively-PROGRESS.
1.3.3.2.	Workshops on diversity management and non- discrimination for different target groups.	2012, 2013	MC, MW	In 2012 four workshops in the regions and two workshops in Riga, with 180 people trained held. In 2013 four workshops in the regions and two workshops in Riga held.				2012-2014: indicatively-PROGRESS.
1.3.3.3.	Training for employers and HR professionals on the principles of diversity management, benefits and best practice.	2012, 2013	MC, MW, SIF	In 2012 four workshops in the regions and one in Riga, with 125 people trained held. In 2013 four workshops in the regions and one in Riga held.				2012-2014: indicatively-PROGRESS.

¹⁵² Specialists of the aiding professions - employees who perform professional activities in social, education and health area, such as social workers, education staff (psychologists, educators), medical personnel and other public administration representatives.

1.3.3.4.	Educational measures for children and young people on tolerance and non - discrimination.	2012, 2013	MC, SIF, NLL, MW, Office of the Ombudsman	In 2012, 'Children's jury' on the books on the issues of tolerance and non-discrimination held, workshops in four regional libraries and the National Library of Latvia held, an animated film based on the results of the workshops created and interactive lessons about tolerance for the schoolchildren of the grades 6 and 7 held.. In 2013, 'Children's jury' on the books on the issues of tolerance and non-discrimination held, workshops in four regional libraries and the National Library of Latvia held.				2012-2014: indicatively- PROGRESS.
1.3.3.5.	Information campaign in media 'Tolerance and equal opportunities.'	2012, 2013	MC, MW	A campaign on the radio, TV, Internet, in print media, in social media, etc organized.				2012-2014: indicatively- PROGRESS.
1.3.4.	Task: Development of non-discrimination monitoring and evaluation system.							
1.3.4.1.	Measures: Legal arrangements for prevention of discrimination assessed and study of legislation on anti-discrimination in Latvia, their application and case law completed.	Every year	MC, MW	In 2012 a study of regulatory enactments on anti-discrimination in Latvia, their application and case law published.. In 2012 Cabinet Decision on the responsible ministry in the field of prevention of discrimination adopted. From 2013 onwards, every two years, Information Report on the improvement opportunities of prevention of discrimination submitted to the Cabinet, as well as implementation in accordance with the Cabinet Decision ensured.				2012-2014: indicatively- PROGRESS.

1.3.4.2.	Statistical data collection system on manifestations of discrimination in respect to different social groups established.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, MW, SIF	In 2013 a statistical data collection and compilation system on the situation in the socio-economic areas of the Roma (employment, education, health care and affordable housing) developed. Statistical data on different social groups from different perspectives, for instance, regarding the education and employment areas from the ethnical perspective compiled.				2012- 2014: indicatively-PROGRESS. 2013- 2016: indicatively-EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
1.3.4.3.	Methods that focus on recognizing discrimination and diversity management approaches improved. Work of the researchers – 9 000 lats; Publishing and layout design (only on Internet) – 500 lats; Presentations and other administrative costs – 500 lats.	2012, 2014, 2016, 2018	MC, MW, SIF	In 2012 the situation testing on anti-discrimination (study) performed. In 2014 standard for provision of public and local government services for work with different clients elaborated.			10 000	2012- 2014: indicatively-PROGRESS. From 2014 additional budgetary funding required.
1.3.4.4.	Public opinion polls on the awareness, skills and attitudes of the population of Latvia to prevention of discrimination and tolerance.	2013, 2015, 2017	MC, MW, SIF	In 2013 a study on the awareness, skills and attitudes of the population of Latvia to the persons who are confronted with intolerance and discrimination most of all published.				2013: indicatively-PROGRESS. From 2015 onwards within the existing budget allocation.
1.3.4.5.	Study 'Participation of Latvian national minorities in the public sector in the perspective of diversity management approach'.	2012	MC, MW	Study published electronically in Latvian, the study presentation held.				2012: indicatively-PROGRESS.
1.3.4.6.	Study 'Problems of Latvian national minorities in retaining the ethnic identities and prospects in relation to the implementation of the Framework Convention of the Council of Europe for the Protection of National Minorities.'	2014	MC, MW					2014: indicatively-PROGRESS.
1.3.5.	Task: Promotion of intercultural dialogue skills in education.							

1.3.5.1.	Measures: To carry out research on accredited programmes of higher educational establishments and training programmes of other educational establishments of Latvia in respect to education for intercultural dialogue.	2014	MC, SIF, MES					2014: indicatively-EEA Financial Mechanism.
1.3.5.2.	Scientific and practical conference on intercultural dialogue and tolerance issues.	2015	MC, SIF, MES					2015: indicatively-EEA Financial Mechanism.
1.3.6.	Task: Support measures for the integration of the Roma, increase of their level of education and employment, as well as in the field of higher accessibility to health and social care, and housing services.							
1.3.6.1.	Measures: Increase the level of education of the children of the Roma, ensuring adequate training programmes and methods, and expand opportunities for the Roma community representatives, who are above the age of compulsory education, to participate in learning ¹⁵³ .	Every year	MC, SIF, MW, MEPRD, MES, local governments	In 2012 one workshop in Riga for the Roma assistant teachers with 15 participants held. In 2012 and 2013 a long-term national institution and local government coordinated system for supporting the Roma teacher assistants established. In 2013 educational workshops for the Roma families on the benefits of education and employment and the debate on school attendance held.				2012- 2014: indicatively-PROGRESS. 2013- 2016: indicatively-EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
1.3.6.2.	Development of a dialogue between the Roma community representatives, social partners and NGOs (co-operation projects for the Roma integration, establishment and implementation of the mentoring programme, training of the Roma NGO representatives).	Every year	MC, MW, MES, MEPRD, local governments	In 2012 a platform for cooperation between the Roma community activists and NGOs, as well as employers established.				Within the existing budget allocation.

¹⁵³ Measure according to the Guidelines for the Development of Education for 2007 - 2013, p. 38.

1.3.6.3.	Situation analysis and improvement of the professional skills of the Roma, inclusion of the Roma in the labour market and promotion of the entrepreneurship. Work of the researchers – 6 500 lats; Publishing and layout design (only on Internet) – 500 lats; Presentations and other administrative costs – 300 lats.	2013	MW, MC, ME	A study about the situation of the Roma in the labor market published.		7 300		Additional budgetary funding required.
1.3.6.4.	Research (case study), ‘The Roma community and human rights in Latvia’ (access to education, housing, health care, different services, employment etc.)	2012	MC, MW	A study in Latvian and summary in English published; brochures on the results of the study in Latvian and English published and a presentation of the results of the study held.				2012: indicatively- PROGRESS.
1.3.6.5.	Support measures for resolving housing issues for the Roma families based on the conclusions of the studies (see Measures 1.3.4.1., 1.3.4.2., 1.3.4.3., 1.3.6.4.).	Every year, starting with 2013	ME, MC, local governments	Based on the results of the study referred to in the measure 1.3.6.4. further necessary action ensured: discussion of the responsible and involved persons on the further potential action for solution of the issue on the access of the Roma to a housing held; measures for information and education of the Roma community organized; training for the local government representatives of supporting professions for the work with the Roma community ensured; necessity to make amendments to the existing legal arrangements regarding the assistance for solution of the housing issue evaluated.				Within the existing budget allocation. 2012- 2014: indicatively- PROGRESS. 2012- 2016: indicatively- EEA Financial Mechanisml.
1.3.6.6.	Roundtable discussion on the Roma education.	2012	MC, MW, MES	Four events in the regions and one in Riga held.				2012: indicatively- PROGRESS.

1.3.6.7.	National-level Advisory Board with the Roma inclusion and participation of representatives of their organizations.	Regularly, starting with 2012	MC, MI, MES, MW, MH, MFA, EM, MEPRD, local governments, SEA	An advisory board composed of ministry and local government representatives, the Roma NGOs and experts established.				Within the existing budget allocation.
1.4	The policy goal defined in the Guidelines: To strengthen democratic information space of high quality and increase the role of media in integration							
1.4.1.	Task: To ensure the quality of public media content, especially with regard to reflection of social integration, national identity and discrimination prevention in the public order.							
1.4.1.1.	Measures: Assessment of the implementation of the 'Electronic Media Law' and other related legislation (increasing of the competitiveness of the national media, use of the official language, defining of the public order content) from the perspective of social integration.	2014	NEMMC, MC, MJ					Within the existing budget allocation.
1.4.1.2.	Performing of a complex study of media offer and their content, as well as their impact on the attitude of the population to Latvia, different social groups, identity, history, nationality and other issues.	2014	NEMMC, MC, SIF					2014: indicatively-EEA Financial Mechanism.
1.4.1.3.	Adherence to the needs of all the social groups, including national minorities in the development of the public order. Costs of the study: Work of the researchers – 4 300 lats; Publishing and layout design (only on Internet) – 400 lats; Presentations and other administrative costs – 300 lats.	Every year, starting with 2013	NEMMC, MC	Public order assessment carried out.		5 000	5 000	Additional budgetary funding required.

1.4.1.4.	Periodic broadcast and programme evaluation in respect to the public demand. 26 broadcasts in the LTV (1 broadcast once in 2 weeks) x 1 000 lats – in total 23 400 lats.	Every year	NEMMC	A broadcast (1-2 times per week) providing feedback at the public media where the broadcast authors, experts of the field and the public discuss the content and quality of the programmes (2012, 2013) created.		26 000	26 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
1.4.1.5.	Evaluation (<i>ex-ante</i>) of the predictable situation in creating new public media products and evaluation (<i>ex post</i>) of the actual performance of the public order aimed at assessing the impact on the media market and the quality of the offer.	Every year	NEMMC					Within the existing budget allocation.
1.4.1.6.	Building of the administrative capacity of the NEMMC Monitoring Centre. Amount for the reimbursement of one staff unit – 10 000 lats per year.	Every year, starting with 2013	NEMMC	One staff unit established and funded.		10 000	10 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
1.4.2.	Task: To ensure diversity and availability of public media content.							
1.4.2.1.	Measures: Development of programmes and broadcasts for national minorities and immigrants, as well as for Latvians abroad by involving journalists of different nationalities. Monthly broadcast in the LTV (12 broadcasts x 1 000 lats) – 12 000 lats. Weakly broadcast for the Latvians abroad on the Latvian Radio (52 x 120 lats) – 6 240 lats.	Every year	NEMMC, MC	Educational, as well as cultural-historical broadcasts, broadcasts on outstanding Latvian personalities, broadcasts in Latgalian, Livonian, Polish, Russian, Ukrainian, Belarussian, English and other languages, language learning broadcasts and other broadcasts in the public media.		18 240	18 240	Additional budgetary funding required.

1.4.2.2.	Evaluation and improvement of the audiovisual media content subtitling and translation policy, subject to the language policy of the Republic of Latvia. Work of the researchers – 5 000 lats.	2013	NEMMC, MC	A study for evaluation of the subtitling and translation policy carried out and proposals for the improvement of the policy developed.		5 000		Additional budgetary funding required.
1.4.2.3.	Ensuring of the Radio ‘Free Europe’ relay into Russian.	Every year	NEMMC	Radio ‘Free Europe’ relay broadcasting in Russian provided.				Within the existing budget allocation.
1.4.2.4.	Creating of informational and entertaining programmes (such as public debate, humor, culinary and sports event broadcasts) in multiple languages with subtitles (and the digital switch), and sign language interpretation,. Monthly broadcasts in the LTV (12 x 1200 lats) – 14 400 lats.	Every year, starting with 2013	NEMMC,	Varied offer of broadcasts for different target groups.		14 400	14 400	Additional budgetary funding required.
1.4.2.5.	Inclusion of (access to) regional media products in the national media.	Every year	NEMMC	In 2012 at least 2 broadcasts per week. In 2013 at least 3 broadcasts per week.				Within the existing budget allocation.
1.4.2.6.	Development and advertising of public media self-advertising and their products in other media, including social networks in order to expand the audience and approximate the separated information and cultural spaces in Latvia.	Every year	NEMMC	Advertising in other media and social networks.				Within the existing budget allocation.
1.4.2.7.	Evaluation of opportunities to ensure accessibility of Latvian public media to people all over the territory (including the border area) of Latvia and outside Latvia.	2012	NEMMC, MT, MC	Latvian public media availability ensured.				Within the existing budget allocation.
1.4.3.	Task: To increase the capacity and professional qualifications of media employees.							
1.4.3.1.	Measures:	Every year	MC, MW,	In 2012 and 2013 2 workshops				2012 - 2014:

	Professional training on social integration, prevention of discrimination, tolerance, diversity issues and professional ethics for media professionals (journalists, editors, communications professionals, journalism students, etc.).		NEMMC, SIF	in regions and 2 workshops in Riga, with 120 people trained (estimated number of participants per workshop is 30) held.				indicatively-PROGRESS. 2013 - 2016: indicatively-EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
1.4.3.2.	Establishing a system of cooperation between NEMMC and higher education institutions training journalists.	2012	NEMMC	A memorandum of cooperation/agreement signed.				Within the existing budget allocation.
1.4.4.	Task: To develop media literacy programmes for different target groups.							
1.4.4.1.	Measures: Media literacy training for schoolchildren and students.	Every year, starting with 2013	MES, MC, SIF	In 2012 a research on the possibility of including media literacy in the curricula content carried out by the MES.. In 2013 necessary changes to the relevant legislation to include the media literacy in the curricula made by the MES. From 2014 media literacy in the curricula content included. From 2013 at least one project per year for students and schoolchildren supported.				2013 - 2016: indicatively-EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
1.4.4.2.	Media literacy workshops for adults.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, SIF, MES	At least one workshop per year held.				2013 - 2016: indicatively-EEA Financial Mechanism.. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required for the MES.

1.4.4.3.	Media literacy workshops for teachers.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, SIF, MES	At least one workshop per year held.				2013 - 2016: indicatively-EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required for the MES.
1.4.4.4.	Consideration of inclusion of the media literacy topics into the social science course in comprehensive schools.	2013	MES, MC	Recommendations prepared on the basis of civic education monitoring in the programmes of comprehensive schools.				Within the existing budget allocation.
1.4.5.	Task: To strengthen the public media by approving the Concept on the Establishment of a New Latvian Public Electronic Media	2011-2012	NEMMC, MC, MT	Concept by the Cabinet approved.				Within the budget allocation provided for the implementation of the concept
2.	Activity area for the achievement of the goal:: NATIONAL IDENTITY: LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL SPACE							
2.1.	The policy goal defined in the Guidelines: To ensure the use of the Latvian language in the public space of Latvia							
2.1.1.	Task: To promote the motivation to use the Latvian language in the public space.							
2.1.1.1.	Measures: To strengthen the use of the Latvian language in the labor market.	2012	MW, MC, MJ	A discussion held and relevant action based on the results of the discussion carried out.				Within the existing budget allocation.
2.1.1.2.	Informative measures for employers and employees, immigrants and other groups on the basic principles of the Latvian language policy, regulatory enactments regulating the use of the Latvian language ¹⁵⁴ .	Every year	MC ¹⁵⁵ , MES, MW	Informative measures taken.				2012-2015: EFITCN.

¹⁵⁴ Measure in accordance with the State Language Policy Guidelines for 2005 - 2014.

¹⁵⁵ The responsible institution is MC because additional funding is possible from EFITCN for implementation of this measure.

2.1.1.3.	Information campaign 'Speak Latvian.'	2012-2016	MC, MES, NEMMC, SIF	One campaign per year, using TV, radio, social media, and student radio held.				2012-2015: EFITCN. 2013-2016: indicatively - EEA Financial Mechanism.
2.1.1.4.	Providing support to incentive measures for the use of the Latvian language in public space (working environment and schools friendly to the Latvian language).	Every year	MC, MES, SIF	At least two measures per year taken.				2012-2015: EFITCN.
2.1.1.5.	Latvian Language Olympiads, public speech competitions, poetry days, 'Children's Jury' for schoolchildren.	2013-2016	MC, SIF, MES	At least two measures per year taken.				2013-2016: EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required for the MES.
2.1.2.	Task: Capacity-building for institutions implementing the policy on the official language.							
2.1.2.1.	Measures: Capacity building of the State Language Centre aimed at ensuring adherence to and monitoring of the implementation of the State Language Law and related regulatory enactments in full value. For 10 employees: workplaces (1585 x 10) – 15 850 lats, administrative costs (1460 x 10) – 14 600 lats, wages (10 x 800 x 12) – 96 000 lats.	2014	MJ (SLC)	Capacity of the State Language Centre enhanced.			126 450	Additional budgetary funding required.

2.1.2.2.	To promote the strengthening and sustainable development of the status of the Latvian language. Information campaign for popularization of the Latvian language (TV and radio broadcasts, articles in newspapers and social media, posters, discussions, focus groups)	Every year, starting with 2013	MES (LLA)	The capacity of the Latvian Language Agency enhanced.		50 000	50 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
2.1.3.	Task: To evaluate the level of the Latvian language skills and their importance in the society.							
2.1.3.1.	Measures: To analyze the Latvian language situation and linguistic attitudes in the territorial, demographic, social aspect and the experience of other countries in the implementation of language policy ¹⁵⁶ .	2014	MES					Within the existing budget allocation
2.1.3.2.	The Latvian language proficiency test for pre-school (non-Latvian) children (5-6 years of age) carried out, including development of the methodology. Group of researchers (development and approbation of the methodology, carrying out of a study) - 15 000 lats.	2014, 2016, 2018	MES, MC, local governments	Proficiency of Latvian language of pre-school (non-Latvian) children evaluated.			15 000	Additional budgetary funding required.

¹⁵⁶ Measure according to the State Language Policy Guidelines for 2005 – 2014.

2.1.3.3.	A study on the preservation of Latvian identity by Latvians residing abroad carried out (including, the attitude to the Latvian language and the Latvian language skills). Work of the researchers – 15 000 lats; Publishing and layout design (only on Internet) – 1 000 lats; Presentations and other administrative costs – 300 lats; Administrative costs (flights, per diems) – 3 700 lats.	2014, 2016, 2018	MFA, MC, MES	A study published.			20 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
2.1.3.4.	A study on admission to and adaptation of children who do not have a sufficient level of Latvian language proficiency at schools with Latvian as the language of instruction. Study costs: Work of the researchers – 7 000 lats; Publishing and layout design– 500 lats; Presentations and other administrative costs – 500 lats;	2014, 2016, 2018	MES, MC				8 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
2.1.3.5.	A study on the use of Latvian language in the area of services and media. Study costs: Work of the researchers – 7 000 lats; Publishing and layout design– 500 lats; Presentations and other administrative costs – 500 lats;	2014, 2016, 2018	MES, MC				8 000	Additional budgetary funding required.

2.2.	The policy goal defined in the Guidelines: To strengthen the Latvian language skills of the Latvians living abroad, national minorities, non-citizens and new immigrants						
2.2.1.	Task¹⁵⁷: To ensure learning of the Latvian language and to develop a language learning system for different target groups, including the development of innovative teaching methods and elaboration of methodology and training materials.						
2.2.1.1.	Measures: Latvian language training for national minority pre-school children who wish to start learning at schools with Latvian as the language of instruction, and for their parents, including support to inclusion of national minority children into Latvian groups in kindergartens.	Every year, starting with 2013.	MC, SIF, MES	Measures within projects to ensure additional Latvian language learning for national minority children and their parents who wish to start learning at schools with Latvian as the language of instruction supported.			2013-2016: indicatively - EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
2.2.1.2.	To motivate schools with the Latvian language as language of instruction to admit children of national minorities and third country nationals (new immigrants), and support additional training programmes in Latvian for children who do not have Latvian as their native language (a variety of methods, such as teachers' assistants).	Every year	MC, SIF, MES	Measures within projects to support Latvian language training for children at school for whom Latvian language is not native are implemented. Support also to schools provided.			2012-2015: EFITCN. 2013-2016: indicatively -EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
2.2.1.3.	To provide support (including educational and informative) to the administration, teachers, schoolchildren of Latvian schools and the parents in situations where the children have insufficient Latvian language skills to integrate in the class according to their age.	Every year	MES, local governments	Support for the persons involved in the educational process provided.			Within the existing budget allocation.

¹⁵⁷ MC is responsible for the measures related to the Latvian language only in cases where the source of funding is the EEA Financial Mechanism or EFITCN. The learning of the Latvian language and learning system development activities are planned and supported in cooperation with the MES and in accordance with the principles of language acquisition established in the country.

2.2.1.4.	Support for teachers who teach the Latvian language to children at national minority pre-school educational establishments.	Every year	MES	Support provided.				Within the existing budget allocation.
2.2.1.5.	Latvian language courses and professional advancement for national minority teachers ¹⁵⁸ (if necessary for the national minority teachers who wish to work at schools with Latvian as the language of instruction).	Every year	MES	National minority teachers have attended the Latvian language training course for professional development purposes.				Within the existing budget allocation.
2.2.1.6.	Availability of Latvian language training for Latvians living abroad. Support to the teachers' work in Latvian diaspora centers.	Every year, starting with 2013	MES, MFA, MC	Latvian language teaching to the Latvians living abroad and the teachers' work supported, providing the opportunity to learn the Latvian language at schools.		90 000	90 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
2.2.1.7.	Recognizing of the teachers' work in diaspora 'weekend schools' in the total length of service.	2012-2013	MC, MW, MES, MFA,	In 2012 a discussion on the potential wage models of the teachers held. A relevant action in accordance with the results of the discussion carried out.				Within the existing budget allocation.
2.2.1.8.	Latvian language training for non-citizens (the Latvian language training may take place together with other integration measures, as well as according to the specific age).	Every year	MC, SIF, MI, MFA	An opportunity for non-citizens to learn the Latvian language thereby preparing for the naturalization exam and learning other important skills and information essential for integration provided.				2012-2015: EFITCN. 2013-2016: EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
2.2.1.9.	Latvian language training courses for the unemployed, providing the opportunity to acquire professional working language.	Every year	MW	An opportunity for the unemployed to learn the Latvian language and take the certification exam provided.				Within the existing budget allocation.
2.2.1.10.	Establishing of the Latvian language learning system for those who wish to immigrate to Latvia (pre-and post-immigration), also determining the immigrants' joint responsibility.	2013 - 2014	MC, MES, MI, MFA	Legal arrangements examined, discussions held (2013) and, if necessary, relevant amendments to the legislation made or new legislation adopted (2014).				2013-2015: EFITCN.

¹⁵⁸ Measure according to the State Language Policy Guidelines for 2005 – 2014.

2.2.1.11.	Latvian language training courses for higher educational establishment academic staff and employees of the public administration for improvement of professional competence and fulfillment of professional duties.	2013 - 2016	MC, SIF	An opportunity to improve professional language within the scope of the projects provided.				2013-2016: EEA Financial Mechanism.
2.2.1.12.	An opportunity for the persons in penitentiaries (persons approaching the expiry of the sentence) to learn the Latvian language in collaboration with the Prison Administration ensured.	2014 - 2016	MC, SIF, MJ, MES	An opportunity to learn the Latvian language within the scope of the projects ensured.				2014-2016: EEA Financial Mechanism.
2.2.1.13.	In countries where there is a large number of Latvians, workplaces for Latvian language teachers established, accredited Latvian language teaching programmes introduced and their funding provided. 3 programmes for learning the Latvian language developed (for pre-school, primary school, secondary school): 3 programmes x 2 000 lats – in total 6 000 lats; Wages of 10 teachers: 10 x 700 lats x 12 months – in total 84 000 lats.	2012	MES, MFA, MC	Situation in order to determine the number of schools and opportunities to establish the Latvian language teacher workplaces (2012) evaluated. During the subsequent years a strategy on providing of the Latvian language teachers and a gradual increase in their number, as well as accredited Latvian language training programmes developed.		90 000	90 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
2.2.2.	Task: To develop innovative approaches for teaching the Latvian language.							
2.2.2.1.	Measures: Language teaching courses on the national broadcast TV (such as puppet theater programme, special programmes for adolescents), radio, student radio.	Every year	MC, MES	An opportunity to learn the Latvian language with the help of the media provided.				2012-2015: EFITCN.

2.2.2.2.	Fostering the establishment of the Latvian language speaker clubs and support for their operation (in particular the Latvian diaspora and at schools with a national minority language of instruction).	Every year	MC, SIF, MES, MFA	Projects aimed at the speakers' club development implemented.				2012-2015: EFITCN. 2013-2016: EEA Financial Mechanism.
2.2.2.3.	Summer school programme support and development (3x3 and 2x2 models, etc.) in Latvia and in Europe, as well as in other major Latvian diaspora centers.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, SIF, MES, MFA,	Summer school and camp projects supported.				2013-2016: EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 within the existing budget allocation of MES.
2.2.2.4.	Volunteer Latvian language teacher network development (in pre-school educational establishments, teacher assistants at schools, language teaching at home).	Every year	MC, SIF, MES, MFA	Projects promoting volunteering to support the teaching of the Latvian language supported.				2012-2015: EFITCN. 2013-2016: EEA Financial Mechanism.
2.2.3.	Task: To ensure methodological support for teachers.							
2.2.3.1.	Measures: Support for teachers working with children who have a different level of Latvian language skills (including the Latvian school teachers).	Every year	MC, MES	Support for teachers working in classrooms with children of different cultures provided.				2012-2015: EFITCN.
2.2.3.2.	MES in collaboration with MC prepares Latvian language methodological basis for work with the Roma children (for children whose Latvian language skills are not perfect).	2012, updated as necessary	MES, MC	Methodological support for teachers who work with the Roma children and schoolchildren with insufficient Latvian language skills provided.				2013-2016: EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 within the existing budget allocation of MES.
2.3.	The policy goal defined in the Guidelines: To strengthen the Latvian cultural space as a cohesive framework of the society and to promote the affiliation to the cultural space on local, national and European level							
2.3.1.	Task: To create awareness of the Latvian cultural space as culturally diverse and inclusive.							

2.3.1.1.	Measures: Educational information materials (on the internet and in print) on the Latvian cultural space and its promotional activities, emphasizing the diversity of Latvian cultural space, openness to the contribution of other cultures in the past and present.	Every year	MC, MES	At least 2 informational materials per year issued. At least 1 measure per year taken.				Within the existing budget allocation of the SCCF, for instance, within the framework of the target programme of the SCCF budget allocations.
2.3.1.2.	Attracting of the Latvian cultural space 'ambassadors' (different ethnic origin outstanding creative personalities who feel associated with the Latvian cultural space) for promotion of the Latvian cultural space in different audiences (schools, media, etc.).	Regularly	MC	In 2012 potential support of stakeholders explored and implementation of the measure mechanism assessed.				Within the existing budget allocation of the SCCF, for instance, within the framework of the target programme of the SCCF budget allocations.
2.3.1.3.	Cultural-historical memory restoration of the national minorities of Latvia: support to activities of children and young people at schools, who identify and promote the cultural contributions of national minorities to the Latvian cultural space.	Every year	MES, MC	A competition for schools every year held.				Within the existing budget allocation of the SCCF, for instance, within the framework of the target programme of the SCCF budget allocations.
2.3.1.4.	Establishing and developing the tradition of an annual day of national minorities.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, local governments	In 2012 proposals for development of the concept evaluated in and, if necessary, the concept for the establishment of the tradition of the Day of the National Minorities prepared.				2013-2016: EEA Financial Mechanism. Within the budget allocation provided for the implementation of the concept.

2.3.1.5.	Establishing of the national minority portal. Costs of the establishment of the concept and project of the portal – 10 000 lats; Maintenance of the portal and updating of the information - 30 000 lats.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC	In 2013 the concept of the portal developed. In 2014 the maintenance of the portal ensured.		10 000	30 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
2.3.1.6.	Discussions on the freedom of choice to record the nationality in the passport in accordance with the principle of open Latvianness	2012, 2013	MC, MI, MJ	In 2012 discussions held. If necessary, amendments to the Law 'On the Change of a Given Name, Surname and Nationality Record' made.				Within the existing budget allocation
2.3.2.	Task: To ensure availability to cultural heritage and the professional art.							
2.3.2.1.	Measures: An offer of special programmes and activities in museums, theaters, concert organizations, the National Library of Latvia. Average costs of one activity 12 000 lats, 25 activities planned.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, local governments	Museum programmes, concert programmes, theater performances, NLL events during the year offered.		300 000	300 000	From 2013 additional State budget funding required.
2.3.2.2.	Subtitling of movies and performances in the Latvian language.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, NFCL,	Subtitling in Mikhail Chekhov Riga Russian Theatre, the Opera and Ballet Theatre, etc. provided; subtitling for least 20 movies provided.		30 000	30 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
2.3.3.	Task: Participation of the whole society in the folk art movement and the Song and Dance Celebration process, support for operation of the national minority artistic groups.							

2.3.3.1.	Measures: Support for the cultural activities of the national minorities and participation in folk art movement.	Every year	MC, CEIHC	National minorities participate in the Song and Dance Celebration by forming a part of the movement of the folk art groups and by implementing specific programme of national minority culture; support for the Days of the National Minority Culture; methodological support for learning of the repertoire; support for the Festival of National Minority Culture 'The Wreath of Latvia.'				Within the existing budget allocation.. From the State budget additionally allocated to the Song and Dance Celebration.
2.3.3.2.	Support to Latvians abroad for participation in the Song and Dance Celebration in Latvia.	2013	MC, CEIHC, MFA	Latvians from abroad participate in the Song and Dance Celebration. The Song and Dance Celebration is broadcasted on the Internet TV, providing an opportunity to follow the celebration events in any country of the world.				From the State budget additionally allocated to the Song and Dance Celebration.
2.3.4.	Task: To strengthen the role of Latgalian written language in the cultural space of Latgale region.							
2.3.4.1.	Measures: Ensuring opportunities to study Latgalian written language at schools of the region (methodological support, teacher training and preparation of materials, etc.).	Every year, starting with 2014	MES, MC					Within the existing budget allocation.
2.3.4.2.	Support for dissemination of the Latgalian written language in the cultural space of the region (publishing, media and theater performances). Support for projects in the form of a tender from Latgale SCCF programme.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, NEMMC	At least 2 events per year implemented.		30 000	30 000	Additional budgetary funding required.

2.3.5.	Task: Support for development and preservation of ethnic, local and European identities and culture of national minorities, including the Roma. State grants for projects under this tender.	2014, 2016	MC				50 000	Within the existing budget allocation of the SCCF. Additional budgetary funding required.
2.3.5.1.	Measures: Support for the national minority activities to retain the intangible cultural heritage of Latvia, including the inclusion into the intangible cultural heritage list.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, CEIHC	Intangible cultural heritage of the national minorities into the general list of intangible cultural heritage included.				2013-2016: indicatively -EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required for the SCCF.
2.3.5.2.	Establishment of a support mechanism for the Roma cultural identity (traditions, lifestyle, ethnography) conservation and enhancement.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, SIF	Support to the Roma NGOs provided.				2013-2016: indicatively -EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
2.3.6.	Task: Effective use of the potential of the cultural education for consolidating the society.							
2.3.6.1.	Measures: Study on the potential of the system for cultural education in promoting integration.	2014	MC					Within the existing budget allocation.
2.3.6.2.	Joint cultural activities for children and young people of different ethnicities within the framework of formal and informal education.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, CEIHC, MES, NEMMC, local governments	3 activities per year held.				2013-2016: indicatively -EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 State and local government funding, SCCF.
2.3.6.3.	Promoting of the best practice.	2013 - 2016	MC, MES, NEMMC, local governments	The best practice promoted.				2013-2016: indicatively -EEA Financial Mechanism.

2.3.7.	Task: Strengthening of the role of the traditional culture in the forming of Latvian living space.							
2.3.7.1.	Measures: Creation of a list of the Latvian intangible cultural heritage, motivating and educating local governments to maintain their traditional values and to transfer the skills and knowledge of the experts of traditional culture. Establishment of a workplace at the Intangible Cultural Heritage Centre. Planned reimbursement and capital costs – material and technical equipment – 10 000 lats; education and information measures – 10 000 lats.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, CEIHC	In 2013 workplaces at the Intangible Cultural Heritage Center established..		20 000	10 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
2.3.7.2.	To ensure the processes of the International Folklore Festival ‘Baltica’.	2012, 2015, 2018	CEIHC	In 2013 and 2014 measures implemented, including, workshops with participation of representatives of the Baltic Countries.		3 000	3 000	Additional budgetary funding required (SCCF).
2.3.7.3.	The project ‘Find Your Master’ at the local governments of Latvia. Project costs: material and technical costs, remuneration to the craftsmen for the training process management, documentation of skills, ensuring the availability of the methodology, digital products and/or printed materials, advertising expenses.	Every year, starting with 2012	CEIHC in cooperation with local governments	Traditional culture workshops simultaneously in all Latvian regions held.		40 000	40 000	Additional budgetary funding required (SCCF).
2.3.7.4.	Support for the activities of the national minority and Latvian folk groups. In total 5 activities per year (1 activity in each of 5 planning regions); Costs of one activity – 2 000 lats.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, CEIHC in cooperation with local governments	At least one activity in each of the five planning regions held.		10 000	10 000	Additional budgetary funding required (SCCF).

2.3.8.	Task: Strengthening of the European dimension in the Latvian cultural space.							
2.3.8.1.	Measures: More intensive representation of the European cultural heritage and contemporary cultural diversity in the Latvian cultural space.	Every year	MC	At least 10 projects per year implemented.				Within the existing budget allocation. EC Programme 'Culture' and 'Europe for Citizens'
2.3.8.2.	Participation in the European cultural networks and events (the European Heritage Label, the European Capital of Culture, the European Union's support for cultural actions, etc.).	Every year	MC	Participation of Latvia in projects abroad (at least in 10 projects per year) The project 'Riga - European Capital of Culture in 2014' implemented.				Within the existing budget allocation (SCCF). Financing for the project 'Riga - European Capital of Culture in 2014' within the existing allocation.
2.4.	The policy goal defined in the Guidelines: To strengthen the Latvian identity and affiliation to Latvia of the Latvians residing abroad							
2.4.1.	Task: To promote the affiliation of Latvian children and young people residing abroad to Latvia and learning of Latvian traditions.							
2.4.1.1.	Measures: Developing of cultural traditions and civic education methodology for Latvian children abroad, of mixed families and/or learning the Latvian language as a second language ¹⁵⁹ .	2013	MC ¹⁶⁰ , SIF, MES, MFA	In 2012 cultural tradition and civic education methodology for Latvian children abroad (pre-school children) and in 2013 methodology for children aged 7-11 developed.				2013: indicatively - EEA Financial Mechanism.

¹⁵⁹ Measure in accordance with the State Language Policy Guidelines for 2005 - 2014.

¹⁶⁰ MC is responsible for the measures related to the Latvian language only in cases where the source of funding is the EEA Financial Mechanism or EFITCN. The learning of the Latvian language and learning system development activities are planned and supported in cooperation with the MES and in accordance with the principles of language acquisition established in the country.

2.4.1.2.	Support for establishment and operation of Latvian 'weekend school' at the major centers of the diaspora ¹⁶¹ . 25 weekend schools x 4 000 lats = 100 000 lats (according to the needs: support to the teachers, training materials, methodological materials, transport costs).	2013 - 2018	MES (LLA), MC ¹⁶² , SIF, MFA	Weekend schools supported.		100 000	100 000	In 2012 within the existing budget. From 2013 additional budgetary funding required.
2.4.1.3.	Regular events for exchange of pedagogical experience for 'weekend school' teachers. Development of an experience exchange programme – 1 000 lats; organizational costs – (organizational work, materials, publicity costs) – 5 000 lats; Costs of experience exchange visits - 2 000 x 12 (teachers) = 24 000 lats; In 2014 the number of teachers increases up to 20 persons.	Every year, starting with 2013	MES (LLA), MC, SIF, MFA,	Educational experience exchange for the teachers of 'weekend schools' provided.		30 000	50 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
2.4.1.4.	Children's and youth competitions, where the main prize is a trip to Latvia. Organizational costs of the competition (organizational work, materials, publicity costs) – 13 000 lats; Costs of the trips – 2 000 lats.	Every year, starting with 2013	MC, SIF, MFA, MES	At least one competition per year held.				Additional budgetary funding required.
2.4.2.	Task: Access to Latvian culture at the diaspora Centers (Providing access to Latvian professional culture and art - concerts, tours, exhibitions). For ensuring concert organization, theater and museum accessibility - travel expenses, concert tour, touring exhibition and road show expenses	2014	MC, MFA	Events of the Latvian culture organized (concerts, tours and exhibitions).			120 000	Additional budgetary funding required.

¹⁶¹ Measure in accordance with the State Language Policy Guidelines for 2005 - 2014.

¹⁶² MC is responsible for the measure provided that the source of funding is the EEA Financial Mechanism

2.4.3.	Task: To strengthen the ties between Latvians abroad and Latvia.							
2.4.3.1.	Measures: Promotion of employment for Latvian young people from other countries in Latvia during the summer periods.	Every year, starting with 2015	MC, MFA, MES, MW					Additional budgetary funding required.
2.4.3.2.	Support for international schoolchildren/student host family exchange programmes (between Latvians abroad and in Latvia). Exchange tours of 50 children (transport costs, visa, two-week maintenance costs, per diems) x 1 000 lats – 50 000 lats.	Every year, starting with 2014	MC, MES, MFA				50 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
2.4.3.3.	Development and maintenance of a home page for Latvians abroad (information on repatriation, obtaining of citizenship, civic participation forms, services, education system, employment, data base of professions in demand in Latvia, etc.). Establishment of the data base of the professionals living abroad belonging to Latvia. Costs for the establishment of the project of the Internet site - 5 000 lats; Costs for establishment of the data base – 8 000 lats. Annual maintenance costs of the data base – 20 000 lats.	Every year, starting with 2013	MFA, MC	In 2012 the Internet home page established. In 2013 the database established.		13 000	20 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
2.4.3.4.	Revision of the system of the support provided for repatriates, including material assistance.	Every year	MI, MJ, MC, MFA	In 2012 opportunities to expand the scope of the assistance for repatriates within the existing legislation evaluated. In 2013, if necessary, relevant amendments to the legislation made.				Within the existing budget allocation. 2012-2015: EFITCN.

2.4.4.	Task: To maintain a dialogue between Latvia and the Latvians abroad.							
2.4.4.1.	Measures: To evaluate the opportunities and appoint the responsible institution for maintenance and promotion of the dialogue between the national organizations and organizations of Latvians abroad.	2012	MFA, MC, MES	A situation assessment carried out. An institution promoting dialogue between national and foreign organizations appointed.				Within the existing budget allocation.
2.4.4.2.	Signing of memorandums between the Government of Latvia and the governments of the countries where the Latvian diaspora exists regarding the aid to development of culture and education of Latvians abroad ¹⁶³ .	2012	MFA, MC, MES	Memorandums between the Government of Latvia and the governments of the countries where the Latvian diaspora exists on the aid to development of culture and education of Latvians abroad signed.				Within the existing budget allocation.
2.4.5.	Task: A study of the situation of the migration of the population.							
2.4.5.1.	Measures: A study of the social situation of Latvians abroad (in Europe, USA, Russia) and their needs to maintain links with Latvia carried out.	2014, 2016, 2018	MC, MFA					Within the existing budget allocation.
2.4.5.2.	A study of the situation carried out and proposals on population migration process record-keeping provided.	2014	MI, MC, MFA					Within the existing budget allocation. 2012-2015: EFITCN.

¹⁶³ In accordance with the Declaration of the Operation of the Cabinet of Ministers chaired by Valdis Dombrovskis, MFA has been appointed as the institution responsible for the development and implementation of a programme dedicated to the Latvian diaspora. On 6 January 2011 MFA and the World Association of Free Latvians have signed a Memorandum of Cooperation.

2.4.5.3.	A study of the interaction of the Latvians in exile and the Latvian population having left Latvia recently. Work of the researchers: (4 persons x 2 months x 1 500 lats) – 12 000 lats; Transport costs - (4 persons x 4 times x 500 lats) – 8 000 lats; Internal transport costs - (4 persons x 2 000 lats) – 8 000 lats; Living costs - (4 persons x 30 days x 50 lats) – 6 000 lats; Layout design and making publish – 500 lats.	2014, 2016, 2018	MC, MFA	A study			34 500	Additional budgetary funding required.
3.	Activity area for the achievement of the goal: SHARED SOCIAL MEMORY							
3.1.	The policy goal defined in the Guidelines: To enhance understanding of the World War II and the Soviet occupation in Latvia based on true facts and according to democratic values							
3.1.1.	Task: To improve the skills of history teachers in teaching of Latvian history of the period of World War II and the occupation of Latvia.							
3.1.1.1.	Measures: Development and implementation of the support programme for schools and teachers for efficient teaching of history of the occupation period of Latvia at schools of general education.	2012, 2013	MES, MC, MOL, NHML, NAL	In 2012 development of the programme started. In 2013 the programme developed.				Within the existing budget allocation.
3.1.1.2.	To develop training and methodological materials in cooperation with the history teachers at Latvian and national minority schools, including audiovisual materials, for efficient teaching of the history of occupation.	2012, 2013	MES, MC, MOL, NHML, NAL	In 2012 work commenced. In 2013 methodological materials developed.				Within the existing budget allocation.

3.1.1.3.	Measures for experience exchange for teachers of history, including on international level, in order to learn the best practice of history teaching methodology.	2013	MES, MC	In 2012 workshops on the best practice for the national minority school history teachers of Kurzeme and Zemgale organized. In 2013 workshops on the best practice for the national minority school history teachers of Riga and Latgale organized.				2013: indicatively - EEA Financial Mechanism.
3.1.2.	Task: Educating schoolchildren (including schoolchildren of national minorities) about the Soviet occupation.							
3.1.2.1.	Measures: Demonstration of documentary films and organization of open discussions on the occupation of Latvia at primary and secondary schools, especially at the national minority schools.	Every year	MOL, MC, SIF, NAL	In 2012 documentary films about the occupation of Latvia shown: in Riga (in 5 primary and 10 secondary schools), in Daugavpils (in 3 primary and 10 secondary schools), in Rezekne (in 5 secondary schools), in Jelgava (in 5 secondary schools). In 2013 documentary films about the occupation of Latvia shown: in Riga (in 20 secondary schools), in Liepāja (in 5 secondary schools), in Ventspils (in 3 secondary schools), in Valmiera (in 3 secondary schools), in Jurmala (in 3 secondary schools) in 2013.				EC Programme 'Culture'

3.1.2.2.	Presentations at schools on the Stalinist deportations of March 25 and June 14.	Every year	MOL, MC, SIF, MES, NAL	In 2012 documentary films about the occupation of Latvia shown: in Riga (in 5 primary and 10 secondary schools), in Daugavpils (in 3 primary and 10 secondary schools), in Rezekne (in 5 secondary schools), in Jelgava (in 5 secondary schools) in 2012. In 2013 documentary films about the occupation of Latvia shown: in Riga (in 20 secondary schools), in Liepāja (in 5 secondary schools), in Ventspils (in 3 secondary schools), in Valmiera (in 3 secondary schools), in Jurmala (in 3 secondary schools).				EC Programme 'Culture'.
3.1.2.3.	Programme development and implementation for integrated classes in the museums for Latvian and national minority schools.	Every year	MC, SIF, MOL, NHML, NAL	In 2012 programme development started. In 2013 programme developed.				2013-2016: indicatively - EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.
3.1.3.	Task: To promote research on the occupation period, to set up exhibitions in Latvian, Russian, English and other languages.	Every year	MOL, MC, NAL	At least 3 exhibitions per year held.				Within the existing budget allocation.
3.1.4.	Task: To create an Internet discussion platform on the World War II and the Soviet occupation.							
3.1.4.1.	Measures: To create and develop discussion platforms on the World War II and the Soviet occupation.	Every year	MC, SIF, MOL, NAL	In 2012 work for improvement of the MOL home page as a discussion platform commenced. In 2013 work on the MOL home page completed.				2013-2016: indicatively - EEA Financial Mechanism. From 2017 additional budgetary funding required.

3.1.4.2.	To improve the home page of the Museum of the Occupation of Latvia.	Every year	MOL, MC, SIF, NAL	Home page improved.				Within the existing budget allocation
3.1.5.	Task: To reduce dissemination of improper interpretation of true historical facts on the occupation of Latvia and the World War II.							
3.1.5.1.	Measures: To create a group of historians who would carry out prompt rebuttal of false information both in Latvia and internationally.	2014	MOL, MC, CHL, NAL	A group of historians composed of 5 experts established.				Within the existing budget allocation.
3.1.5.2.	Monitoring of public opinion on the perception of the Soviet occupation and the World War II.	2013, 2017	MC	Public opinion poll results published.				Within the existing budget allocation.
3.1.6.	Task: To promote research on national minority victims of Stalinism and Nazism, to promote the preservation of memory about them.							
3.1.6.1.	Measures: Scientific research on the extermination of the Roma during the World War II carried out.	2013	MC, SIF, MOL, CHL, NAL	A collection of scientific papers in English and Latvian published.				Within the existing budget allocation. 2013: indicatively - EEA Financial Mechanism. EC Programme 'Europe for Citizens'.
3.1.6.2.	Scientific conferences on the extermination of the Roma and the Jews (the Holocaust) during the World War II.	2014, 2016, 2018	MC, SIF, CHL, NAL					Within the existing budget allocation. 2014-2016: indicatively - EEA Financial Mechanism. EC Programme 'Europe for Citizens'.

3.1.6.3.	To promote the commemoration of the victims of Stalinism among national minorities in the regions of Latvia.	Every year	MC, SIF, MOL, NAL	In 2012 development of a single interactive map of memorial places of the victims of Stalinism commenced.				2013-2016: indicatively -EEA Financial Mechanism. EC Programme 'Europe for Citizens'. Within the existing budget allocation.
3.2.	The policy goal defined in the Guidelines: To promote exploration, research and understanding of local and European history							
3.2.1.	Task: Planning of the politics of memory.							
3.2.1.1.	Measure: To develop the planning document for the politics of memory of Latvia.	2013	MC, CHL, MFA, MES, NAL	A policy planning document developed and approved by the Cabinet.				Within the existing budget allocation.
3.2.2.	Task: To support local history research.							
3.2.2.1.	Measures: To encourage private initiatives to establish history museums in the regions of Latvia (e.g., to establish a portal for history of the regions of Latvia).	2014	MC				30 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
3.2.2.2.	Engagement of schoolchildren in the population memory recording, organizing of expeditions to the main historic sites of the municipality.	Every year	MC, MES, local governments	Expeditions of schoolchildren during the history lessons at the general education schools supported.				Within the existing budget allocation.
3.2.3.	Task: To promote the history of Latvia as part of the common European history.							
3.2.3.1.	Measures: Creating of documentary films for educational purposes on specific issues of the history of Latvia. Production and shooting expenses of the documentary films.	Every year, starting with 2014.	MC, NHML, NFCL				30 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
3.2.3.2.	To prepare an illustrated easy to perceive explanation of the history of Latvia in Latvian, Russian and English.	Every year	MC	One illustrative material per year prepared.				2012-2015: EFITCN.

3.2.3.3.	To create video materials available on the Internet on historical personalities symbolizing European culture having lived in Latvia in different centuries. Preparation of materials/design – 4 000 lats.	Every year, starting with 2014.	MC, NHML, LNMA				4 000	Additional budgetary funding required.
3.2.3.4.	To establish the badge of Honor for the persons having rescued the repressed persons.	Every year	MC, MOL, AL	Persons having rescued the repressed persons honored.				Within the existing budget allocation.
	Financing required in total				0	1 416 940	2 647 590	

10. Institutional Framework and Main Responsibilities of the National Identity, Civil Society and Integration Policy

MC is responsible for coordination of national identity, civil society and integration policy in the country. Given the increased importance of horizontal policies in the EU, including those of the national identity, civil society and integration, it is important to develop the institutional framework not only for the development of social integration policy, but also for its implementation. The main participating ministries with competence in the matters relating to national identity and social integration have been identified in the Table 3 ‘National institutional framework and the key responsibilities of national identity, civic society and integration policies.’ In the institutional framework the competence of authorities subordinate to ministries (LLA, OCMA, CSB, etc.) and local governments and their involvement in national identity, civil society and integration policy implementation and monitoring has not been described. The ministries in the implementation of national identity, civil society and integration policy do not duplicate similar activities, but complement each other in an effort to achieve common goals.

Table 3. Institutional framework of national identity, civil society and integration policy

Institution	Responsibility of the institution
MC	cultural policy (preservation of cultural heritage, its accessibility and promotion, providing of cultural education development), policy in the area of social integration ¹⁶⁴
MD	patriotic education ¹⁶⁵
MFA	development and implementation of common foreign policy; issues related to opening of diplomatic and consular representative offices and operation abroad ¹⁶⁶
ME	housing policy, small and medium size enterprise policy ¹⁶⁷
MI	personal and public safety; citizenship and naturalization; population registration and documentation, as well as migration ¹⁶⁸ ; determining of the legal status of persons in the country; record keeping of the population in the country ¹⁶⁹
MES	access to education; development of educational standards and programmes; quality improvement of the educational process; implementation of the policy on official language ¹⁷⁰
MJ	protection of personal data, public registers; religious affairs; legal aid provided by the State; information of the society and dialogue with the society about the policy of law, as well as development of public awareness and legal reasoning according to the principles of a democratic State; monitoring of the official language; training of judges and court personnel and improvement of their professional skills ¹⁷¹
MW	implementation of the policy on employment, social protection, children and family rights, equal opportunities for persons with disabilities and gender equality and organization and coordination of these policies ¹⁷²

¹⁶⁴ In accordance with the Cabinet Regulation No. 241 of 29 April 2003 ‘By-law of the Ministry of Culture.’

¹⁶⁵ In accordance with the Cabinet Regulation No. 236 of 29 April 2003 ‘By-law of the Ministry of Defense’

¹⁶⁶ In accordance with the Cabinet Regulation No. 237 of 29 April 2003 ‘By-law of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.’

¹⁶⁷ In accordance with the Cabinet Regulation No. 271 of 23 March 2010 ‘By-law of the Ministry of Economics.’

¹⁶⁸ In accordance with the Cabinet Regulation No.243 of 29 April 2003 ‘By-law of the Ministry of the Interior.’

¹⁶⁹ In accordance with the Cabinet Regulation No.811 of 3 October 2006 ‘By-law of the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs.’

¹⁷⁰ In accordance with the Cabinet Regulation No. 528 of 16 September 2003 ‘By-law of the Ministry of Education and Science.’

¹⁷¹ In accordance with the Cabinet Regulation No. 243 of 23 April 2003 ‘By-law of the Ministry of Justice.’

¹⁷² In accordance with the Cabinet Regulation No. 49 of 27 January 2004 ‘By-law of the Ministry of Welfare.’

9.	MEPRD	planning and coordination of national and regional development; development and monitoring of local governments; introduction of one-stop agency principle in the access to the State and local government services; electronic government, information society and information technologies in public administration ¹⁷³ ; development of regulatory enactments in the field of numbering and radio frequency spectrum management
10.	SC	responsible for coordination of the work of the Council for Implementation of the Cooperation Memorandum between NGOs and the Cabinet ¹⁷⁴
11.	MF	organization and coordination of the implementation of the financial policy ¹⁷⁵
12.	MT	communications policy ¹⁷⁶
13.	MH	development of further education process for medical personnel, provision of quality and evaluation; health care ¹⁷⁷
14.	SIF	financial support for and promotion of social integration in accordance with the policy planning documents; support for implementation of public and non-governmental sector programmes and projects ¹⁷⁸

In practice up to the present time resolving of interdisciplinary issues, such as guaranteeing equal opportunities for different groups and prevention of discrimination, is increasingly being provided using the so-called integrated approach. On the one hand, this approach should be encouraged and does not create a situation when policies are developing in a fragmented way; on the other hand, an effective coordination mechanism is needed. For example, the introduction of non-discrimination policy is a horizontal issue and a number of ministries are responsible for it. However, in cases involving discrimination issues in respect of a particular form of discrimination and outside the employment area, it may not always be possible to identify the responsible institution. Therefore, the issue of identifying a single responsible sector ministry for the mentioned area should be evaluated.

Ministries are responsible for developing of sector policies, as well as engaging in the policy development process of other ministries by applying appropriate tools, particularly in assessing the impact of sector policies on the social integration target groups. This issue is particularly important for cultural, welfare and education policy development, so that these policies should be inclusive for the whole Latvian society and meet the diverse needs of the Latvian society. There are a number of advisory boards composed of the State, local government, NGO representatives and social partners. Their role is to advise and inform the responsible ministry on the sector related issues. An important partner in the field of civil integration is the Council for Implementation of the Cooperation Memorandum between NGOs and the Cabinet. Responsible authorities should continue to develop a wide range of society engagement tools for policy making process, paying particular attention to the delegation of tasks to the NGO sector.

In the course of migration policy development immigrant integration policy is becoming increasingly more important, thus the responsibilities and competence of the participating ministries in respect to immigrant integration should be reviewed. MI and MC are the contact points¹⁷⁹ for a

¹⁷³ In accordance with the Cabinet Regulation No.233 of 29 March 2011 ‘By-law of the Ministry of Environment and Regional Development.’

¹⁷⁴ In accordance with the Cabinet Regulation No. 22 of 10 January 2006 ‘By-law of the Council for Implementation of the Cooperation Memorandum between Non-governmental Organizations and the Cabinet of Ministers’.

¹⁷⁵ In accordance with the Cabinet Regulation No. 239 of 23 April 2003 ‘By-law of the Ministry of Finance’

¹⁷⁶ In accordance with the Cabinet Regulation No. 242 of 23 April 2003 ‘By-law of the Ministry of Transport’

¹⁷⁷ In accordance with the Cabinet Regulation No. 286 of 13 April 2004 ‘By-law of the Ministry of Health’

¹⁷⁸ According to the Law On Society Integration Fund.

¹⁷⁹ Participation in the Non-discrimination Governmental expert group set up by EC Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities in 2008, the network of the National Contact Points on

number of international organizations in respect to migration and discrimination prevention issues. MFA, MES and MC in turn maintain links with expatriate Latvians; it requires close cooperation in the introduction of national or international standards, or the development of best practice. MC has resources of libraries, museums, cultural centers and cultural education establishments, where the preconditions for social integration are created by developing cooperation with social institutions and schools.

The Latvian NGOs¹⁸⁰ and the social partners operate not only on the national but also on international level, representing the public interest.

One of the Ombudsman's functions is to promote the principle of equal treatment and non-discrimination. The Ombudsman has a right to apply to court and the Constitutional Court in cases of violation of the prohibition of differential treatment. The Ombudsman's functions encompass promotion of the principle of equal treatment and elimination of all forms of discrimination, and detection of shortcomings in matters related to human rights and good governance principle in legislation and contributing to prevention of the mentioned shortcomings in the implementation of the legislation.

Cooperation with law enforcement authorities is needed not only in order to provide better legal arrangements but also for training of the employees on issues of tolerance and non-discrimination.

NEMMC according to its competence represents the public interests in the area of electronic media, as well as provides the public order.

There are several financial aid programmes available in the area of social integration. The mission of SIF is to support and promote social integration in accordance with national priorities, as well as to ensure development of public and non-governmental sector programmes and projects.

Section 15 of the Law 'On Local Governments', in force from 9 June 1996, defines the autonomous functions of a local government. Among the local government functions promotion of national identity, civil society and integration are not listed, however there are functions associated with this area, such as: to take care of education of the population; to maintain culture and to promote the preservation of the values of traditional culture and development of national creativity; to ensure social support for the population, to provide assistance in resolving the housing issues; to organize further education for teachers and methodological work in education, etc. Local governments play an important role in the integration process, both on local and regional level. The resolving of social integration issues at the local governments is affected not only by the political approach and understanding of integration, but also knowledge, skills and attitudes of the employees of local governments in dealing with integration issues. Although only few local governments implement

Integration set up by the EC Directorate-General for Justice, Freedom and Security, National Points of Contact on Combating Hate Crime set up in 2005 by the OSCE Institute for Democracy and the Human Rights Office.

¹⁸⁰ The operation of non-governmental organizations in Latvia is governed by the Law on Associations and Foundations, which came into force on 1 May 2004, and two legal forms of NGOs are distinguished - associations and foundations. Until 30 April 2004 the operation of non-governmental organizations in Latvia was regulated by the Law 'On Public Organizations and Associations.' According to the Law from 2 January 2006 public organizations were re-registered in the Latvian Enterprise Register as associations or foundations. Organizations that have not been re-registered were wound up as provided by law. Organizations that have received public benefit status, should observe in addition the Law on Public Benefit Organizations.

social integration programmes, it indicates the importance of the issue and the need to develop social integration issues in the regions in future, taking into account the differences existing therein.

Regular research on the effectiveness of integration policies is needed in the following areas: general education system, media, social memory, the Latvian language skills and use, social exclusion risk groups, civil society development, impact of cultural institutions on social integration, Latvians abroad, immigration.

Table 4 below reflects the measures for implementation of the policy on national identity, civil society and integration and provision of coordination between the institutions.

Table 4. Implementation of the Policy on National Identity, Civil Society and Integration and provision of coordination between the institutions.

No.	Tasks and main measures to achieve the determined goal	Term of implementation	Responsible institution and involved institutions ¹⁸¹	Direct performance indicators ¹⁸²	Required funding and sources
1	To establish a system of coordinated cooperation and fast information exchange on social integration policy processes of institutions involved in national identity, civil society and integration policy development and implementation ¹⁸³ .				
1.1.	A Council for national identity, civil society and integration policy guideline implementation established, the task of which is to ensure the monitoring of the implementation of the Guidelines.	At least twice a year	MC	Council established.	Within the existing budget allocation.
1.2.	Meeting of the officials responsible for carrying out the functions of NGO coordinators in the ministries.	Every year	MC	At least 1 meeting per year held.	Within the existing budget allocation.
1.3.	Workshops on national identity, civil society and integration policy developments and the results in the planning regions and local governments.	Every year	MC	At least 1 workshop in each planning region per year held.	Within the existing budget allocation.
2	To carry out regular and systematic monitoring of social integration policy.				
2.1.	Latvian national identity, civil society and integration policy evaluation system developed. Regular surveys carried out and data collected on the compatriots abroad, non-citizens, immigrants, the Roma, national minorities, social exclusion risk groups and the wider society on issues of Latvian language skills and use, access to culture, discrimination, tolerance, civic education and participation, inclusive education, media literacy and use, attitude toward the events of the history of Latvia.	Every year, amendments and additions made as needed	MC, MES, MFA, MI, NEMMC, SIF	See the following tasks and measures in Chapter 9 of the Guidelines: 1.1.1, 1.2.8, 1.3.4, 1.3.6.3, 1.3.6.5, 1.4.1.2, 1.4.1.4, 1.4.1.5, 2.1.3, 2.4.5, 3.1.5.2, 3.1.6.1.	Funding sources. See the following tasks and measures in Chapter 9 of the Guidelines: 1.1.1, 1.2.8, 1.3.4, 1.3.6.3, 1.3.6.5, 1.4.1.2, 1.4.1.4, 1.4.1.5, 2.1.3, 2.4.5, 3.1.5.2, 3.1.6.1.

¹⁸¹ The direct operating results described are attributed only to operational policy for two subsequent years (2012-2013). After the environmental and impact assessment of the first stage of the programming document the implementation plan of the guidelines for the next period of 2014 – 2015 will be developed.

¹⁸² The institution indicated first is the main responsible institution for the implementation of the task or the measure

¹⁸³ of the Ministries - MC, MFA, MES, MW, MJ, FM, MI of other state institutions - the Ombudsman, the OCMA, the State Police, Security Police, SEA, SIF, NGOs, social partners, etc.

3.	To apply the best international practice in improving of national identity, civil society and integration policy and to ensure the representation of interests of Latvia in international institutions.				
3.1.	Representation of Latvia in international organizations and initiatives on integration, discrimination prevention and tolerance issues ensured.	Every year	MC	Information on the results and conclusions on the home page of the responsible ministry published.	Within the existing budget allocation.
3.2.	Regular exchange of the best practice in the area of immigrant integration in the European Union.	Every year	MC, MW, MI, MH, MEPRD	4 experience exchange visits per year (2012, 2013).	EFITCN.
4	To ensure that social integration policy is planned and implemented by the local governments by using also the examples of the best practice.				
4.1.	A regional coordinator for strengthening civil society and social integration in each planning region appointed.	2016	MC, MEPRD, local governments	A system of regional coordinators for strengthening of civil society and social integration established.	Additional budgetary funding required.
4.2	Information support materials 'Guidelines and target groups of national identity, civil society and integration policy: theory and best practice' for local governments.	2012, 2016	MC, MEPRD, local governments	Support materials published.	Within the existing budget allocation.
4.3	National Integration Center in support for immigrant participation, including access to the information necessary for participation (a shared home page, information materials, counseling), including support points for third-country nationals in the regions of Latvia.	2012	MC, MI (OCMA), MEPRD, local governments	A support system for third country nationals coordinated by the project implementation unit of the MC - National Integration Centre established.	EFITCN.

11. Evaluation of the Effect on the National Budget and Local Government Budgets

An action plan for the implementation of the Guidelines has been prepared for 2012 and 2013. In the circumstances of financial and economic crisis in the coming years the amount of funding available will be insufficient to implement the national identity, civil society and integration policy in full extent. In 2012 the participating institutions will implement the Guidelines within the framework of the State budget allocated to these institutions. A number of measures shall be implemented by way of attracting international financial instrument funds:

- EEA Financial Mechanism block grant 'NGO Fund' for 2009 - 2014;
- EU Employment Promotion and Social Solidarity Programme PROGRESS for 2007 - 2013;
- European Fund for the Integration of Third-country Nationals for 2007 - 2013, the implementation of which has been envisaged by 30 June 2015 (it has also been envisaged to provide funding for the next programming period);
- European Refugee Fund for 2008 - 2013;
- European Community Programme 'Culture' for 2007 - 2013;
- European Community Programme 'Europe for Citizens' for 2007 - 2013;
- European Union Funds - ERDF and ESF;
- Latvian-Swiss Cooperation Programme 'NGO Fund' (until July 2012) and Latvian-Swiss Cooperation Programme 'Support for the development of youth initiatives in peripheral or disadvantaged regions';
- Within the scope of the 'European Year of Citizens' (2013).

The funding necessary for the implementation of the Guidelines, onwards from 2014, will depend on the tasks included in the action plans.

The Guidelines do not contain any tasks directly affecting local government budgets.

(1) The general objective of the Programme "Funds for NGOs" 2009-2014 of the EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanism is to strengthen the development of the civic society and to contribute to social justice, democracy and sustainable development. Special interests – to support intercultural dialogue and integration of national minorities, including awareness-raising and educating activities on citizenship issues and language training, as well capacity building of NGOs – have been specified in the acquisition of the programme. In order to ensure the introduction of the financial mechanism, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Republic of Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the Republic of Latvia on 28 April 2011, in which the main aspects for introduction of the financial mechanism in the Republic of Latvia are stipulated. The manager of the programme is the SIF. The total financing of the programme "Funds for NGOs" is LVL 7,284,522, including financing for projects, measures for establishment of project partnerships, management costs of the programme. It is planned to introduce the programme "Funds for NGOs" as a two-grant scheme: "Support Programme for Activities of NGOs" and "Programme for NGO Projects". "Support Programme for Activities of NGOs", the total indicative sum of which is 40% of the sum total available to the projects. Projects will support the following fields as a priority: democracy and participatory democracy; human rights, including national minority rights (ethnic, religious, linguistic, sexual orientation); good management and openness; restriction of racism, xenophobia and elimination of discrimination, reduction of social inequality, poverty and exclusion, including in rural areas; gender equality and reduction of gender-based violence. 60% of the total financing available to the programme projects are intended for "Programme for NGO Projects", within the scope of which it is intended to support activities of the social sector, including welfare improvement and provision of basic services, local and regional initiatives of non-governmental organisations for the promotion of social inclusion, support to children and young persons subjected to the risk of social exclusion and the promotion of gender equality, as

well as to intercultural dialogue and integration of national minorities, including awareness-raising activities and educating activities on citizenship issues, and language training activities. The programme should support capacity building of non-governmental organisations.

It is planned that the first competition of projects within the scope of “Programme for NGO Projects” will be announced during the first half of 2012. In the next years until 2016 the programme “Funds for NGOs” will be acquired in proportion in equal parts.

Taking into account the above mentioned, it is not possible to indicate precise results of direct activities and financing for the tasks and measures in the action plan, the implementation of which is intended within the scope of the programme “Funds for NGOs”.

The planned time period for the implementation of the programme is from 2012 to 2017, including the time period for the implementation of projects until 30 April 2016. The common results of activities within the scope of the programme “Funds for NGOs” will be determined when the programme of the NGO fund is approved. It is anticipated that the programme will be approved during the first half of 2012.

(2) The EU Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity PROGRESS 2007-2013

(hereinafter – PROGRESS) has been created in order to stimulate changes and to introduce modern solutions in five areas: employment, social integration, working conditions, non-discrimination and gender equality. Target groups of PROGRESS: governments of Member States, regional administrative institutions, State employment services and statistics bureaus. Structures with more narrow specialisation, for example, institutions of higher education and scientific institutes, social partners and non-governmental organisations, may also participate. The EC selects the projects to be financed by announcing a competition. Normally, it grants not more than 80% of the financing.

On 15 June 2011 the MC submitted the current project “Latvia – Equality in Diversity VI” (LED VI)¹⁸⁴ within the scope of the application section “Anti-discrimination and diversity”. The objective of the financing is to support the national activities in the prevention of discrimination and the promotion of equality. EC will provide an answer regarding the approval or rejection of the project in the time period from October to December 2011. In case of approval grant contracts will be entered into in the time period from November to December 2011, the project will have to be implemented from December 2011 until December 2012. The total financing of the project is **LVL 219,472**, from them **LVL 175,577** is the financing of the EU (80% of the sum total) and **LVL 43,894** are funds from the State budget (20% of the sum total).

VAT has to be covered from the funds from the State budget because within the scope of this project VAT is ineligible costs in the amount of LVL 35,107.

(3) A Multiannual Programme 2007-2013 has been developed for the acquisition of the **European Fund for the Integration of Third-country Nationals (EFITCN)**, for the implementation of which the following priorities have been specified:

- the implementation of measures, which are intended for the implementation into practice of the common basic principles of the EU policy for integration of immigrants;
- the development of indicators and evaluation methodologies in order to evaluate the progress, to adjust the policy and measures and to promote co-ordination of comparative training;
- the development of the policy potential, co-ordination and development of intercultural competence in Member States at different levels and State administrative institutions;
- exchange of experience, good practice and information among Member States in the field of integration.

It is intended to acquire the funds of the programme for year 2010 and the programme for year 2011 of the Funds during the time period of 2012-2013 specified in the plan for implementation of the Guidelines. The programme for year 2010 of the Funds has been approved by the EC, and

¹⁸⁴ Latvia had successfully implemented projects LED III (2007/2008) and LED IV (2008/2009) within the scope of the PROGRESS programme.

within the scope thereof financing in the amount of **LVL 1,241,983.87** will be available to the Republic of Latvia, including the EC financing in the amount of **LVL 953,440.20** (75% of the total financing), the co-financing of Latvia – **LVL 288,539.70**. The programme for year 2011 of the Funds is currently being evaluated by the EC – the financing planned by the EC for the Republic of Latvia for the implementation of the programme for year 2011 is **LVL 1,073,450.52**. It is planned that the EFITCN programme will be continued also after 2015.

(4) State and local government institutions of the Republic of Latvia, NGOs and commercial companies have an opportunity to participate in project competitions of EC financial programmes (**European Community programme “Culture” (2007-2013)**, **European Community programme “Europe for Citizens” (2007-2013)**), including in implementing the tasks and measures specified in the Guidelines.¹⁸⁵ The time period of operation of both programmes is from 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2013.

The objective of the **programme “Culture”** is to promote the creation of a common cultural space based on cultural heritage for the inhabitants of Europe, developing co-operation between culture organisations and institutions of Member States in the field of culture, emphasising the significance of belonging to Europe. The programme promotes international mobility of people working in the field of culture, supports international circulation of culture and art works and promotes intercultural dialogue. The European Community programme “Culture” is intended for the support of different fields of culture, without emphasising any field as a priority field. The directions to be supported – co-operation projects, multiannual co-operation projects, co-operation projects with the third countries, projects of literary translations, support to European culture festivals and operational subsidies for culture organisations of European level – have been specified for the programme.

Programme “Europe for Citizens” promotes active civic awareness of Europe and, therefore, also the involvement of residents and organisations of the civic society in integration processes of Europe. The programme is based on the following action directions – commonwealth projects of local governments, projects of residents and support measures, structural support to political research organisations of Europe and to civic society organisations of European level, as well as support to projects for commemoration of victims to Nazism and Stalinism regime.

(5) Measures of the Guidelines will be implemented also within the scope of the **European Year of Citizens (2013)**.

In accordance with a draft decision of the European Parliament and the Council (COM(2011)489) it is planned to announce that the year 2013 will be the European Year of Citizens, specifying the following specific objectives thereto:

- to increase the understanding of the EU citizens regarding their right to freedom of movement and residence in the EU and, in a wider context, the rights guaranteed to EU citizens in cross-border situations, including their right to participate in the democratic life of the EU;
- to increase the understanding of the EU citizens regarding the opportunity to obtain material benefit from EU rights and policy when residing in another Member State and to promote their active participation in civic forums on the EU policy and issues;
- to promote debates on the impact of the right to freedom of movement and the opportunities as an integral aspect of the EU citizenship, particularly from the point of view of strengthening

¹⁸⁵ In the previous years, within the scope of the European Community programme “Culture” (2007-2013) the following projects were implemented with the participation of organisations and institutions of Latvia: in 2009 – 8 projects (total financing was EUR 2,854,308), in 2010 – 15 projects (total financing was EUR 8,134,355), in 2011 13 projects have been supported (total financing – EUR 4,680,257). In the previous years, within the scope of the European Community programme “Europe for Citizens” (2007-2013) the following projects were implemented with the participation of organisations and institutions of Latvia: in 2009 – 17 projects (total financing was EUR 263,005), in 2010 – 60 projects (total financing was EUR 2,807,070), in 2011 34 projects have been supported (total financing – EUR 1,864,310).

social cohesion, mutual understanding of EU citizens and mutual link between citizens and the EU.

Table 5. Impact of the Policy Planning Document on State and Local Government Budgets

	Next three years (thous. of lats)			
	2012	2013	2014	
Total changes in budget revenue, including:				
Changes in the State budget revenue				
Changes in local government budget revenue				
Total changes in budget expenditure, including:	0	1416,9	2647,6	
Changes in the State budget expenditure	0	1416,9	2647,6	
Changes in local government budget expenditure				
Total financial impact:	0	-1416,9	-2647,6	
Financial impact on the State budget	0	-1416,9	-2647,6	
Financial impact on local government budget				
<i>Including division of the additionally necessary financing according to ministries and institutions involved:</i>				
Ministry of Culture	0	458,0	1496,5	
Ministry of Education and Science	0	360,0	411,0	
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	0	13,0	40,0	
Ministry of Welfare	0	7,3	0	
Ministry of Justice	0	0	126,5	
Society Integration Fund	0	500,0	500,0	
National Electronic Mass Media Council	0	78,6	73,6	
Other information				
As co-financing for the acquisition of foreign financial programmes it is intended to re-divide from Programme No. 80 "Undivided Financing for Implementation of European Union Policy Instruments and Other Foreign Financial Assistance Projects and Programmes" of the Department No. 74 "Financing to be Redivided during Implementation of the Annual State Budget", including the necessary PROGRESS co-financing in the amount of 20%, as well as for the provision of the co-financing from the State budget for other supported projects.				
Provisional changes in the budget expenditure from 2015 to 2018	2015	2016	2017	2018
Detailed calculation of the necessary financing for the implementation of these measures will be provided in the plan for the implementation of the Guidelines for 2014-2015 and the plan for the implementation of the Guidelines for 2016-2018.	-2 643	- 2 718	- 2 888	- 3 036

12. Basis for Future Action

In order to achieve the goals set out in the Guidelines, MC shall prepare implementation plans for specific programming periods. Currently it is possible to prospect availability of State and local government budget funds, as well as the amount of the State co-financing within the framework of specific international financial mechanisms in order to implement the action plan measures in long term only provisionally.

In preparation of the plan for 2014 - 2015 and for the subsequent years, it will be assessed, to what extent measures that require additional budgetary resources can be included. Not only the existing international financial mechanisms will be utilized, but in addition also new opportunities identified.

Table 6. Future Action Plan

No.	Description of the action	Term of implementation
1.	Plan for the implementation of the Guidelines for 2014 - 2015 developed.	1 December 2013
2.	An information report on the progress of the implementation of the action plan for the Guidelines for 2012 - 2013 prepared.	1 July 2014
3.	An interim assessment prepared.	1 July 2015
4.	Plan for the implementation of the Guidelines for 2016 - 2018 developed.	1 December 2015
5.	An information report on the progress of the implementation of the action plan for the Guidelines for 2014 - 2015 prepared.	1 July 2016
6.	An information report on the progress of the implementation of the action plan for the Guidelines for 2016 - 2018 prepared.	1 September 2019
7.	Final impact assessment of the implementation of the Guidelines prepared.	1 September 2019

13. Procedure of Reporting and Evaluation

MC is the institution responsible for implementation, coordination and control of the Guidelines. The implementation of the Guidelines is monitored by the Council of the institutions involved, including NGO representatives, established by the Prime Minister.

Implementation of the Guidelines is provided by the MC in cooperation with other ministries, as well as other State, local and non-governmental institutions involved in the implementation of national identity, civil society and integration policy.

MC shall provide information to the Cabinet regarding:

- implementation of the Guidelines twice during the period of operation of the Guidelines: an interim assessment in 2015 and the final impact assessment in 2019;
- as well as three information reports on the implementation of the action plans for the Guidelines in 2014, 2016 and 2019.

If necessary, the MC may prepare amendments to the Guidelines and submit them for consideration to the Cabinet.

Minister for Culture

S. Ēlerte

Policy Results and Certificates for Outcome Indicators Thereof

Policy result	Stronger sense of belonging of the schoolchildren to Latvia
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	The proportion of schoolchildren responding “I respect Latvia very much”, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the proportion of schoolchildren at schools with Latvian as the language of instruction (%) • the proportion of schoolchildren at schools with Russian as the language of instruction (%)
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: Publication “ <i>Skolēnu pilsoniskā izglītība Latvijā un pasaulē. Starptautiskā pētījuma IEA ICCS 2009 pirmie rezultāti</i> ” [Schoolchildren’s Civil Education in Latvia and in the World. International Survey IEA ICCS 2009 First Results]. Riga, <i>LU Pedagoģijas, psiholoģijas un mākslas fakultātes Izglītības pētniecības institūts</i> [Education Research Institute of the Faculty of Education, Psychology and Art of the University of Latvia], 2010, p. 43. International study, conducting of which is organised by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA)
Frequency of measurement	Study is conducted once in 10 years
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	Both indicators increase
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the task No. 1.1.2 of the GAP “Improvement of civic knowledge and skills of children and young people at all levels of education” • Implementation of the Guidelines for the Development of Education 2007-2013
Other information	
Policy result	Promotion of more extensive involvement of the population in forms of civic participation
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	The proportion of the voters who participated in the <i>Saeima</i> elections (%)
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: Data of the Central Election Commission http://web.cvk.lv/pub/upload_file/Sa10/aktiv/Novadi.pdf The number of voters who participated in elections versus the total number of voters.
Frequency of measurement	Once in 4 years
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the measure No. 1.2.1.2 of the Guideline Action Plan (hereinafter – GAP) “Provision of opportunities for electronic voting and introduction of electoral register at the Parliamentary elections” • Implementation of the Youth Policy Guidelines 2009-2018 • Implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia until 2030
Other information	
Outcome indicator No 2 of the policy result	The number of residents who are of opinion that they are able to influence the decision-making process in Latvia
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: <i>Sabiedrības viedoklis par NVO sektoru Latvijā</i> [Public Opinion on the NGO Sector in Latvia]. Riga: <i>Latvijas Fakti</i> , 2011. – p. 7 The indicator will be obtained by performing monitoring of the development of civic participation process, obstacles and challenges
Frequency of measurement	Periodically
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the task No. 1.1.4 of the GAP “To develop civic education within the lifelong education programme” • Implementation of the task No. 1.2.1 of the GAP “To promote political participation of the

	population” • Implementation of the task No. 1.2.5 of the GAP “Development of traditional and non-traditional forms of civic participation” • Implementation of the Latvian National Development Plan 2007-2013
Other information	
Outcome indicator No 3 of the policy result	Proportion of young people (%) involved in any activity of voluntary work
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: <i>Jaunatnes politikas pamatnostādnes 2009.-2018. gadam</i> [Youth Policy Guidelines 2009-2018], IZM [MoES]. Riga, 2009. p. 66
Frequency of measurement	Periodically
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases
Related results of the activity	• Implementation of the task No. 1.2.3 of the GAP “To promote civic participation of young people” • Implementation of the task No. 1.2.6 of the GAP “Support for volunteer work” • Implementation of the Youth Policy Guidelines 2009-2018
Other information	
Outcome indicator No 4 of the policy result	Average number of NGOs per 1000 residents in Latvia
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: The indicator is calculated, using <i>Lursoft</i> data – the division of NGOs according to regions of Latvia (accessed on August 2011) http://www.lursoft.lv/lursoft-statistika/Sabiedrisko-organizaciju-to-apvienibu-biedribu-un-nodibinajumu-dibinasanas-dinamika&id=41 and using statistical data on residents of the Central Statistics Bureau (as on 1 January 2011) http://www.csb.gov.lv/statistikas-temas/iedzivotaji-galvenie-raditaji-30260.html
Frequency of measurement	Each year
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases
Related results of the activity	• Implementation of the task No. 1.2.4 of the GAP “Improving conditions of operation for non-governmental organisations” • Implementation of the measure No. 1.2.6.2 of the GAP “NGO capacity building in order to ensure opportunities for establishing environment favorable for volunteer involvement in NGOs”
Other information	
Policy result	Increase in the political participation of expatriated Latvians
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	The number of persons who voted outside Latvia (persons)
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: data of the Central Election Commission http://web.cvk.lv/pub/upload_file/Sa10/aktiv/Arzemes_Valstis.pdf
Frequency of measurement	Once in four years
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases
Related results of the activity	• Implementation of the measure No. 1.2.1.2 of the GAP “Provision of opportunities for electronic voting and introduction of electoral register at the Parliamentary elections”
Other information	
Policy result	Increase in the participation of representatives of national minorities in the public sector, increase in the proportion of residents of Latvia who trust other nationalities living in Latvia
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	The proportion of persons employed in the public sector (%): • representatives of national minorities
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: <i>M.Hazans. Etniskās minoritātes Latvijas darba tirgū no 1997. līdz 2009.gadam. situācija integrācijas virzītājspēki un šķēršļi// Cik integrēta ir Latvija?</i> [Ethnic Minorities in

	the Labour Market of Latvia: Situation, Driving Force of Integration and Obstacles// How integrated Latvia is?] <i>N.Muižnieks</i> (ed.) Riga: <i>LU Akadēmiskais apgāds</i> , 2010, p. 159
Frequency of measurement	Monitoring study
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicators increase
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the measure No. 1.2.1.4 of the GAP “Public participation in policy making and implementation process on local government, public administration and the European Union level” • Implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia until 2030
Other information	
Policy result	Continuation of the naturalisation process, as well as increase in the level of awareness and understanding of residents regarding citizenship issues
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	The proportion of non-citizens among residents of Latvia (%)
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: IS09. <i>PASTĀVĪGO IEDZĪVOTĀJU VALSTISKĀ PIEDERĪBA GADA SĀKUMĀ</i> [Nationality of Permanent Residents at the Beginning of the Year]. Data of the Central Statistics Bureau as on 1 January 2011.
Frequency of measurement	Each year
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator reduces
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the task No. 1.2.2 of the GAP “To support measures (workshops, public debate and consultations, website development, information materials) aimed at promoting growth of the proportion of citizens in Latvia and motivation of non-citizens to acquire Latvian citizenship” • Implementation of the Policy Guidelines for Strengthening Civil Society 2005-2014
Other information	
Outcome indicator No 2 of the policy result	Number of persons admitted to the citizenship of Latvia according to the procedures of naturalisation (persons per year)
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: data of the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs http://www.pmlp.lv/lv/statistika/Naturalizacija.html
Frequency of measurement	Each year
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator is stable or gradually increases
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the task No. 1.2.2 of the GAP “To support measures (workshops, public debate and consultations, website development, information materials) aimed at promoting growth of the proportion of citizens in Latvia and motivation of non-citizens to acquire Latvian citizenship” • Implementation of the Policy Guidelines for Strengthening Civil Society 2005-2014
Other information	
Policy result	Reduction of differences in employment levels of different ethnic groups
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	Proportions of ethnic groups among long-term unemployed persons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latvians • Russians • Roma
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: Calculation performed according to the data of the SEA http://www.nva.gov.lv/index.php?cid=6&mid=330&txt=336&t=stat , relating the unemployed persons of the relevant nationality against the whole group of long-term unemployed persons. Target indicator is selected according to the number of the relevant ethnic group in the total number of residents (number of residents as on 1 January 2011, data of the CSB)
Frequency of measurement	Each year

Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	Indicators tend to the number of residents of the relevant ethnic group in the total number of residents
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the task No. 1.3.1 of the GAP “Inclusion into society of persons who are marginalized due to poverty and geographical isolation” • Implementation of the measure No. 1.3.6.1 of the GAP “To increase the level of education of the children of the Roma, ensuring adequate training programmes and methods, and expand opportunities for the Roma community representatives, who are above the age of compulsory education, to participate in” • Implementation of the measure No. 1.3.6.3 of the GAP “Situation analysis and improvement of the professional skills of the Roma, inclusion of the Roma in the labour market and promotion of the entrepreneurship”
Other information	
Policy result	Increase in the level of awareness and understanding of residents of Latvia as regards discrimination and tolerance issues
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	The number of submissions received by the Ombudsman regarding the alleged discrimination (number of submissions)
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: Report of the Ombudsman of 2010 p. 142
Frequency of measurement	Each year
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases. The situation when the number of complaints received increases should be evaluated from two points of view – on the one hand, it may signify that the number of such cases has increased when people have felt that they have been discriminated, and, on the other hand, the awareness and knowledge of people regarding issues of antidiscrimination has increased and people will be more purposeful in the protection of their rights against discrimination.
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the task No. 1.3.2 of the GAP “Regular educational and awareness raising measures on migration and integration of third-country nationals for different target groups of society, including awareness raising measures with the participation of immigrants and measures for the representatives of the media” • Implementation of the task No. 1.3.3 of the GAP “To inform the public and to train professionals of various supporting professions¹⁸⁶ [13] in respect to tolerance and social exclusion, intercultural competencies and case law relating to discrimination” • Implementation of the task No. 1.3.4 of the GAP “Development of non-discrimination monitoring and evaluation system” • Implementation of the task No. 1.3.5 of the GAP “Promotion of intercultural dialogue skills in education”
Other information	Dynamics of the number of submissions in 2007 – 304, in 2008 – 320, in 2009 – 181. Explanation for the inactivity of people as regards reporting on cases of discrimination – general depression related to the economic crisis and on the background thereof – disbelief in changes in the situation.
Policy result	Provision of an efficient system for inclusion of the Roma children in general education schools
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	The proportion of the Roma schoolchildren who discontinue studies in general education schools because of the lack of resources (%)
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: <i>Romu tiesības uz izglītību: īstenošanas situācija Latvijā</i> [Rights of Roma to Education: Implementation Situation in Latvia]. Riga: IIC, 2011, p. 30
Frequency of measurement	Performing monitoring study
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator reduces

¹⁸⁶ Specialists of the aiding professions - employees who perform professional activities in social, education and health area, such as social workers, education staff (psychologists, educators), medical personnel and other public administration representatives.

Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the task No. 1.3.6 of the GAP “Support measures for the integration of the Roma, increase of their level of education and employment, as well as in the field of higher accessibility to health and social care, and housing services” • Fulfilment of the EC notification on the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020
Other information	
Policy result	Increase in the number of common information sources for residents of Latvia, majority of residents of Latvia regularly receive information from public media of Latvia and trust them
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	The proportion of residents of Latvia who watch channels broadcasting in Latvian: LTV1, LTV7, LNT, TV3 (%)
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	<p>Source: Baltic Institute of Social Sciences. <i>Situācijas izpēte elektronisko plašsaziņas līdzekļu nozares attīstības nacionālās stratēģijas 2012.-2017.gada izstrādei</i> [Study of the Situation for the Drawing up of the National Strategy for the Development of the Field of Electronic Media 2012-2017]. Riga, 2011. p. 9</p> <p>The indicator is obtained by adding up the time parts of watching LTV1, LTV7, LNT and TV3, watched by viewers of other nationalities</p>
Frequency of measurement	Periodically
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the task No. 1.4.1 of the GAP “To ensure the quality of public media content, especially with regard to reflection of social integration, national identity and discrimination prevention in the public order” • Implementation of the task No. 1.4.2 of the GAP “To ensure diversity and availability of public media content” • Implementation of the task No. 1.4.3 of the GAP “To increase the capacity and professional qualifications of media employees” • Implementation of the task No. 1.4.4 of the GAP “To develop media literacy programmes for different target groups”
Other information	
Outcome indicator No 2 of the policy result	<p>Average audience of news broadcasts from the point of view of nationalities for television channels of Latvia broadcasting in Latvian: LTV1, LTV7, LNT, TV3 (%), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latvians • viewers of other nationalities
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	<p>Source: Baltic Institute of Social Sciences. <i>Situācijas izpēte elektronisko plašsaziņas līdzekļu nozares attīstības nacionālās stratēģijas 2012.-2017.gada izstrādei</i> [Study of the Situation for the Drawing up of the National Strategy for the Development of the Field of Electronic Media 2012-2017]. Riga, 2011. p. 14</p> <p>The indicator is obtained by adding up the audiences of news broadcasts of LTV1, LTV7, LNT and TV3</p>
Frequency of measurement	Each year
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the task No. 1.4.1 of the GAP “To ensure the quality of public media content, especially with regard to reflection of social integration, national identity and discrimination prevention in the public order” • Implementation of the task No. 1.4.2 of the GAP “To ensure diversity and availability of public media content” • Implementation of the task No. 1.4.3 of the GAP “To increase the capacity and professional qualifications of media employees” • Implementation of the task No. 1.4.4 of the GAP “To develop media literacy programmes for different target groups”
Other information	

Policy result	Improvement of the Latvian language proficiency for those residents whose mother tongue is not Latvian
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	The proportion of the persons who successfully passed the examination of the Latvian language for the receipt of citizenship versus the number of persons who took examination
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: calculation is performed on the basis of the data of the OCMA http://www.pmlp.lv/lv/statistika/dokuments/Naturalizacija_1995_2010.pdf
Frequency of measurement	Each year
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the measure No. 2.2.1.8 of the GAP “Latvian language training for non-citizens (the Latvian language training may take place together with other integration measures, as well as according to the specific age)” • Implementation of the measure No. 2.2.2.2 of the GAP “Fostering the establishment of the Latvian language speaker clubs and support for their operation (in particular the Latvian diaspora and at schools with a national minority language of instruction)” • Implementation of the State Language Policy Guidelines 2005-2016
Other information	
Policy result	Creation of conditions for comprehensive policy for integration of immigrants
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	The number of immigrants who have involved in the acquisition of integration programmes, including in programmes of different levels for the acquisition of the official language (persons)
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: data from service providers
Frequency of measurement	Each year
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the task No. 1.2.7 of the GAP “Creation of a national-level coordinating system in order to support immigrant participation” • Fulfilment of the European Pact on Immigration and Asylum • Fulfilment of the Stockholm Programme • Fulfilment of the EC notification on the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020
Other information	
Outcome indicator No of the policy result	Number of the immigrants actively operating in NGOs and NGOs, which represent their interests
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: data from service providers
Frequency of measurement	Each year
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases
Related results of the activity	Implementation of the task No. 1.2.7 of the GAP “Creation of a national-level coordinating system in order to support immigrant participation”
Other information	
Policy result	Increase in the use of the Latvian language, acquiring the language in different age groups and levels of the education system
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	Results of the centralised (Latvian) language examination in Grade 9 according to levels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B • C • D
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: National Centre for Education http://visc.gov.lv/eksameni/vispizgl/statistika/2011/dokumenti/ce_rezult_sadalijums_limenos.pdf

Frequency of measurement	Each year
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the task No. 2.2.1 of the GAP “To ensure learning of the Latvian language and to develop a language learning system for different target groups, including the development of innovative teaching methods and elaboration of methodology and training materials” • Implementation of the task No. 2.2.3 of the GAP “To ensure methodological support for teachers” • Implementation of the State Language Policy Guidelines 2005-2016 • Implementation of the Guidelines for the Development of Education 2007-2013
Other information	
Outcome indicator No 2 of the policy result	Results of the centralised (Latvian) language examination in Grade 12 according to levels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B • C • D
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: National Centre for Education http://visc.gov.lv/eksameni/vispizgl/statistika/2011/dokumenti/ce_rezult_sadalijums_limenos.pdf
Frequency of measurement	Each year
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the task No. 2.2.1 of the GAP “To ensure learning of the Latvian language and to develop a language learning system for different target groups, including the development of innovative teaching methods and elaboration of methodology and training materials” • Implementation of the task No. 2.2.3 of the GAP “To ensure methodological support for teachers” • Implementation of the State Language Policy Guidelines 2005-2016 • Implementation of the Guidelines for the Development of Education 2007-2013
Other information	
Policy result	Promotion of the role of amateur performances in the creation of cultural space and the strengthening of identity, preserving the number of amateur artistic groups
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	Number of amateur groups per 1000 residents
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: data from the data base of the Ministry of Culture “Digital Culture Map of Latvia” and data of the Central Statistics Bureau are used for the acquisition of the indicator: the number of all amateur groups versus the number of residents of Latvia
Frequency of measurement	Each year
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator does not change
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the task No. 2.3.3 of the GAP “Participation of the whole society in the folk art movement and the Song and Dance Celebration process, support for operation of the national minority artistic groups” • Implementation of the State Cultural Policy Guidelines 2006-2015
Other information	
Policy result	Increase in the sense of belonging of national minority residents of Latvia to Latvia and involvement in cultural space
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	Number of national minority groups participating in the process of the Song and Dance Celebration
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: data of the Centre for Cultural Education and Intangible Heritage

Frequency of measurement	Regularly
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the task No. 2.3.7 of the GAP “Strengthening of the role of the traditional culture in the forming of Latvian living space” • Implementation of the State Cultural Policy Guidelines 2006-2015
Other information	
Policy result	Strengthening of the European dimension in the cultural space of Latvia, participating in the European culture networks and events
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	Support to the projects within the scope of EU programmes “Culture” and “Europe for Citizens”
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: data of the Ministry of Culture
Frequency of measurement	Each year
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator is stable or gradually increases
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the measure No. 2.3.8.2 of the GAP “Participation in the European cultural networks and events (the European Heritage Label, the European Capital of Culture, the European Union’s support for cultural actions, etc”
Other information	
Policy result	Creation of a support system for the preservation of Latvian identity and the acquisition of the Latvian language
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	Number of Latvian “weekend (Sunday) schools” outside Latvia
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: Latvian Language Agency
Frequency of measurement	Each year
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the measure No. 2.2.1.6 of the GAP “Availability of Latvian language training for Latvians living abroad. Support to the teachers’ work in Latvian diaspora centers” • Implementation of the measure No. 2.2.1.7 of the GAP “Recognising of the teachers’ work in diaspora ‘weekend schools’ in the total length of service” • Implementation of the measure No. 2.2.2.2 of the GAP “Fostering the establishment of the Latvian language speaker clubs and support for their operation (in particular the Latvian diaspora and at schools with a national minority language of instruction)” • Implementation of the State Language Policy Guidelines 2005-2014
Other information	
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	Number of children born abroad who have been granted the citizenship of Latvia
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: data of the Department of Citizenship and Migration
Frequency of measurement	Each year
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the measure No. 1.2.1.1 of the GAP “Adoption of the draft law ‘Amendments to the Citizenship Law’, allowing for dual citizenship within the EU, EEA and NATO Member States”
Other information	
Policy result	Increase in the participation of national minorities in celebration of the days related to the

	history of Latvia
Outcome indicator No 1 of the policy result	Proportion of respondents of other nationalities who celebrate the Independence Day of the Republic of Latvia
Methodology for obtaining the indicator	Source: Zepa, B. (sc.. ed.) (2008). <i>Mēs. Svētki. Valsts. Valsts svētku svinēšanas socioloģiskā izpēte</i> [Us. Festivities. State. Sociological Study of Celebrating National Festivities]. Riga: Baltic Institute of Social Sciences. p. 71
Frequency of measurement	Periodically
Forecast of the preferable value of the indicator	The indicator increases
Related results of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the task No. 3.1.1 of the GAP “To improve the skills of history teachers in teaching of Latvian history of the period of World War II and the occupation of Latvia” • Implementation of the task No. 3.1.2 of the GAP “Educating schoolchildren (including schoolchildren of national minorities) about the Soviet occupation” • Implementation of the task No. 3.1.6 of the GAP “To promote research on national minority victims of Stalinism and Nazism, to promote the preservation of memory about them” • Implementation of the task No. 3.2.2 of the GAP “To support local history research” • Implementation of the task No. 3.2.3 of the GAP “To promote the history of Latvia as part of the common European history”
Other information	

(Cabinet Order
No. 542
20 October 2011)

**Summary of the Guidelines on National Identity, Civil Society and
Integration Policy (2012-2018)**

I. Nature of the Matter to be Resolved

The first government policy development document on social integration was the State programme “Social Integration in Latvia” approved by the Cabinet in 2001. Although this programme was for an indefinite period of time and a string of integration directions of the society included therein have become individual policies (lifelong education, social inclusion, culture, State language), the lack of an action plan has created a situation where there has been no single policy for social integration in the State for the last five years. It significantly encumbers systematic solving of integration problems. In order to eliminate this deficiency, a draft development document – the Guidelines on National Identity, Civil Society and Integration Policy (2012-2018) (hereinafter – Guidelines) – has been prepared, defining the policy in the field of the strengthening of national identity, the development of civil society and the social integration. The succession with the previous integration policy has been observed in the drawn up document, however, concurrently new problems and challenges have been emphasised therein. The document is based on the following basic principles of the policy: open Latvian identity, responsibility and participation, belonging to Europe, preservation of singularity of national minorities, respect towards freedom of choice, compliance with human rights, varied identity.

The main goal of the Guidelines is strong, united Latvian nation – national and democratic community, which ensures the preservation and enrichment of the uniting foundation thereof – the Latvian language, culture and national identity, European democratic values, unique cultural space – for balanced development of Latvia – national democratic state.

The following main problems to be solved have been identified in the Guidelines:

- large part of population in Latvia does not believe in its ability to influence social and political processes;
- non-governmental organisations of Latvia are not sufficiently strong financially and administratively, and lack sustainability;
- there is no comprehensive system for monitoring and prevention of discrimination. There is a lack of regular studies and awareness-raising campaigns on social exclusion and discrimination problems in the society of Latvia;
- children and young people in Latvia have insufficient level of civic education, therefore, there are gaps in collaboration and participation skills;
- the current legal framework of citizenship creates obstacles for maintaining a national link with expatriate Latvians;
- non-citizens are becoming less motivated to acquire the citizenship of Latvia, the pace of naturalisation is slowing down, the possibilities for political participation resulting from the citizenship of Latvia do not provide sufficient motivation to become naturalised;
- although the proficiency of the Latvian language has significantly improved, several tendencies indicate that the use of the Latvian language in the public space does not show similar success. Self-sufficiency of the Russian language in the public space, particularly in cities with large proportion of national minorities, is obvious. Social integration on the basis of the Latvian language is also influenced by the passivity of Latvians to speak Latvian in communication with foreigners;
- unjustified requirements for the Russian language proficiency increase where such request is not justified by the specific nature of work. It creates discriminating obstacles for Latvians in the labour market;
- the efforts of national minority teachers in improvement of the proficiency of the Latvian language are different. In turn, in general education institutions and institutions of higher education with Latvian as the study language teachers do not have experience in work with students of different ethnic backgrounds;
- Latvian cultural space is not reflected in formal and informal education programmes in full variety thereof where aliens could find their attraction to Latvia. The formation of sense of

belonging of population and integration in a single cultural space is also hindered by ethnic prejudices;

- there is no targeted State programme, which would support the possibilities of expatriate Latvians to acquire and preserve the Latvian language, culture and traditions. Access to the professional art of Latvia is limited;
- part of the society is governed by misconceptions based on incorrect historical facts regarding occupation of Latvia and the consequences thereof. It creates a gap in the social memory of Latvia and hinders formation of a cohesive society;
- majority of the population have but little idea of the history of Latvia up to the 20th century. It narrows the understanding of the national identity in wider context of European identity.

II. Solution Offered

In order to promote the solving of the referred to problems, subsequent action is planned in three directions. Each of them has several sub-objectives, tasks and specific measures to be taken:

- 1) action direction “Civil Society and Integration” with sub-objectives: to develop civic education using formal and informal education methods; to strengthen traditional and non-traditional forms of civic participation; to promote inclusion of socially excluded groups in the society and to prevent discrimination; to strengthen high quality, democratic information space and to increase the role of media in integration;
- 2) action direction “National Identity: Language and Cultural Space” with sub-objectives: to ensure the use of the Latvian language in the public space of Latvia, to strengthen the proficiency of the Latvian language for expatriate Latvians, national minorities, non-citizens, new immigrants; to strengthen the cultural space of Latvia as a foundation uniting the society and to promote belonging to the cultural space in local, national and European level; to strengthen the Latvian identity of expatriate Latvians and their belonging to Latvia;
- 3) action direction “Shared Social Memory” with sub-objectives: to strengthen fact-based awareness of the Second World War based corresponding to democratic values, as well as of Soviet and Nazi occupation in Latvia; to promote the survey, study and understanding of local and European history of Latvia.

III. Additionally Necessary Financing and Intended Source of Financing

The Guidelines include a specific action plan for years 2012 and 2013. In the situation of financial and economic crisis the amount of financing available from the State budget in the subsequent years will be insufficient in order to completely implement the national identity, civil society and integration policy. In 2012 the institutions involved will implement the Guidelines within the scope of the funds from the State budget granted thereto, as well as by attracting international financing, in turn, in 2013 additional financing from the State budget will be necessary along with the abovementioned financial sources. The main foreign financial resources are referred to in Chapter 11 of the Guidelines.

IV. Involvement of Public Representatives in the Development of Draft Guidelines

The draft introduction of the Guidelines was published on the Internet website of the Ministry of Culture on 22 March 2011. It was also published in media. Thus, the society had an opportunity to get involved in the making of the new policy already at the stage of development of the Guidelines. In accordance with Cabinet Regulation No. 970 of 25 August 2009, *Procedures for the Participation of the Society in the Development Planning Process*, the draft Guidelines were published on the Internet website of the State Chancellery on 10 August 2011, determining that the public discussion will continue until 9 September. Public

discussions took place in Liepāja (on 11 August), Madona (on 18 August), Riga (on 19 August), Daugavpils (on 25 August) and Bauska (on 26 August). The draft Guidelines were presented on 16 September and discussed in the Commission for the Supervision of the Introduction of the Framework Convention of the Council of Europe for the Protection of National Minorities of Representatives of National Minority Non-governmental Organisations of the Ministry of Culture and on 17 August – in the Civil Society Council of the Ministry of Culture. On 31 August the draft Guidelines were reviewed during the meeting of the Council for the Implementation of Co-operation Memorandum of NGOs and the Cabinet.

The Minister for Culture has created an Advisory Council on National Identity and Society Integration Matters. The draft Guidelines were reviewed and discussed during the meeting of the Advisory Council on 31 August 2011. The issues to be solved in the draft Guidelines before public discussion were also discussed in the following groups of experts: in the group of historians, history teachers, media specialists, foreign Latvians, linguists and experts in the field of integration of third-country nationals and Roma.

Along with the measures of public discussion in regions of Latvia public representatives had an opportunity to submit their proposals and objections, sending them in written form to the Department of Society Integration Affairs of the Ministry of Culture. During this time period 42 statements were received from 34 public representatives (26 legal organisations and 7 private individuals). In summarising the opinions expressed in statements, 361 proposals on the draft Guidelines were identified.

Political will to strengthen the Latvian language as the only State language, expressed in the Guidelines, earned positive evaluation during the public discussion. Section “Shared Social Memory” as a special direction of integration policy received different opinions. Inhabitants expressed their thoughts and recommendations on the better ways for achievement of shared social memory. Other opinions were related to the development of two-community society, not the development of Latvia as democratic and national State. A string of proposals were related to the conceptual framework of the Guidelines, offering to specify more accurately the explanations of concepts used in the document. Several recommendations concerned Section 9 of the Guidelines “Tasks and Activities Proposed in the Future Action Planning”, updating or supplementing specific tasks.

Opinions, which were not taken into account, did not include a specific proposals or their argumentation was too general and vague. Individual objections were not issues related to the conceptual framework of the Guidelines or were related to political settlement.

Minister for Culture

S. Ēlerte