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UNESCO Latvijas Nacionālā komisija



## The forum of student self-governments of the Baltic States „Going Further Along the Baltic Way”

### REGULATIONS

#### GOALS

1. To raise awareness of the importance of the Baltic Way in the restoration of the independence of the Baltic States, creating a collective memory and strengthening statehood.
2. To increase the importance of student self-governments in civil involvement in the Baltic States.
3. To develop further international co-operation between student self-governments in the Baltic States.

#### TASKS

1. To promote understanding of the Baltic Way events among young people through living history: memories of people from the Baltic States.
2. To emphasize the role of each citizen, their duties, rights and responsibility in developing a democratic society.
3. To encourage co-operation between the Baltic States and exchange experience about the work of student self-governments.
4. To find new ways and opportunities of how to share and popularise the best experience.

#### ORGANISERS

National Centre for Education (NCE) together with the Latvian National Commission for UNESCO (LNC) and the educational institutions of the Baltic States.

#### PARTICIPANTS

Representatives of student self-governments from Baltic educational institutions as well as educators – consultants of the student self-governments.

Higher priority is assigned to educational institutions which are part of the UNESCO network of associated schools and schools which:

- have previously participated in activities which are connected to UNESCO topics;
- have carried out activities to increase the availability of cultural heritage in the online environment, including as part of the project "The Baltic Way Stories";
- representatives of student self-governments and/or teachers can freely communicate in English.

The planned number of participants is up to 150 (students and accompanying teachers). Estonia and Lithuania is represented by a delegation of 12 people from each country. Participants may be photographed or filmed during the events, and audiovisual material may be published.

## SCHEDULE

The forum of student self-governments of the Baltic States takes place from 6 to 7 November in Valmiera Elementary School, Leona Paegles 40A, Valmiera.

During the forum, students from each country present their videos on the topic "Going Further Along the Baltic Way", which is in line with the goals and tasks set forth by the conference. During the conference, students are encouraged to participate in discussions and creative work groups to discuss what the Baltic States have achieved together and possible future activities which would encourage more focused civil involvement, including different social activities where young people can participate, using social media.

The conference consists of three parts:

### **PAST**

Envisioning of the historic aspects of regaining independence in the Baltic States and their importance in the development of current events.

### **PRESENT**

The current work of student self-governments in the Baltic States, their role and importance in civil involvement. An sharing of common history, which is revealed in the prepared videos and activities in social network activities within the "The Baltic Way Stories" project, in order to create a framework for further solutions to promote cultural heritage and values in the online environment.

### **FUTURE**

Possible directions for further development and models for their development, carrying on the best experience in the future, developing creative ideas and suggestions for new activities to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Latvia and Estonia, together with shared initiatives to communicate cultural heritage and values among young people in the online environment.

## METHODS OF WORK

The *"PAST"* topic is realised through **presentations from guest lectors** which share the historical context and introduce the topics of Baltic state co-operation to be developed further.

The *"PRESENT"* topic is realised through the student's **previously prepared videos** on the topic "Going Further Along the Baltic Way", which symbolise the current vision among young people on the common history of the Baltic countries and its interpretation.

The *"FUTURE"* topic is realised through creative idea workshops, which are focused on issues like the work of student self-governments on an international scale, the stories of the Baltic Way and heritage in the online environment, dedication for the future – the year 2018 etc.

## APPLICATION

Latvian educational institutions are represented by one or two members of the student self-government and one educator: the consultant of the local government. The deadline for applications is the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October, 2014. **NCE and UNESCO LNC evaluate the applications and invite participants in the forum by the 10<sup>th</sup> of October.** After receiving the invitation, the student self-government prepares their assignment (video) and sends it to a specified internet site.

## EVALUATING THE APPLICATIONS

Student self-governments are encouraged to fill out the application form which can be found as attachment 1 in these Regulations.

To apply for the forum, the student self-government must create a publicly available profile on the Facebook.com social network. The main tasks of the profile are:

- to present the work and activities of the student self-government;
- to create links to other student self-government profiles and share the best practices on activities in each school;
- to encourage innovative approaches to student communication on the activities of the self-government outside Latvia, using a foreign language.

The participation in the forum will be evaluated by:

- The availability of basic information on the student self-government in the created Facebook.com profile;
- The visual format and aesthetics of the profile;
- Creativity in preparing the announcements and distributing them (sharing and pressing "Like");

- The amount of involvement of the public profile and the student self-government in activities of the project "The Baltic Way Stories" which are carried out both in the social networks and on the internet site [www.thebalticway.eu](http://www.thebalticway.eu);
- The public profile observes the principles of personal data security and information ethics which do not violate human rights and do not offend third parties.

### HOME ASSIGNMENT (Video)

Representatives of student self-governments chosen by NCE and UNESCO LNC are encouraged to prepare a video on the topic "Going Further Along the Baltic Way." The video should follow these guidelines:

- Relevance to the stated topic;
- Quality storytelling and subsequent delivery of the message;
- Video is partially or fully created in English;
- Video is 1-2 minutes long;
- Video follows copyright and does not use other parties' intellectual property.

The video must be sent by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2014 to the e-mail [evija.pelsa@visc.gov.lv](mailto:evija.pelsa@visc.gov.lv), specifying the name of the educational institution, the self-government and a link to the youtube.com video.

### FUNDING

The costs of the forum are covered within the project "The Baltic Way Stories" and with support from its partners. The travelling costs to and from the forum are covered by the local government or the institution which is represented by the participants.

### PROJECT MANAGERS

- Senior officer of NCE for interest education and educational work Evija Pelša, phone +371 67350813; fax 67226535; e-mail: [evija.pelsa@visc.gov.lv](mailto:evija.pelsa@visc.gov.lv)
- Communication and Information Programme Director of the Latvian National Commission for UNESCO Evija Maļkeviča, phone + 371 67325109; e-mail: [e.malkevica@unesco.lv](mailto:e.malkevica@unesco.lv)

*1<sup>st</sup> attachment to the regulations  
of the forum of student self-governments of the Baltic States  
"Going Further Along the Baltic Way"*

<b>Title of the educational institution</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Title of the self-government</b>	
<b>Contact person (educator/consultant)</b>	
<b>Phone number of the contact person</b>	
<b>E-mail of the contact person</b>	
<b>The number of members in the self-government</b>	
<b>Previous involvement in activities connected to UNESCO topics (up to 200 words)</b>	
<b>Previous activities to increase the availability of cultural heritage in the online environment, including as part of the project "The Baltic Way Stories"</b>	
<b>Describe the ability of participants to communicate in English</b>	
<b>Link to the self-government's profile on Facebook.com</b>	

**Please, send the filled out form to the e-mail [evija.pelsa@visc.gov.lv](mailto:evija.pelsa@visc.gov.lv) by 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 2014**