

APPROVED BY
the Executive Committee
of the Lithuanian National
Commission for UNESCO
Resolution No. 1UK-2 of
3 December 2020

REGULATIONS OF THE LITHUANIAN NATIONAL REGISTER OF THE UNESCO MEMORY OF THE WORLD PROGRAMME

CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The regulations of the Lithuanian National Register of the UNESCO Memory of the World Programme (hereinafter the “Regulations”) shall regulate the purpose, objectives and legal prerequisites of the Lithuanian National Memory of the World Register (hereinafter the “Register”), principles and criteria for selection of documentary heritage of global, regional or national significance and the procedure for compiling, filling in and publishing the Register.

2. The purpose of the Register shall be to list the most significant Lithuanian documentary heritage objects preserved in various Lithuanian institutions and organizations or owned by Lithuanian private legal and natural persons, as well as Lithuanistic and Lithuanic documentary heritage objects preserved in various foreign institutions and organizations or owned by foreign private legal and natural persons (hereinafter the “Register objects”).

3. The Register shall be compiled and maintained in accordance with the Statutes of the UNESCO Memory of the World Programme Advisory Committee, 2015 UNESCO Recommendation on Preservation and Access to Documentary Heritage, Including in Digital Form, Law on the Protection of Movable Cultural Property of the Republic of Lithuania, Regulations of the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO, Regulations of the Lithuanian National Memory of the World Committee (hereinafter the “National Committee”) and the present Regulations.

4. The National Committee shall be responsible for the evaluation of the Register objects, and the compilation, supplementation, maintenance and publicity of the Register.

5. The National Committee shall indicate in its annual reports and reports for its entire term of office which Register objects have been inscribed on the Register during the reporting period.

CHAPTER II OBJECTIVES OF THE REGISTER

6. The Register compilation objectives shall be the following:

6.1. to identify the most significant Lithuanian, Lithuanistic and Lithuanic documentary heritage objects that are preserved in Lithuania and foreign countries as possible Register objects;

6.2. to list the most significant Lithuanian, Lithuanistic and Lithuanic documentary heritage objects at the global, regional and national level;

6.3. to advise the custodians and owners of the Register objects on the issues of their preservation;

6.4. to facilitate universal access to the Register objects;

6.5. to promote awareness of the Register objects in Lithuania and abroad.

CHAPTER III LEGAL PREREQUISITES

7. The inscription of the Register objects on the Register *per se* shall not create any legal or financial consequences for the form of ownership, preservation or use of the objects, nor shall it create restrictions or limitations for the owners, custodians or managers of the Register objects.

8. The inscription of the Register objects on the Register shall not impose any obligation for the National Committee to finance the preservation, management or accessibility of the Register objects.

9. The Register shall be maintained in accordance with intellectual property rights legislation and agreements with natural and legal persons, in a fair and transparent manner.

CHAPTER IV PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF REGISTER OBJECTS

10. The selection of the Register objects shall be based on the main selection criteria for the UNESCO Memory of the World Programme International Register, taking into account the conditions and situation of the Republic of Lithuania. The Register objects may be textual, visual, three-dimensional, audiovisual and digital-born documents.

11. The Register object shall be inscribed on the Register after assessing its level of significance in the context of Lithuanian and world documentary heritage.

12. In considering the inscription of the nominated object on the Register, the primary focus shall be given to the authenticity of the object. Copies, duplicates and forgeries shall not be inscribed on the Register.

13. The object nominated for inscription to the Register shall be of global, regional or national significance. It shall be unique, and its loss may lead to impoverishment of the documentary heritage of or related to Lithuania.

14. Selection criteria for the Register:

14.1. **Time** when the Register object was created. The age of an object *per se* shall not necessarily confer any particular significance on the object. The Register may include documents of any period attesting to the highest and most exceptional cultural achievements, reflecting significant social and cultural changes and crises. The object may be both as a discovery of something new and as “the first of its kind”;

14.2. **Place** where the Register object was created. The place of creation may be an important indicator of the significance of a document. The Register may include objects that contain particularly important information about a locality that has played a significant role in the world history and culture. The locality might have been of important influence on the events recorded in the object. Such an object may include description or representation of no longer existing physical environments, cities or institutions;

14.3 The author is **a person or a group of persons**. The socio-cultural context in which the Register object was created may reveal the essential aspects of public behaviour as well as those of social, industrial, artistic or political development. It may reflect major changes, the essence of progress or regress in transitional periods, as well as the influence of prominent personalities or groups of people;

14.4. **Content**. The Register object may reflect an important historical or intellectual event in the fields of natural, social and human sciences, politics, social development, ideology, religion, literature, art or sports;

14.5. **Importance for Lithuanian studies.** The Register object shall indicate the fundamental aspects in the development and the present of the Lithuanian state, society, culture, nation and language or the social, political, cultural or economic context of Lithuania in which the object was created. The object may reflect the history of the Lithuanian language and the state of Lithuania, the essence of the progress or regression of transitional periods, as well as the influence of prominent personalities or groups of persons. In the National Register, Lithuania shall be understood in the historical sense of statehood: it shall include long centuries of state formation, changing state territory and its names, all former written and press languages, as well as multi-ethnic culture;

14.6. **Form and style.** The Register object may have an outstanding aesthetic, stylistic or linguistic importance; it may be typical or exemplary according to the form or manner of presentation and its media may be considered as vanishing or vanished.

15. In selecting objects for the inscription on the Register, particular attention shall be paid to **rarities** (rare surviving specimens of a certain time and type), **integrity** (whether an object has survived in whole or in part, or has been altered or damaged), **threat to its survival** (whether effort is necessary to ensure its safety, even if the object is preserved in a safe place), and **insufficient information about the object** (its accuracy and reliability).

16. The scope of the objects nominated to the Register shall be clearly indicated. The Register may include both an individual document and a collection of documents, a complete archival fund or a corpus with clearly defined limits of scope.

CHAPTER V SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS FOR NOMINATION ON THE REGISTER AND THEIR EVALUATION

17. A call for applications for nomination of objects to the Register (hereinafter the “Application”) shall be launched every two years, at the beginning of January.

18. Information on the terms and conditions of the Application shall be provided by the National Committee on the website www.unesco.lt.

19. Nominations may be submitted by Lithuanian and foreign institutions and organizations preserving the nominated Register objects in their funds, corpuses and collections, as well as Lithuanian and foreign private legal or natural persons owning the nominated Register objects (hereinafter the “Nominators”). Nominations prepared in collaboration of several Nominators, from one country or different ones, may be submitted.

20. Nominations shall be prepared in accordance with the Register nomination form approved by the National Committee (Annex 1. Nomination form of the Lithuanian National Memory of the World Register), taking into account the principles and criteria for the selection of Register objects set out in Chapter IV of the Regulations.

21. Nominators shall submit an electronic version of the Register nomination form (in PDF format) certified by a qualified electronic signature by 1st June of the current year.

22. Nominations received by the National Committee shall be registered by the Secretariat of the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO which shall notify the Nominator of its registration in writing and by e-mail. The National Committee shall review the content of the Nominations and determine whether the submitted Nominations comply with the requirements of the Register nomination form. In case of insufficiency of material, the National Committee shall contact the Nominator and request the submission of the missing material within the time limit specified by the National Committee. The evaluation procedure shall not start until all the necessary information has been received.

23. The National Committee shall forward the received Nominations to the experts who shall evaluate them and make a recommendation.

24. To evaluate the Nominations, the National Committee shall make a group of experts from the fields of culture, literature, art, history and heritage. One Nomination shall be evaluated by at least 2 experts. Each of them shall provide an expert's conclusion (Annex 2. Expert's conclusion form).

25. When evaluating the object nominated to the Register, it shall be important that it meets as many of the selection criteria provided for in Clause 14 of the Regulations as possible.

26. The decision for the inscription of a nominated object on the Register shall be taken by the National Committee at its ordinary meeting by a majority of votes on the basis of the conclusions of the experts.

27. In the event of a tie, the Chairman of the National Committee shall have the casting vote.

28. In case of a decision to inscribe the nominated object on the Register, a certificate shall be issued to its custodian or owner, which shall indicate the unique registration number and the significance assigned to the object. Register certificates shall be issued in September of the current year.

29. Information on the partial loss or complete destruction of a Register object shall be published in the Register, however the object itself shall not be deleted from the Register.

30. The Register shall be published on the website of the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO www.unesco.lt. Information on the Register objects shall be published on a one-stop-shop basis on the digitized Cultural Heritage Portal of Lithuania www.epaveldas.lt and, in cooperation with the Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania, on the digital European cultural heritage platform EUROPEANA.

CHAPTER VI RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTODIAN OR OWNER OF THE REGISTER OBJECT

31. The custodian or owner of the object inscribed on the Register, in coordination with the Secretariat of the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO, shall have the right to use the logo of the UNESCO Memory of the World Programme.

32. The custodian or owner of the Register object shall have the right to receive consulting assistance in matters of preservation and publicity of the object.

33. The custodian or owner of the Register object shall submit to the Secretariat of the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO the digital visual material of the Register object inscribed on the Register suitable for publication on the website www.unesco.lt and grant permission to use it for publicizing the UNESCO Memory of the World Programme.

34. The custodian or owner of the Register object shall undertake to increase the awareness of the Register object, to publicize the UNESCO Memory of the World Programme, as well as to cooperate with the National Committee and the Secretariat of the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO.

35. The custodian or owner of the Register object shall, by 1st March of each year, provide the National Committee and the Secretariat of the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO with an overview of activities related to the publicity of the Register object and the UNESCO Memory of the World Programme.