

# THE TITLE OF MASTER IN LATVIA

## Le titre de maître d'art en Lettonie

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# Plan

Historical perspective

Status quo

Legislative/administrative choices

# Historical trends

.. – 1945 – 1990 – 2000 – 2016 - ..

Political, social, economical factors of the «Soviet era».

«Traditional in form – socialistic in content»; collectivism; infrastructure of «houses of culture (associations)».

Possibilities of economic activity.

Title «Master of Fine Crafts». Advantages.

«1962 – 2000» - 3369 labels (468 between 1990 – 2000).

Criteria: knowledge and skills of at least 5 years; participating at the exhibitions; 10 works (case by case principle).

Obligations: performance, improvement, participation, transfer of knowledge.

2000 – ..

**Law on Education, 1999:** legally defined educational system.

*Article 36 (1) Educational programmes are implemented at an educational institution, association, foundation, **craftsperson workshop**, studio or unit of the National Armed Forces, the tasks of which include implementation of adult educational programmes. Implementation of an educational programme shall be commenced within one year from the day of receipt of the licence.*

**Law on Craftsmanship, 1993:** legally defined institutional system of education in crafts, evaluation of qualification, access to practice. «Master of Crafts»

**Governemental regulations on crafts (since 1994 – 172 crafts; on the certification process (since 2002).**

2000 – ... problematics

Equality

Quality

Identification

# Legislative choices: policy

## **Policy document of 2008**

- legal basis
- competent institution
- national register/ safeguarding programmes
- labels - status of Masters of intangible cultural heritage
- safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage in the educational programmes

# Legislative choices: initial project

***Connoisseur (Eng.)*** – a person, that has inherited or acquired through means of education one or several element of the intangible cultural heritage, continues to practice and has acquired such level of competence that allows direct or indirect transfer of knowledge and skills to others, thus promoting the safeguarding and sustainability of the intangible cultural heritage.

# Legislative choices: Law on ICH

1) Policy/ managerial approach;

2) Lack of coherent vision:

- honorary title;
- «promotional tool»;
- Legal status;
- General interest;
- Merger with existing system;
- Characteristics of the label;
- Criteria for attribution and revoking;
- The outside scope;
- Variety of the elements of ICH.



# Legislative choices: Law on ICH

Article 12 (2):

*The Latvian National Centre for Culture is entitled to implement legal, technical, organisational, administrative, methodological and financial measures for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage, including by promoting the activities and contribution of persons to the sustainability of intangible cultural heritage.*

# Legislative choices: Law on ICH

## Article 4

(1) The National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage representing the cultural diversity, as well as attesting and promoting the creativity, knowledge and skills of human beings shall be created to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage and, in particular, **to enhance its value, to promote its recognition and to educate the society.**

(2) An element of the intangible cultural heritage shall be inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage, if it constitutes cultural heritage which should be protected by the State and its inclusion has **the widest possible support and participation of the relevant community.**

(3) An element of the intangible cultural heritage shall be inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage under a name characterising its nature, which clearly differs from the names of other elements of the intangible cultural heritage inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

(4) Inscription of an element of the intangible cultural heritage on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage may be requested by any person interested in the safeguarding of the relevant element of the intangible cultural heritage (for example, community, non-governmental organisation, local government and any other person). **A description of the safeguarding measures taken to date and planned in the future to ensure the sustainability of the element of the intangible cultural heritage shall be attached to the nomination.**

# Legislative Choices: +/-

## **Advantages**

Designation by community

Variety of the elements of ICH

## **Disadvantages**

No common frame of reference

Continuous emphasis on distinction: legal status/ voluntary designation

# Administrative choices

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