



**EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION**  
**LANDSCAPE AWARD OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

*5<sup>th</sup> Session – 2016-2017*

**APPLICATION FORM**

## **Presentation**

*The European Landscape Convention aims to promote the protection, management and planning of landscapes and to bring together European co-operation in this field. It is the first international treaty exclusively devoted to all dimensions of European landscape. Taking into account the landscape, natural and cultural values of the territory, it contributes to promoting the quality of life and well-being of Europeans.*

*The Resolution on the Rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 February 2008 at the 1018<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ministers' Deputies, draws attention to the fact that Article 11 of the Convention institutes the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe and that it is in keeping with the work carried out by the Council of Europe concerning human rights, democracy and sustainable development. It effectively promotes the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by acknowledging the importance of measures taken to improve the landscape for people's living conditions.*

*Opened to the Parties to the Convention, the Award is intended to raise civil society's awareness of the value of landscapes, of their role and of changes to them. Its objective is to reward exemplary practical initiatives aimed at successful landscape quality objectives on the territories of the Parties to the Convention. The Award is conferred every two years and the files presenting applications must reach the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe.*

*At its meeting held in Strasbourg on 28-29 April 2008, the Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDPATEP) decided that applications should be submitted to the Council of Europe Secretariat through the Permanent Representations of the Parties to the Convention.*

*I would be very grateful if you could send no later than **30 January 2017** the following elements of the candidature file (10 pages maximum) established for your country on the basis of the proposals forwarded to you by the Ministries:*

- 1) by E-mail, the Application form completed to: [maguelonne.dejeant-pons@coe.int](mailto:maguelonne.dejeant-pons@coe.int) ;*
- 2) by post, a copy of the Application form completed together with a CD-Rom or DVD containing the all the additional material to: Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention, Council of Europe, Agora (A3-32C), F- 67075 STRASBOURG Cedex.*

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- Participation to the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe is only open to local and regional authorities and their groupings and non-governmental organisations, as stated in the Resolution CM/Res (2008)3, Appendix, Article 2.*
- The application form must be completed in all its parts, in one of the two official languages of the Council of Europe (English or French).*
- The materials submitted must be copyright-free, for use by the Council of Europe in communications aimed at promoting the award or any other publications or activities relating to the Convention. The Council of Europe undertakes to cite the author's names.*
- Files that are incomplete or fail to comply with the rules will not be taken into consideration.*

*For further information please visit the Landscape Award section of the Council of Europe website: <http://www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention>*

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## I. STATE CONCERNED AND APPLICANT

<b>1. State</b>	LATVIA
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<b>2. Applicant</b>	Daugavpils City Council
<i>Name of the local, regional authority (ies) or NGO(s)</i>	
<b>Represented by</b>	Mr. Jānis Lāčplēsis Chairperson of City Council Mr. Artjoms Mahļins Project Expert of City Council
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## II. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJET

**3. Name of the Project**

Regeneration of Daugavpils Fortress to Preserve Cultural and Historical Objects

**4. Location of the Project**

Daugavpils City, Latvia

**5. Summary of the Project (10 lines)**

Daugavpils Fortress is the last bastion-type fortification complex, built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, which is preserved in a relatively good condition until nowadays. After the Soviet army left the Fortress, its territory (total area of approximately 2 km<sup>2</sup>) was not used; it was an abandoned, degraded and unattractive space of urban environment. The initiative of the local municipality was to define the territory of Daugavpils Fortress as a part of the city for prior development, including it into all planning documents. Several projects in the Fortress were successfully implemented within the framework of Daugavpils City Development Programme “Mana pils - Daugavpils” (“My Castle - Daugavpils”) for 2008-2014 (further - DDP) Urban Environment Development Section *Action A22 Daugavpils Fortress Regeneration*, in order to create preconditions for preservation and rational use of the urban construction monument of state significance as a unique cultural and historical heritage transforming it into administrative, cultural, business, recreational and tourism centre. Until November 30, 2013 several activities were implemented: restoration of the Water Lifting Building to create Daugavpils Fortress Culture and Information Centre, reconstruction of the Arsenal building and improvement of the adjacent territory to create Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art Centre, development of public infrastructure of the Fortress by complex improvement of streets and construction of engineering networks and takeover, and proper maintenance of ramparts of the Fortress.

**6. Photo representing the Project (high definition – JPEG 350 dpi)**  
*Daugavpils City Council photo archive*



### III. CONTENT OF THE PROJECT

7. **Start of the Project** month  year   
*The project must have been completed three years previously*

8. **Partners**
- |  |
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| Utena Local Lore Museum<br>(Latvia – Lithuania Cross-Border Cooperation Programme partner project partner) |
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9. **Financing bodies**
- |  |
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| European Economic Area Financial Mechanism/Norwegian Financial Mechanism; ERDF; Latvia – Lithuania Cross-Border Cooperation Programme; state and municipal resources |
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#### 10. Central aims of the Project

Central aim:

to preserve and develop unique elements of urban environment of the city of Daugavpils, thus increasing self-consciousness of population, improving the city`s image and the investment climate.

Sub-aims:

- creation of Daugavpils Fortress Information and Tourism Service Centre by reconstructing the Water Lifting building (2009-2011),
- creation of Mark Rothko Art Centre by reconstructing the building of artillery arsenal (2011-2013),
- improvement of the infrastructure of the Fortress territory (improvement of streets and engineer networks) (2009-2013),
- improvement of landscape attractiveness by taking over ramparts of the Fortress to provide proper maintenance.

#### 11. Outcome

*Environmental effect*

- revitalization of degraded and/or polluted territories (approximate area: 50 ha) and reconstruction of 2 objects;
- improvement of the cultural and historical landscape`s quality of the Fortress by proper management of ramparts of the Fortress (approximate area:60 ha);
- the biggest colony of bats in the Baltic States stays for winter in the fortifications of Daugavpils Fortress, some species of bats are in the list of protected species. Daugavpils University in cooperation with other research institutes in Latvia carry out monitoring of bats. Exploration of wintering areas of specially protected species and proper territory management is carried out;

- elimination of the activity of historical industrial objects with operational risks in the territory of the Fortress. In perspective, it is advisable to evaluate in detail all environment risk factors and find a possibility to relocate the dangerous activity to a less sensitive territory in other industrial zone of the city.

#### *Cultural and aesthetic effect*

- exploration of cultural and historical objects by drawing up document Action plan of development of Daugavpils fortress;
- architectural and artistic inventories and cultural and historical studies of several monuments are carried out (architectural and artistic inventory and cultural and historical study of Nicholas gate and bridge, Alexander's gate and casemate of the left flank 8<sup>th</sup> bastion)
- reconstruction and preservation of 2 cultural and historical objects to provide new functions (Mihaila street 3, Nikolaja street 5);
- elaboration of Daugavpils Fortress restoration and management guidelines;
- activation of creative work by establishing a creative industry club at Mark Rothko Art Centre;
- regular organization of unique cultural, art and entertainment events (Festival of war history reconstruction clubs, International art pleinair, celebration of Mark Rothko anniversary, Night of Museums, European Heritage Days);
- improvement of public infrastructure increased the aesthetic values of the Fortress territory.

#### *Social effect*

- construction of water supply (4390m), sewerage (8256m) and heat supply networks (5136m);
- construction of electricity supply and lighting networks (9350m);
- construction of streets (Aleksandra, Hekeļa, Mihaila, Imperatora, 2.oficieru, 1.oficieru, Komandanta, Konstantīna, Hospitāļa streets and part of Nikolaja street), including pavements, cycling routes and parking spaces (60880 m<sup>2</sup>);
- well organised public space for the local residents, including comfortable life environment;
- improvement of quality of municipal utilities services.

#### *Economic effect*

- increase of the number of tourists according to the data of Daugavpils Fortress Information and Tourism Service Centre ((+391% in 2012, +135% in 2013, +51% in 2014, +28% in 2015), Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art Centre is one of the most visited tourism objects (approximately 100 thousand visitors per year);
- improvement of the infrastructure in the Fortress territory facilitated the creation of favourable business environment and employment of the population (approximately 45 new workplaces);
- small and medium-sized enterprises are more active in providing tourism services (especially during tourist season);
- improvement of attainability of governmental institutions (State Archive, State police Latgale Regional Department);
- popularisation of cultural and historical objects of the city at national and world level improves the image of the city of Daugavpils.

## IV. RESPECT OF THE CRITERIA OF THE ATTRIBUTION OF THE AWARD

### 12. Sustainable territorial development

*Is the project part of a sustainable development policy?*

*Does it contribute to the enhancement of environmental, social, economic, cultural or aesthetic values of the landscape? How?*

*Has it successfully countered or posed a remedy to any pre-existing environmental damage or urban blight? How?*

Regeneration of Daugavpils Fortress and preservation of cultural and historical objects is a sustainable development initiative to improve the quality of the landscape and urban environment. Starting the development of the Fortress territory, exploration, preservation, cleaning-up and popularisation of tourism products at national and world level was carried out. Clean, improved and developed social infrastructure has a positive impact on the value of real estate in the Fortress territory, thus improving living conditions and increasing the level of wellbeing among the population. Demand for apartments in multi-apartment buildings and real estate in the Fortress territory has increased. Thus state and private proprietors are motivated to keep their property in order (for example, state joint-stock company “Valsts nekustamie īpašumi” (“State Immovable Properties”) reconstructed the administrative building of State police Latgale Regional Department (7 Komandanta street, Daugavpils) and constructed the building of Temporary custody (3 Hospitāļa street, Daugavpils)). Cleaning-up of degraded buildings and territories, rational use of city’s limited resources improved the quality of urban landscape. Preservation of cultural and historical heritage facilitates the development of the tourism product of international significance, thus contributing to the activation of entrepreneurship. The organization of unique cultural, art and entertainment events facilitates active involvement of local population in the events taking place in the Fortress. Preservation of cultural and historical heritage facilitates aesthetic education of population and creates among population a sense of belonging to the cultural space of the Fortress. All of implemented activities has successfully countered to any pre-existing environmental damage.

### 13. Exemplary value

*Can the project be considered of exemplary value? Why?*

*Which are the good practices that it implemented?*

The renovation of the Fortress territory created a complex and comprehensive approach to the creation of a harmonic urban landscape, preservation of cultural and historical heritage and landscape values, the rational use of resources to restore degraded territories, the creation of a positive image of the city's neighbourhood and improvement of living condition of local population. The preservation, protection and restoration of cultural and historical heritage resulted in an enhanced sense of belonging among local population to the cultural space of the Fortress, a competitive national identity which is based on the creativity of the society and qualitative cultural environment. Moreover, preservation and development of cultural and historical objects improved the city's image, the potential of tourism, and the city gained recognition on a larger scale.

The municipality plans to continue the renovation of cultural and historical objects of Daugavpils Fortress for tourism and recreational needs by balancing tourism, recreation and sport activities with the interests of environment and cultural and historical heritage protection, so that the capacity of resistance against anthropogenic loads of cultural and historical objects is not exceeded. In the new DDP for 2014 – 2020 (confirmed on 13/02/2014) the development of the Fortress territory is planned within the framework of the priority "Environment – Aesthetically and Functionally Well-organized and Developed Urban Environment" line of action V3 "*Exploration, preservation and development of cultural and historical heritage*". In 2013, the renovation of Nikolaja street (from Imperatora street to the building at Nikolaja street 9) and its buildings, including the restoration of Nicholas gate and renovation of the historical wooden bridge, in the Fortress territory was finished. In 2014, the restoration of 1<sup>st</sup> coastal lunette and guardroom and improvement of the adjacent territory was finished. To facilitate the development of export-oriented cultural and tourism products of international level, the restoration of the building of powder warehouse (Nicolaja street 1) to create an art exhibition centre, the building of Engineering arsenal (Imperatora street 8) to arrange an exhibition of Motor Museum, the building of Provisions magazine (Nicolaja street 9) for the needs of culture and business centre and improvement of adjacent territory for the needs of holidaymakers is planned. Daugavpils Fortress is a complex tourism, culture and business object which again has become a visiting card of the city of Daugavpils. The unique cultural and historical landscape, well-organized public space and attractive image of the Fortress neighbourhoods create a positive investment environment for the attraction of foreign and inward investment to the region of Latgale.

**14. Public participation**

*Does the project actively encourage the public's participation in the decision-making process? How?*

*Is the project in line with the wider policies implemented by national, regional or local authorities?*



The inhabitants of the city of Daugavpils were involved into the process of planning, decision making and implementation as they participated at the elaboration of Daugavpils city spatial development planning documents (Territory planning, Development programme, Fortress development detail planning). During the elaboration process of planning documents, a survey of the inhabitants of the city, several public consultations at different residential areas of the city were carried out, everyone had a chance to send in proposals and express his/her view. Thus, in cooperation with the inhabitants of the city (enterprises, children, youth, non-governmental organizations, etc.) city`s development objectives and development priorities were determined. On the bases of the survey results, the projects of the regeneration and development of the Fortress territory were highly evaluated. Before renovation and reconstruction works in the Fortress territory were started, corresponding documentation was elaborated which was submitted to public consultation in due time.

Medium-term priorities of DDP are defined in line with the national (Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia 2030) and regional development planning documents (Latgale Planning Region Territorial Planning for 2006 - 2026), taking into account the Daugavpils city planning documents of a local level (Daugavpils City Territorial Planning for 2006 - 2018).

On National level undertaken activities are in line with the Latvian Development Strategy (Latvia 2030) and correspond to Priority No.6 Spatial Development Perspective – Outstanding areas or nature, landscape and cultural and historical territories.

#### **15. Awareness-raising**

*Is the project effectively increasing the public's awareness of the importance of landscape in terms of human development, consolidation of European identity, or individual and collective well-being? How?*

The inhabitants of the city of Daugavpils give a positive assessment to the renovation projects of the Fortress. City dwellers actively participate at different cultural, sport, entertainment, etc. events in the Fortress. They regularly participate in cleaning-up of the Fortress territory within the framework of "Lielā talka" ("The Big Clean-up"). The municipality carries out population education activities showing an opportunity for everyone to participate at the preservation measures and management of nature and cultural and historical landscapes. This is the year of 165<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Daugava embankment. In order to preserve cultural and historical landscape, the revitalization of Daugava embankment surroundings was submitted to the State Inspection for Heritage Protection within the framework of European Heritage Days.

## **V. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL**

**Together with the printed version of the Application form, additional material in digital format is included in one CD-Rom:**

- Text (10 pages): *PDF format*
- 9 photos: *JPEG till 300 dpi high definition*
  - Photos 3-8 from Daugavpils City Council photo archive;
  - Photos 1, 2, 9 from Mark Rothko Art Centre photo archive.
- 2 posters about Daugavpils fortress (2011, 2014): *PDF format*
- 1 video about Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art centre (4:27 min).

***Detailed info about Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art centre:***

<http://www.rothkocenter.com/en/visitors>

***Other useful information:***

- Mark Rothko Paintings in Daugavpils BBC Video (English, duration 2:03 minutes)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-59aUxm3GyM>

Published: 20 November 2014

- Our company RIDemo has developed multimedia content (video projections, interactive applications) for digital exhibition devoted to great American painter Mark Rothko, who was born in Daugavpils (former Dvinsk) in Latvia. Exhibition is located in Daugavpils Mark Rothko art centre (Latvian, duration 5:59 minutes)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EeRgK-LL3b8>

Published: 4 April 2014

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