

Project title (descriptive)

Guidebook about Memorial Places in Riga and Environs. Latvia and its citizens in the struggle for freedom and resistance against occupation powers (1918-1991).

Applicant

The Museum of the Occupation of Latvia
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Background of the Applicant

The Museum of the Occupation of Latvia is an educational institution located in Riga, Latvia. It was established in 1993 to exhibit artifacts, archive documents, and educate the public about the 51-year period in the 20th century when Latvia was successively occupied by the USSR in 1940, by Nazi Germany in 1941, and again by the USSR in 1944.

The mission of the Museum of the Occupation of Latvia is

- to identify, research, elucidate and commemorate the wrongdoings committed by the foreign occupation powers against the state and the people of Latvia from 1940 to 1991;
- to preserve the historical memory of the Latvian people about the occupation period;
- to inform and educate the people of Latvia and other nations about the history and consequences of the occupation period in order to strengthen the Latvian state and its place amongst the free and democratic nations of the world.

Since 2005, the Museum has been visited by more than 100,000 visitors annually, including many statespersons as a part of the Latvian State Protocol.

Project Description/Purpose

The guidebook is prepared to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Latvian state in 2018. For the first time it assembles all available information about the major memorial sites in Riga and its environs in the twentieth century.

The Project is based on more than 10 years of research by Museum specialists, who established an extensive database of memorial sites in Riga and environs. The aim of the guidebook is to inform Latvian residents and visitors both about well-known and little known and possibly still undervalued memorial places.

The guidebook tells the story of Latvia by way of monuments and memorial places from the emergence of the Latvian state on November 18, 1918, through the

Liberation War, the experience under the occupation of Communist and Nazi totalitarian powers and the experience of the non-violent mass resistance movement that culminated in the 1991 Barricades of Freedom. Particularly tragic are the memorial places commemorating the Holocaust during the Nazi occupation.

After the guidebook is printed, the Occupation Museum will host book presentation events, which will inform about the new opportunity to get acquainted with the gathered information in the guidebook. Details of the guidebook will be sent out to the media and Latvian tourism portals. The guidebook is expected to be in the major Latvian bookshops. The initial print run will be 3000 copies.

Date of issue: **October, 2017**

Actual estimate
23.746 EUR

Other Support Granted/Requested (partners, in-kind and financial contributions):

State Culture Capital Foundation 4000 EUR;
Municipalities 2600 EUR;
Latvian Foundation 4400 EUR;
Latvian Association of Politically Repressed 6000 EUR;
Private donors 800 EUR

Self-financing 5956 EUR + English translation 3000 EUR