

## Nordic Newsletter

Nordic events and activities in Latvia

March 2021

### Recent events

#### Female Focus

On the 11<sup>th</sup> the Norwegian Chamber of Commerce organized an event where professional women in Latvia could be challenged, gain inspiration and competence. Female Focus is a business network inspired by Scandinavian values. Two prominent female leaders were in focus this time. **Birgitta Ohlsson** from the National Democratic Institute in Washington and **Evita Goša** from SCHWENK Latvia participated.

#### Tekla workshop & Dialogue, a project to support girls' interests in the space of technology

The Embassy of Sweden, RigaTechGirls and Start IT has launched the project **Tekla workshop & Dialogue**. The project is addressing the challenge of underrepresentation of women in technology and ways of empowering girls and women by strengthening their opportunities.



**start(it)**  
www.startit.lv

The Tekla workshops will offer girls aged 11–15 the opportunity to learn to code and explore different tech gear in an environment where all roles are available to them. They get to meet female role models and develop confidence and curiosity towards the world of technology. Information can be found [here](#) and a discussion in Latvian can be viewed on [Facebook](#).

## To enable inclusion through photography



The Swedish embassy in Riga and the Swedish Institute is cooperating on this project for its 3<sup>rd</sup> year. The goal of the project is to combat all forms of discrimination, to form respect by giving everyone their inherent and unconditional right to be seen! Information and more pictures from this project can be found on their [website!](#)

### **Waste management discussed on Latvian Radio**

Waste management has become a big topic and an important subject of discussion for the coming years. **Maija Kāle**, Sustainability and Digitalisation Adviser in the NCM Latvia, **Rudīte Vesere**, Environmental Protection Department Director of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, as well as Balticovo Director of Communication and Development **Toms Auškāps** talked about the subject on Latvian Radio's broadcast. The program is in Latvian and interesting for anyone who wants to catch up on recent [discussions](#).

### **The Nordic Culture and Art Programme**

This year's first round of the programme has been finished, and among the 191 applications there were six from Latvia, which will now be further evaluated by the Nordic Culture Point in Helsinki. A ten-week long assessment period will take place and the results will be announced in mid-May. This round is competing for a price pool of 1 080 000 euro. A second round will take in fall of 2021. The application will be open between 10<sup>th</sup> of August and 13<sup>th</sup> of September.

More information can be read on the [website](#).

## Coming events

### Workshop on Dementia Strategies

On March 18, a Nordic-Baltic online workshop on dementia strategies will be held. It gathers civil servants along with experts responsible for issues related to dementia, and takes place within the Nordic-Baltic pilot project on health and welfare issues. The workshop is arranged in cooperation between the NCM chair Finland, the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), NCM Latvia and the Latvian Ministries of Health and Welfare. The workshop will focus on dementia strategies and legislation on dementia care in the Nordic countries, the process of development of national strategies as well as on implementation and assessment.

### Nordic Quiz – test your knowledge of the Nordic countries!

The NCM offices in the Baltics will this year be celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. To mark the occasion, we have prepared an exciting and educational Nordic Quiz, which allows everyone to test their knowledge of the Nordic countries online. You will find the quiz at [www.norden.lv](http://www.norden.lv) starting on March 23 - the day when the Nordic Day is celebrated to mark the signing of the Helsinki Treaty, which forms the basis for Nordic cooperation. The quiz was developed by Adact.me and it's available in four languages: Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian and English. You can take the online quiz on your phone, computer or tablet and do it by yourself or with your family and friends all over the world.

### Nordic Day 2021 – five debates on the future of the Nordic region

On March 23, NCM will also be marking the Nordic Day by arranging a series of debates on topical themes of the Finnish NCM Presidency – culture, gender equality, freedom of movement, circular economy and freedom of expression. Join the debates [here](#) !

### Nordic Approach to the European Green Deal



**MARCH 24, 2021** | RIGA, LATVIA  
at 13:00 (EET)

### **Nordic Approach to the European Green Deal: INTRODUCING GREEN TRANSITION IN LATVIA**

On March 24, the Nordic Baltic Business forum is hosting the event “Nordic Approach to the European Green Deal: Introducing Green Transition in Latvia”, organised in partnership with the Nordic Chambers of Commerce in Latvia, and supported by Nordic embassies and NCM Latvia. The event will feature Nordic investors in Latvia that have been pioneers in sustainability and drivers of green transition. More information can be found [here](#).

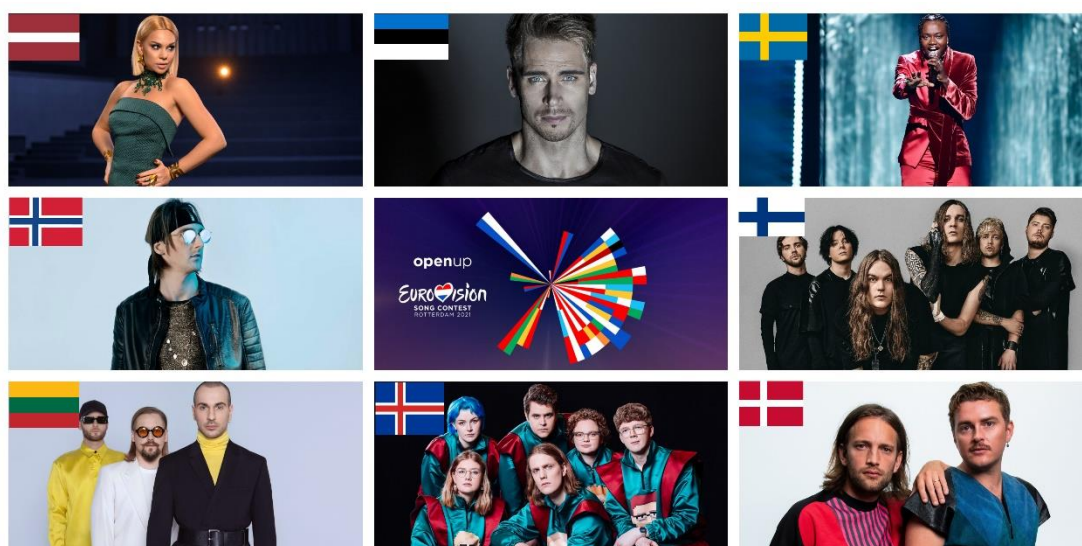
## Launching of Norway and EEA programme on Regional Development and Culture

On March 24, this programme will be launched by the Latvian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development in cooperation with the Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities and the Latvian Ministry of Culture. The programme will be carried out for 3 years, encompassing both open calls and pre-defined projects – more info [here](#).

## Upcoming deadlines

Nordic and Baltic Mobility Programme for Public Administration - deadline for applications is March 30. [Public Administration](#). The Nordic-Baltic NGO program - The application round opened on 15 March 2021 and the deadline for applications is May 1, 2021. [NGO Program](#)

## Nordic-Baltic Representatives to Eurovision Song Contest 2021 in Rotterdam



All Nordic and Baltic countries have finalized their choices for who will represent them in Rotterdam on May 18-22. A variety of genres are present from the region's delegations. Hopefully one will spearhead Northern Europe to win the competition!

Iceland – Daði Freyr og Gagnamagnið - [10 Years](#)

Finland – Blind Channel - [Dark Side](#)

Norway – TIX - [Fallen Angel](#)

Denmark – Fyr og Flamme - [Øve Os På Hinanden](#)

Sweden - Tusse – [Voices](#)

Latvia – Samanta Tina - [The Moon is Rising](#)

Estonia – Uku Suviste - [The Lucky One](#)

Lithuania – The Roop – [Discoteque](#)