



To the kind attention of

**Mr. Andrew Manning, Director**

**Mr. Liviu Jicman, President of the Board**

07.11.2024

No 9-5/1265-1

EUNIC, EU National Institutes for Culture

**Subject: Request to Update Estonia's EUNIC Global Representation**

Dear Mr. Manning and Mr. Jicman,

On behalf of the Estonian Ministry of Culture, we respectfully request an update to Estonia's representation within the EUNIC Global network. We propose that the Estonian Ministry of Culture assumes the role of Estonia's representative, replacing the Estonian Institute. The Estonian Institute has been informed of this proposal and has expressed its agreement.

The rationale for this change is based on the current circumstances in 2024. Over recent years, the Estonian Institute has closed its offices in Finland, Sweden, and most recently, Hungary. Given these developments, it is deemed appropriate for the Estonian Ministry of Culture to take over the responsibilities associated with Estonia's membership in EUNIC Global.

The Ministry of Culture already coordinates the network of Estonian cultural attachés, with diplomats currently posted in France, Germany, Belgium, the United Kingdom, and Finland. This network is set to expand in 2025 with a new position in the United States. For countries where no resident cultural representative is present, the Foreign Relations Advisors of the Ministry of Culture, based in Tallinn, will continue to support Estonian embassies abroad, ensuring sustained cultural engagement. Additionally, the Ministry benefits from the expertise of a dedicated Advisor for European Union Affairs.

Estonia remains an active participant in EUNIC clusters across multiple countries, having previously held the role of Cluster President in New York and Brussels, and currently serving on the Presidency Team in The Hague, London, and Lisbon. We are actively engaged in clusters in countries such as the Netherlands, Germany, Poland, Ireland, and China, and are considering membership applications for other countries.

Estonia attaches great importance to the EU dimension of cultural cooperation and the opportunities for shared initiatives and cultural exchanges that EUNIC Global membership provides. Our involvement in European collaborations—spanning film, literature, music, and the visual arts—is integral to Estonia’s cultural diplomacy efforts.

Offering full support to Ukraine alongside our EUNIC partners is crucial for Estonia.

As a small country, being part of a like-minded community amplifies our voice. Acting together strengthens and brings greater visibility to our shared European values. The Estonian Ministry of Culture is fully committed to upholding and advancing these values as a member of EUNIC Global.

The designated Head of Representation and Focal Point for the Estonian Ministry of Culture will be Mr. Meelis Kompus and Ms. Ulla Kihva, respectively.

Yours sincerely,



Kristiina Alliksaar  
Secretary General

Ulla Kihva +372 6282357 / [ulla.kihva@kul.ee](mailto:ulla.kihva@kul.ee)