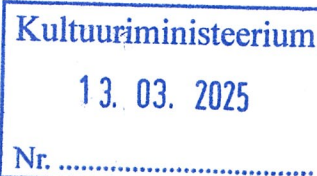




Heidy Purga
Minister of Culture
Estonia



Invitation to the meeting of Nordic and Baltic Ministers for Culture on 5–6 May 2025 in Helsinki

Dear Heidy Purga,

As Finland's new Minister of Science and Culture, I look forward to working with you during Finland and Åland's Co-Presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers in 2025. With a view to achieving the vision of being the most integrated region in the world by 2030, the Council of Ministers for Culture will be focusing on the following themes: preparedness in the culture sector, media literacy and education for democratic citizenship, comprehension of Nordic languages, and diversity and participation in cultural life.

I would like to extend my warmest thanks to Sweden for its excellent Presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers in 2024. During its Presidency, Sweden highlighted the importance of Nordic and Baltic cultural cooperation for us all. The 2024 meeting of Nordic and Baltic Ministers for Culture focused on exchanging ideas and experiences on how to safeguard cultural heritage in times of war and crisis. As holders of the Presidency 2025, Finland and Åland want to continue and deepen the joint discussion on this important and topical issue.

I would like to welcome all Nordic and Baltic Ministers for Culture to a joint, informal Nordic-Baltic ministerial meeting in Helsinki. Ukraine's Minister of Culture H.E. Mykola Tochytskyi will be invited to the meeting as a special guest. We will begin our programme with a joint dinner with the Nordic Ministers for Education on 5 May 2025, which will be followed by a meeting on the morning of 6 May 2025. The dinner will begin at 18.00 (gathering/transport at 17.00) and the ministerial meeting will take place from 8.30 to 10.30 (security check from 8.00 to 8.15). The Nordic Ministers for Education will also have their meeting on 6 May 2025.

The meeting will be held in English without interpretation. Due to the topic of the meeting, on-site participation is preferred. Unfortunately, it will therefore not be possible to participate remotely. Leading up to the meeting, discussion questions will be prepared in cooperation with officials from each country. We will provide an updated programme with more information on the event as soon as possible. The invitation to the ordinary meeting of the Nordic Council of Ministers for Culture will be sent out separately as usual.

To confirm your participation, please reply by **24 March 2025** at the latest to Mirva Mattila, Senior Ministerial Adviser, Ministry of Education and Culture (mirva.mattila@gov.fi; +358 295 33 0269).

I look forward to meeting you in person and welcoming you to Helsinki together with Minister of Culture Annika Hambrudd.

Kind regards,

Mari-Leena Talvitie

Minister of Science and Culture