

Republic of Estonia Ministry of Culture

Yana Liashkovich Novaya Gazeta info@novayagazeta.ee Yours: 04.02.2025

Ours: 10.02.2025

No 10-10/134-2

Request for Emergency Support for Independent Russian-Language Media in the Baltics

Dear Ms. Liashkovich,

Thank you for reaching out and for sharing the important work that *Novaya Gazeta*. *Baltia* has been doing to provide high-quality journalism to Russian-speaking communities in the Baltic region. We recognize and appreciate your significant contribution to promoting democratic values and countering disinformation.

Unfortunately, due to a decrease in the Ministry of Culture's budget, we are unable to provide direct funding at this time. Estonia remains committed to supporting independent Russian-language media, and such support is primarily facilitated through public tenders. We encourage you to explore these opportunities as they become available.

We understand the challenges faced by independent media organizations and acknowledge the vital role *Novaya Gazeta*. *Baltia* plays in serving Russian-speaking audiences. While we regret that we cannot offer direct assistance at this moment, we remain supportive of the broader efforts to sustain a diverse and independent media landscape.

Wishing you strength and success in navigating this difficult period.

Yours sincerely,

(signed digitally) Katre Väli Head of Department (acting as Vice-Chancellor for Arts)

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