Reading Promotion in Latvia as an Integration Project for National Minority Schools and Latvian Diaspora Centres Abroad



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- INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT SURVEYS ON READING LITERACY (e.g. PISA and PIRLS)
- In 2009, 2.9 % of pupils had excellent reading skills at age 15; in 2015, 4.3% were at this level (PISA).
- Latvian pupils have average results in terms of their reading skills but lack motivation to read.
- In 2016, Latvian pupils ranked themselves as poor readers, which placed them in 4th from last place (PIRLS).
- Boys are considerably behind girls.

- We are always guided by the results of international reading studies.
- Figures from the 2013 Eurostat study of reading habits show that in Latvia, 72% of Latvian residents regularly read books, which is slightly above the European average (68%), slightly below Estonia (78%) and above Lithuania (66%). In turn, Eurostat data about library users confirm that 39% of Latvian residents use libraries, which is lower than Estonia (47%), but more than Lithuania (35%) and the EU average (31%).

Various state reading promotion programs in Latvia





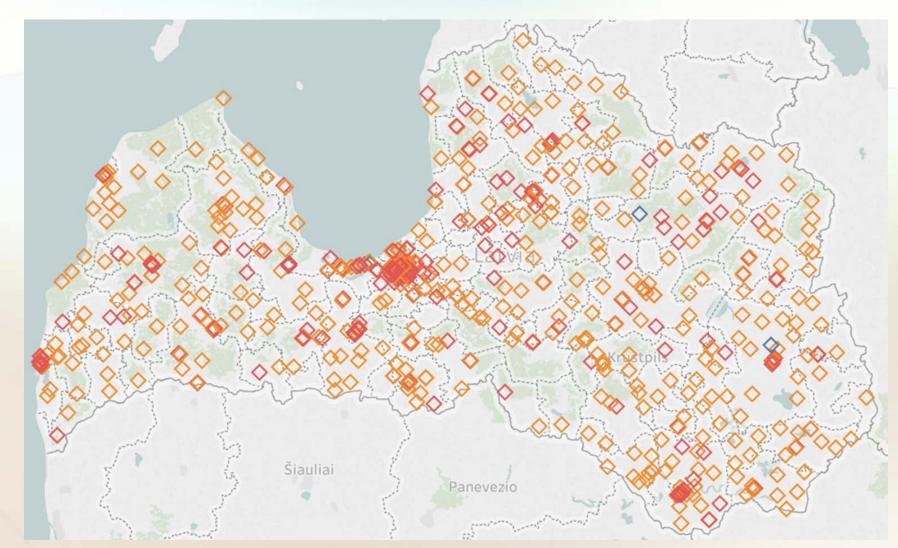


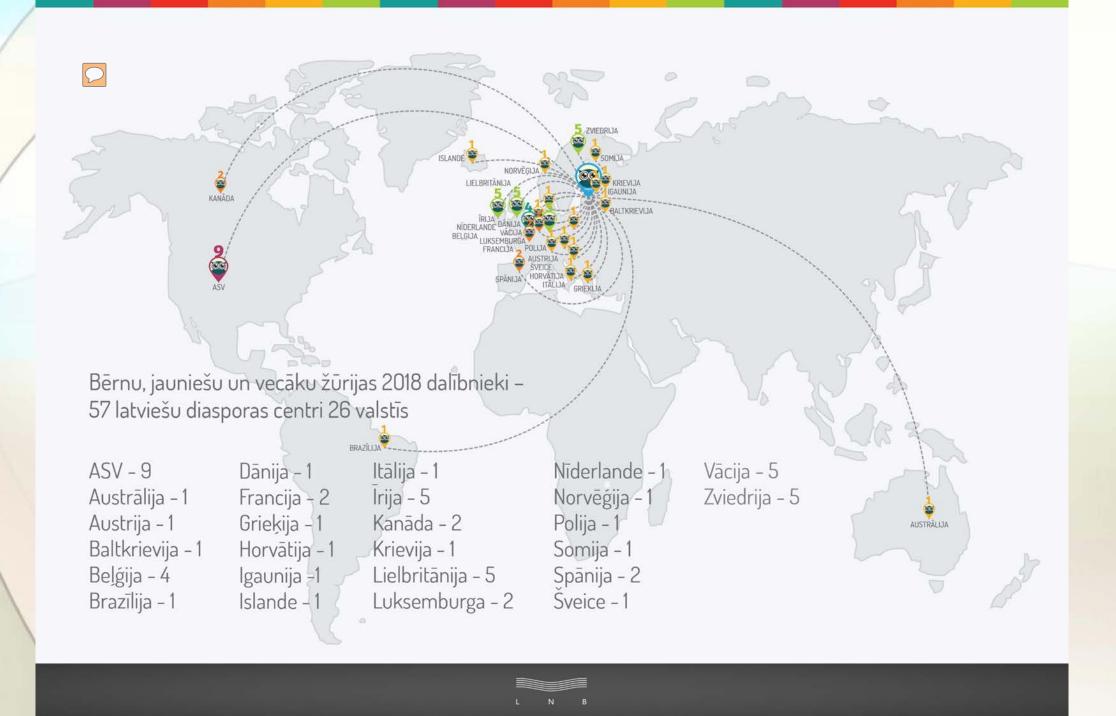




During these years starting with 2001 - we have attracted 1 million 244 thousand 600 Euro state funding for reading promotion

630 libraries; 197 of them are schools and 33 of them are minority schools





LASI UN VĒRTĒ '18



- How does the program work?
- At the beginning of the year a professional jury chooses good and interesting books for the "Children's and Young Adult Jury".
- Easy to understand principles step by step involving its participants in reading, discussing, and evaluating different books, which develops critical thinking and reading and writing skills.
- There is approximately a half of original literature and a half translations in the collection of books.
- Prevalence of good books the key objective

How does integration through books take place?

- Education in minority languages is the precondition to preserve the cultural identity of minorities in Latvia and to ensure the society's integration
- State-funded education has been implemented in Latvia. 104 education institutions that implement minority education programmes in Russian, Polish, Ukrainian, Byelorussian, Jewish, Lithuanian, Estonian and bilingually, with the respective proportion of the school subjects in the Latvian language, bilingually and/or in the minority language.



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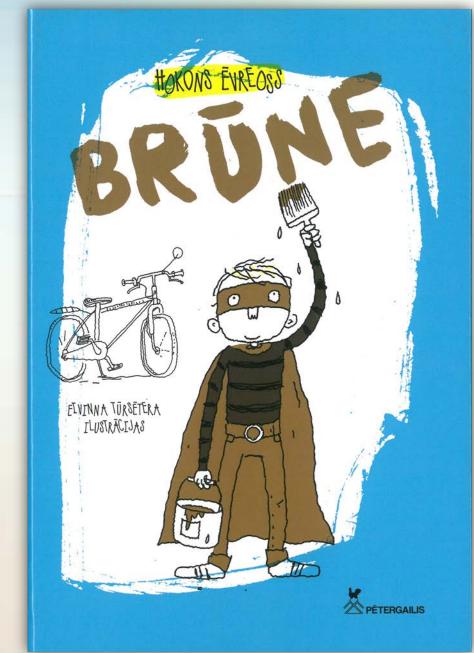


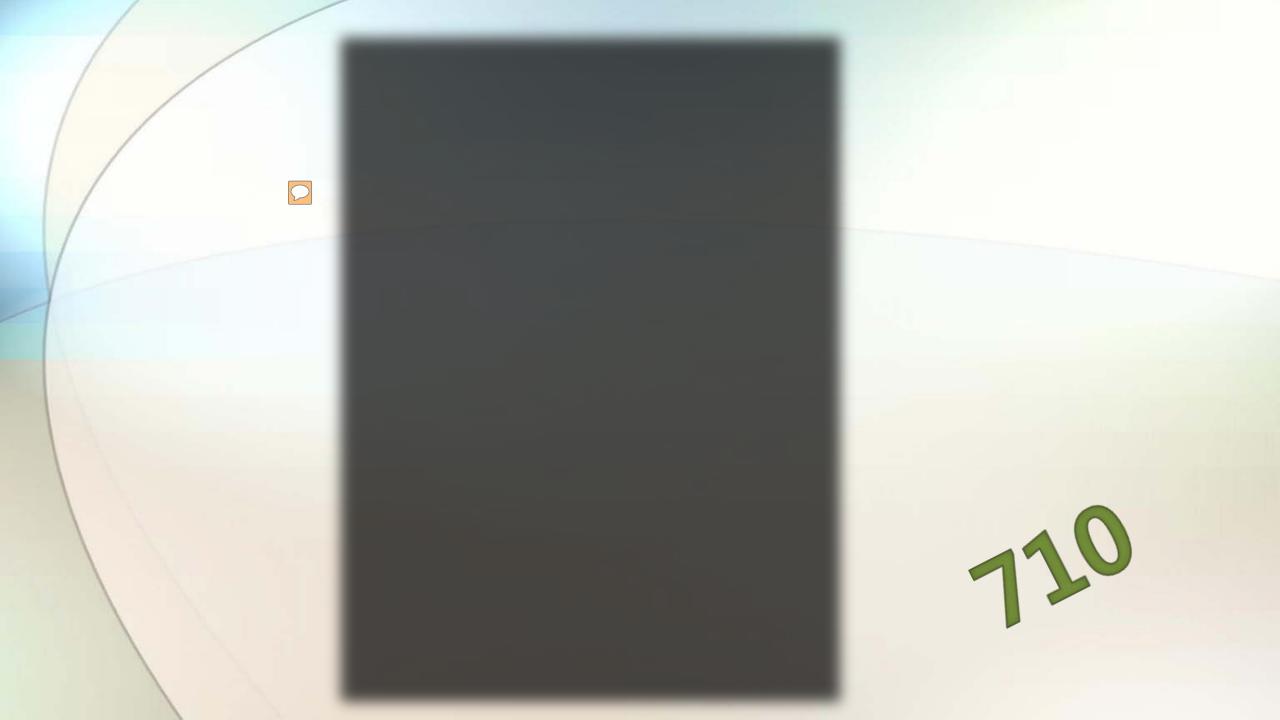
Campaign "Men! Fathers! Readers!"

- 1724 adults participated in parents' jury
- 136 men among them













Daniel Pennac "Comme un roman" our inspirer for the whole movement of reading promotion

A chocolate book





Latvijas Nacionālā bibliotēka Sumis



Thank you!

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