

First day – June 3, Wednesday

MORNING/ DAY PART (11:00 – 19:00)

10:15 - 11:00 Registration; morning coffee

11:00 - 12:00, Ligatne Culture house

Opening of the Latvian Rural Communities Parliament. Communities' highlights. Speeches of opinion leaders. Retrospect on First Latvian Rural Communities Parliament resolution (2013). Introduction and context for the Second Rural Communities Parliament.

Andris Bērziņš, President of Latvia

Zanda Kalniņa-Lukaševica, Parliamentary State Secretary for EU Affairs

Ainārs Šteins, Head of municipality Ligatne

Anita Seļicka, Executive director of Latvian Rural Forum

Opening session is lead by:

Aija Tūna, The Education Development Centre, Soros Foundation-Latvia initiative "Change opportunities in schools"

Valdis Kudiņš, Chairmen of the Board of Latvian Rural Forum

12:00 - 15:45, Ligatne Culture house

First session „Consolidate economic potential of rural areas to strengthen the competitiveness of the EU” - common session

Valdis Kudiņš, Chairmen of the Board of Latvian Rural Forum

12:45 - 14:00 Lunch

14:00 - 15:30 Parallel working groups

- 1.1. Create new opportunities in rural areas: how to earn with creativity in the rural areas?
- 1.2. How IT promotes employment in rural areas?
- 1.3. How to develop business in the countryside?
- 1.4. Alternative energy in the rural areas: how to become independent?
- 1.5. Be visible on the market: the market expect from agriculture?
- 1.6. Be responsible in the countryside: how to turn disadvantages into opportunities?

16:15 - 18:45, Ligatne Culture house

Second session „Improving quality of life in rural areas and small towns by promoting development of civil society outside the centres of development” – common session.

Aija Tūna, The Education Development Centre, Soros Foundation-Latvia initiative "Change opportunities in schools"

17:15 - 18:45 Parallel working groups

- 2.1. The opportunity to develop the internet platform for civic engagement in rural areas
- 2.2. Society involvement in cultural heritage digitization process
- 2.3. Enlivening civic society for local development and quality of life
- 2.4. Schools as multi-functional centers in rural communities; the possibility of multiplying it in Europe
- 2.5. Efficient usage of community resources
- 2.6. Intergenerational learning and solidarity in 21st century

Evening part (20:00 pm – 23:00)

20:00 - 23:00, Ligatne Culture house

International evening. Getting to know each other- networking and non - formal communication. Musically entertaining evening with international food brought by participants.

Second day – June 4, Thursday

MORNING/ DAY PART (9:00 – 15:45)

9:00 - 12:00, Ligatne Rehabilitation Centre

Third session „The mobility of citizens and ensuring access to services in a context of rural development” - common session

Atis Egliņš-Eglītis, Projec manager in Liepaja Culture Department of international relations and culture

10:00 - 12:00 Parallel working groups

- 3.1. Will repaired roads guarantee the return of young people in the rural areas?
- 3.2. How does e-health will improve well being of population in rural areas?
- 3.3. Why Europe needs educated society?
- 3.4. What is today's challenges of nowadays culture?

12:00 - 12:40, Ligatne Rehabilitation Centre

Presentation of the resolution, concussion and common commitment to collaboration in local, nacional and European level

12:40 - 15:45, Ligatne Rehabilitation Centre

Forth session "Educational seminar for Local Action Groups "Multi-sector and international cooperation for community lead local development"

Urszula Budzich-Tabor, The European Network for Rural Development (ENRD) policy analyst

Radim Sršen, President of The European LEADER Association for Rural Development (ELARD)

Thomas Müller, Leader of the OG of European Rural Parliament

Valdis Kudiņš, Chairmen of the Board of Latvian Rural Forum

12:45 - 13:30 Lunch

16:00 - 18:00, Ligatne Culture Centre

Free time. The opportunity to go for a different free of charge and charged tours around Ligatne city

Official joint session - Development Cooperation. Suggestions for further activities.

Sharing development experiences (stories from Development Forum participants from Iraq, Mongolia). Lecture about development cooperation.

EVENING PART (18:00 – 23:00)

18:00 - 23:00

Celebration of Ligatne. Craftsmen market. Getting to know Ligatne - paper fabric, army bunkers, cave basements, architecture of the factory village, nature trails and a lot more. Performances of local artists and ball with live music.

Third day – June 5, Friday

MORNING / DAY PART (10:00 – 16:00)

10:00 - 11:00

Closure of the Rural Community Parliament. Speeches of members of the European Parliament, Parliament of Latvia and communities. Towards 3rd Latvian Rural communities parliament.

11:00 - 16:00

Getting to know local communities practical initiatives and exchanging good experiences