

## RESOLUTION

### Concerning Preservation of Ethnic Culture in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania

*Ethnic culture is the essence of the existence, survival and strength of nations and the basis of national culture, which assists in preservation the self-awareness of nations, the independent life of society and the state in the community of European and world nations.*

*In the Baltic states ethnic culture has suffered and may suffer much future damage and penetration by alien cultures, caused by the twists of history.*

**The Baltic Assembly,**

**being aware** of the importance of ethnic culture for the preservation of cultural and ethnic traits of nations and states;

**taking into consideration** the importance of ethnic culture for world culture and the peoples of our states;

**expressing** concern about the growing vulnerability of ethnic culture today;

**emphasizing** the responsibility of the present generation for the preservation of ethnic culture created by our ancestors and the need to ensure the continuity of inherited tradition;

**realizing** that the means of preserving ethnic culture must be diverse,

**reminds** the parliaments and the governments of the Republic of Estonia, Republic of Latvia and Republic of Lithuania of their responsibility in preserving ethnic culture and in continuing the inherited tradition; and

**proposes** to develop a set of specific measures and to provide financing for them from the national budgets.

Riga, 4 December 1999