

Text consolidated by Valsts valodas centrs (State Language Centre) with amending laws of:
12 February 2009 [shall come into force on 11 March 2009].

If a whole or part of a section has been amended, the date of the amending law appears in square brackets at the end of the section. If a whole section, paragraph or clause has been deleted, the date of the deletion appears in square brackets beside the deleted section, paragraph or clause.

The *Saeima*¹ has adopted and
the President has proclaimed the following law:

On the Sacred Site of International Significance in Aglona

Chapter I General Provisions

Section 1. The sacred site of international significance in Aglona (hereinafter – the sacred site of Aglona) is a part of the cultural and historical heritage of Latvia – a cultural monument and a place of religious pilgrimage.

Section 2. (1) The sacred site of Aglona is located in the territory of Aglona municipality.
(2) The sacred site of Aglona includes the Basilica's sacred buildings, the holy spring, the monastery, the sacral square, and Aglona cemetery. The protection zone of the sacred site of Aglona includes other land, buildings and structures belonging to the Basilica of Aglona.
[12 February 2009 / The replacement of the word "parish" with "municipality" in Paragraph one shall come into force on 1 July 2009. See Transitional Provision]

Section 3. (1) The protection of the sacred site of Aglona as a cultural monument shall be determined by the law On Protection of Cultural Monuments.
(2) Religious activity at the sacred site of Aglona shall be determined by the Law on Religious Organisations.
(3) The relations of the Church with the State at the sacred site of Aglona shall be determined by the constitutional law Rights and Duties of Man and Citizen.

Section 4. The special procedures for the maintenance of the sacred site of Aglona as a place of religious pilgrimage shall be determined by this Law.

Section 5. The maintenance and development of the sacred site of Aglona and its protection zone shall be determined by the following principles:

- 1) the determination of fees related to the visiting of the sacred site of Aglona shall not be permitted;
- 2) the sacred site of Aglona shall be used only for events of religious and spiritual nature which shall be determined by the management of the Catholic Church in Latvia;
- 3) the costs related to events of State significance for the maintenance of the sacred site of Aglona may be financed from the State budget;
- 4) the sacred site of Aglona and the protection zone thereof in the territory of its property, in conformity with the law On Protection of Cultural Monuments, shall be managed by the congregation of the Basilica of Aglona, enjoying the exemptions specified in the laws regarding property, land, natural resources, corporate income, and value added tax.

¹ The Parliament of the Republic of Latvia

Chapter II

Financing of the Sacred Site of Aglona

Section 6. The financial resources of the sacred site of Aglona shall consist of:

- 1) funds acquired by the congregation of the Basilica of Aglona from business and other economic activities;
- 2) donations by natural persons and legal persons;
- 3) funds allocated by the local governments;
- 4) resources from the State budget for covering expenditures related to events of national significance.

Section 7. (1) The Cabinet, the relevant local governments, and the management of the Catholic Church in Latvia shall agree each year on the events of national significance anticipated at the sacred site of Aglona and the course thereof.

(2) Expenditures related to the medical provision for events of national significance, the provision of road traffic and public order at the sacred site of Aglona and the protection zone thereof may be covered from the State budget.

(3) The Cabinet shall determine the procedures by which events of national significance at the sacred site of Aglona shall be determined, and also the course and financing thereof shall be ensured.

[12 February 2009 / The new wording of Paragraph one and Paragraph three shall come into force on 1 July 2009. See Transitional Provision]

Section 8. Any business at the sacred site of Aglona and its protection zone shall be performed in accordance with the procedures laid down in the legislation and with a written permission of the congregation of the Basilica of Aglona. The inhabitants of the rural territory of Aglona who used this land until restoration of the land ownership rights of the Basilica of Aglona have the priority right to enter into a long-term land lease agreement with the congregation of the Basilica of Aglona.

Chapter III

Provisions Regarding Staying at the Sacred Site of Aglona and the Protection Zone Thereof

Section 9. The management of the Catholic Church in Latvia, in coordination with the Cabinet, shall determine the procedures for staying at the sacred site of Aglona. These provisions shall be published and placed in places accessible to the public in the territory of the sacred site of Aglona. Malevolent violators of these provisions shall be expelled from the sacred site of Aglona.

Section 10. (1) The Cabinet shall, in agreement with the management of the Catholic Church in Latvia and the relevant local governments, issue provisions regarding the staying of all natural persons and legal persons in the protection zone of the sacred site of Aglona.

(2) These provisions may incorporate:

- 1) special procedures for the maintenance of constructions, buildings, structures and the use of natural resources;
- 2) restrictions regarding trade with intoxicating beverages, other goods intended for entertainment, and the advertising of such goods;
- 3) restrictions in relation to the installation, advertising, and operation of different types of entertainment sites;
- 4) measures to be taken for the upkeep of public order.

- (3) The provisions shall be published and placed in places accessible to the public on the border of the protection zone of the sacred site of Aglona and in the territory thereof.
- (4) The enforcement of the provisions shall be controlled by the Aglona municipality council, the State Police, and the National Guard.
- (5) The violators of the provisions shall be held under administrative liability in accordance with the Latvian Administrative Violations Code.

[12 February 2009 / The replacement of the words “Aglona parish council” with the words “Aglona municipality council” in Paragraph four shall come into force on 1 July 2009. See Transitional Provision]

Transitional Provision

Amendment to Section 2, Paragraph one of this Law regarding the replacement of the word “parish” with the word “municipality”, amendments to Section 7 regarding the agreement on the events of national significance intended at the sacred site of Aglona and the course thereof and the corresponding delegation to the Cabinet to issue regulations, and also amendment to Section 10, Paragraph four regarding the replacement of the words “Aglona parish council” with the words “Aglona municipality council” shall come into force on 1 July 2009.

[12 February 2009]

The Law shall come into force on the day of its proclamation.

The Law has been adopted by the *Saeima* on 12 October 1995.

Acting for the President, the Chairperson of the *Saeima*

A. Gorbunovs

Rīga, 21 October 1995