



**RIGA
GRADUATE
SCHOOL OF
LAW**



Ministry of
Foreign Affairs
Republic of Latvia

Intensive Programme in Law and Economics

European Neighbourhood Policy
Countries, Central Asia and Western Balkans





OBJECTIVES

This programme is a new modular version of the Advanced Programme that was funded by the government of Latvia together with the governments of Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and United States of America.

The Intensive Programme is funded by the government of Latvia together with the governments of Switzerland and the United States of America.

It is offered with a special focus on the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) countries, Central Asia and Western Balkans. The specific beneficiary countries are set for each programme period by an agreement between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the other donors, and the list of eligible countries will be posted on the web site of Riga Graduate School of Law (RGSL).

The objective is to provide training that is useful with regard to the relations between on the one hand the international community and the European Union, and on the other hand the ENP countries, Central Asia and Western Balkans. It is also the intention to provide a knowledge transfer that is based on the experience of Latvia and the other donors in their international relations.

During more than 20 years, Latvia has accumulated a huge and unique experience and expertise in the field of European integration that can be valuable for countries wishing to expand their international relations.

The programme will offer an excellent opportunity for the representatives of the various countries to learn from the experience of Latvia and the other donors. This programme will offer practical support to the efforts of the ENP countries, Central Asia and Western Balkans to engage in international relations, including relations with the European Union.

RGSL will provide programme supervision in cooperation with the Latvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with consultation of the international donors.

Programme participants will benefit from additional support from partners that include the Latvian Institute of International Affairs, Stockholm School of Economics in Riga, University of Latvia and European Institute for Public Administration.

The programme comprises the following elements:

- Training for public officials, as well as representatives of civil society and academia, from the eligible countries
- Focus on the understanding of the legal, economic and political aspects of international relations, using an interdisciplinary approach that is based on both teaching and practical experience
- Awarding a special Certificate, beyond the scope of individual training courses, and allowing for later possible conversion, at the personal expense of the students, towards internationally recognised course credits

The course subjects have been selected so as to ensure both the diversity and integrity of the

interdisciplinary approach adopted, that has a focus on Law and Economics, with a consideration also of policy issues.

The programme seeks to identify fundamental principles and values in each of the fields included, so as to contribute to the common understanding of such principles and values, in addition to the more technical skills related to international negotiations, institutional cooperation and organisational structures, including the European Union.



STRUCTURE

The programme is composed of 3 main modules, which each comprise 6 continuous weeks of full time studies. Participants may decide to complete one or more modules, and a graduation certificate will be issued for each module.

For participants joining the programme for the first time, an introductory one-week module is mandatory prior to the main module. English language support is offered as an elective with 4 hours per week throughout most of the programme.

Each main module has a total of 30 teaching days, which are allocated to 3 interdisciplinary courses. The course topics are addressed from the combined perspectives of law, economics and policy, including a study visit abroad.

Each course has teaching for 6 hours per day, including seminars, excursions, special events and class preparation. The weekly workload is estimated at 30 hours, and each course corresponds to 3 ECTS credits.

Excursions in Latvia include experience sharing with institutions such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Finance, Cabinet of Ministers, Parliament, Constitutional Court, Supreme Court and Ombudsman. The study visit this year includes the national and European institutions of Belgium and Luxembourg.

After each course, participants are requested to provide feedback on the teaching, as well as the organisation of events, which is used for the continuous development of the programme.

"The experience that Latvia has, related to European integration, is very valuable for my country."

/Tamta Tsotskhalashvili, Georgia/





COURSES – SPRING 2017

Module 2: Law & Economics of International Diplomacy

Title	Topics
Common Foreign and Security Policy	Policy objectives for foreign and security policy Sanctions and administrative procedure Trade embargoes as economic measures
Asylum and immigration policy	Rights of third country nationals Policy reactions to the refugee crisis Labour markets and the financial crisis
Diplomacy and International Relations	Vienna conventions on diplomacy and treaties Use of diplomacy in modern international relations Economic policy and diplomacy
Study visit	Frankfurt and Vienna European and national institutions

Introductory week for first time participants



MODULES – PLANNED FOR 2017-2018

Title	Topics
Module 3: Law & Economics of International Trade Autumn 2017	Free trade agreements of the EU International contracts and enforcement Environmental policy and trade Study visit to Paris and Geneva
Module 1: Law & Economics of the European Union Spring 2018	Internal Market of the European Union Fundamental and Human Rights Judicial and administrative cooperation Study visit to Bruxelles and Luxembourg



PARTICIPATION COSTS

The programme is offered free of any cost by the Latvian Government and the international donors.

Cost coverage for the participants will include travel to Riga and accommodation during the 6 week period of each programme module, as well as a modest per diem for living expenses in Riga. Travel and other costs will also be covered for study visits. For first time participants, the introductory week is also covered.

Participants are expected to contribute in the form of active participation and full dedication to the programme during the 6 weeks. Eligible applicants may also request participation based on individual payment and support from other sources.

Courses will be taught in an intensive format and mandatory attendance is required during all programme

activities, including the excursions and study visits. A final programme report will form the basis for a successful conclusion of the programme module and reception of a certificate.

Participants will obtain 9 ECTS credits for each programme module, which may be recognised when continuing in the Masters programmes at RGSL and at other cooperating educational institutions.

**"It was a challenge
for us sometimes,
but we went through these
challenges and we met a lot of friends,
and that was really fun!"**
/Madina Andreyeva, Kazakhstan/

LOCATION

The teaching will take place on the premises of the Riga Graduate School of Law, located in the elegant embassy quarter of central Riga, which is characterised by its Art Nouveau architecture.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is within a shorter walking distance of RGSL, and most of the many facilities offered by Riga may be reached on foot. Accommodation is planned within the city.

The RGSL city campus, with Stockholm School of Economics in Riga (SSE-Riga) as a close neighbour, offers a vibrant international environment, with students and teachers from around the world pursuing education that spans from undergraduate, through graduate and post-graduate programmes.

Teachers drawn from RGSL and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as the international donors and participating partners, will each contribute their specialised perspectives on law and economics pertinent to European and international relations, with special focus on the countries covered by the programme.



APPLICATION

Applicants are required to fill out an online application form which will require the following:

- Motivation letter
- Description of present job function
- Curriculum vitae, which should include at least 2-3 years of professional experience
- Copies of university diplomas
- Recommendation letter, preferably from the current employer
- Confirmation of the ability to undertake studies in English

The deadline for submission of the online application form is 13 March 2017.

A selection committee will review all applications, and results will be announced by 24 March 2017.

The programme starts on 22 May 2017, with the introductory module, and participants will be assisted in applying for a visa in Latvia for the purpose of attending the programme. Graduation is planned for 30 June 2017.

Additional programme information will be posted on the RGSL web site (www.rgsl.lv) under the heading of the Short Duration Courses, which will include the list of eligible countries.

Questions may be submitted to the contact e-mail address:
intensive@rgsl.edu.lv.

Riga Graduate School of Law

Address: Strelnieku iela 4k-2

Riga LV-1010, Latvia

Phone: +371 67039230

Fax: +371 67039240

E-mail: intensive@rgsl.edu.lv



STAFF MEMBERS



Justine Elferte

International Projects Coordinator



Kriss Elerts

Assistant Coordinator
of the Intensive Programme.



**We were learning,
expressing different point of views,
but what is most important –
listening to each other.”**
/Volodymyr Solovey, Ukraine/

www.rgsl.lv
intensive@rgsl.edu.lv
www.facebook.com/rgsl.lv

Programme Partners:



International Donors:



Norwegian Ministry
of Foreign Affairs



Kingdom of the Netherlands



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Embassy of Switzerland to Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia



GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Directorate for Development Cooperation