# AIKA

Quality Agency for Higher Education

## Latvian Quality Agency for Higher Education

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### Latvia

**Republic of Latvia** is a country in the Baltic region of Northern Europe

Latvia's independence in 1918

Restoration of independence in 1991

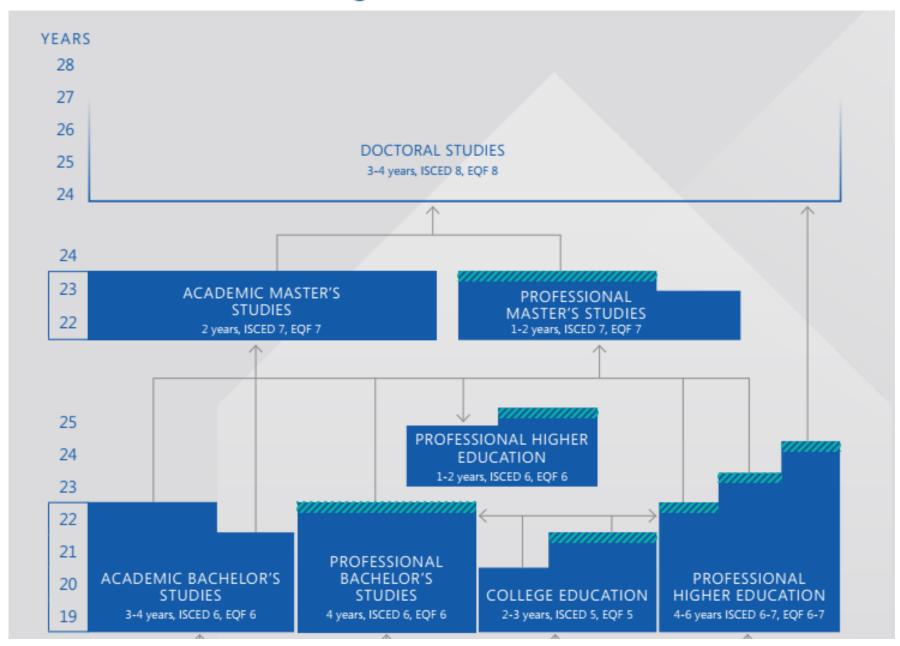
EU member since 2004

Inhabitants: 1,907,675



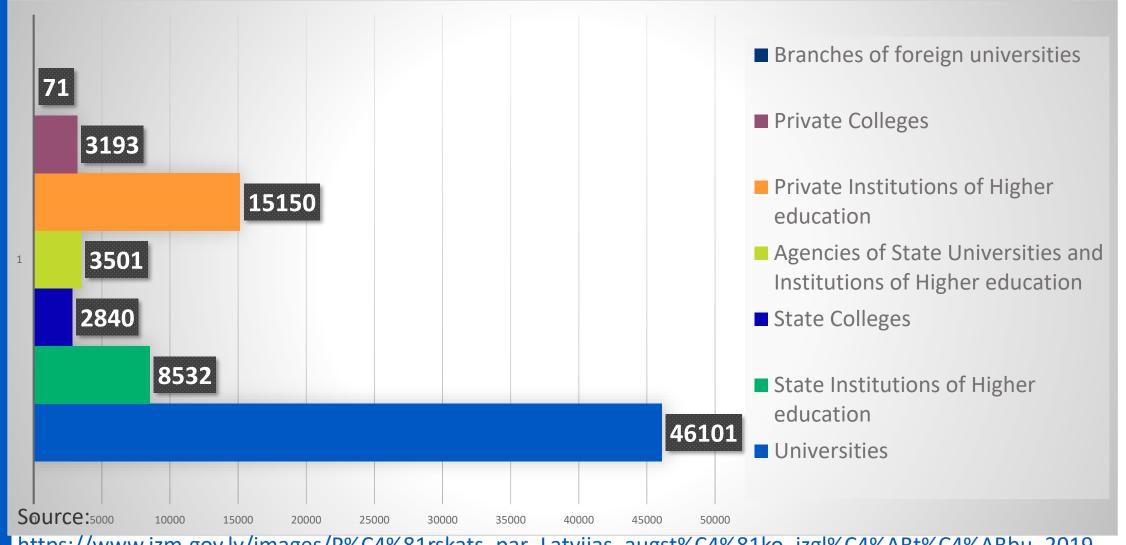
## A I A Quality Agency for Higher Education

#### Higher education





### Number of Students in 2019/2020 – 79 388

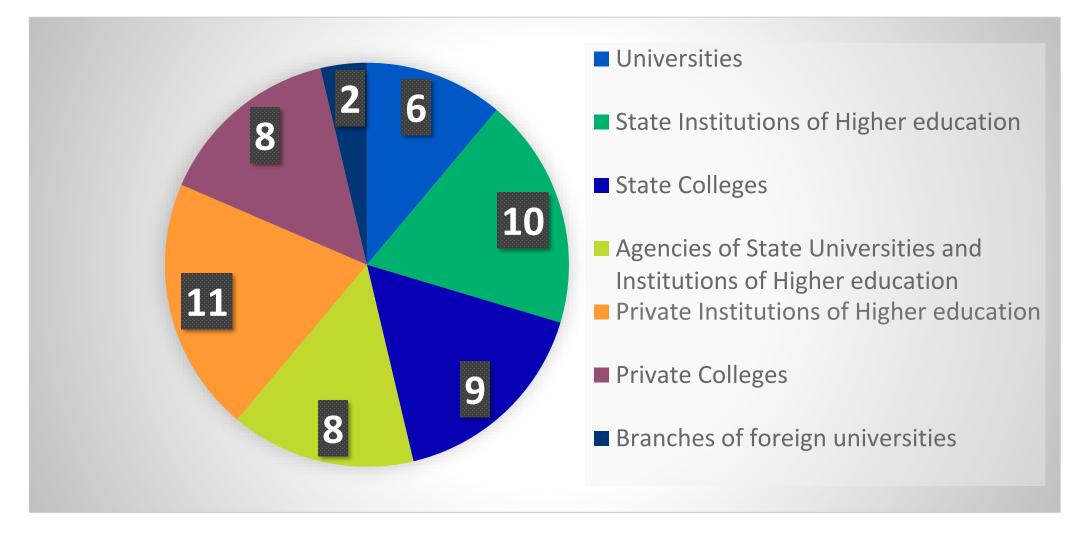


https://www.izm.gov.lv/images/P%C4%81rskats par Latvijas augst%C4%81ko izgl%C4%ABt%C4%ABbu 2019.

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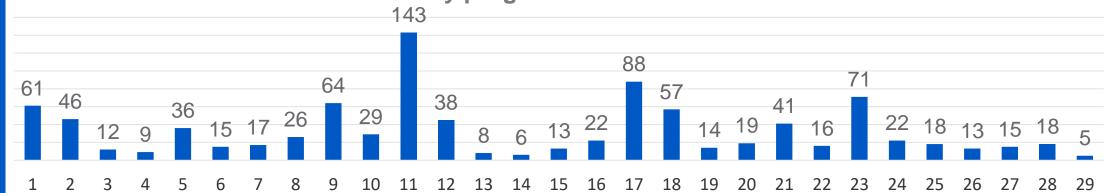


## Higher education institutions in Latvia - 54





#### Number of Study programmes in Field 143

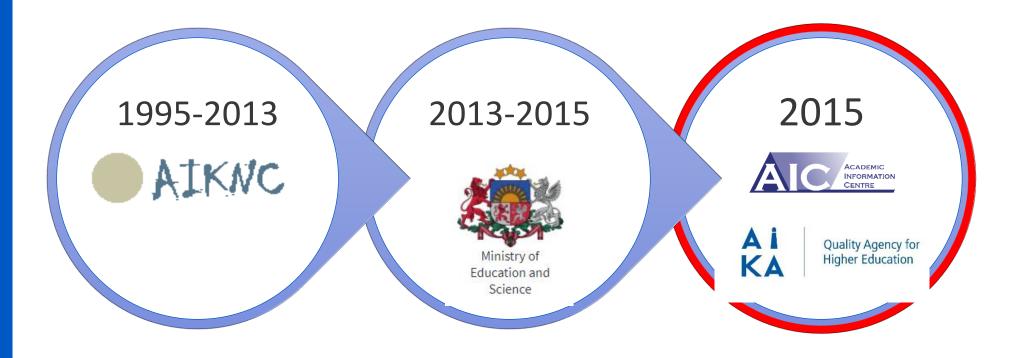


- 1. Education and pedagogy
- 2. Arts
- 3. Religion and theology
- 4. History and philosophy
- 5. Language and cultural studies native language studies and language programmes
- 6.Translation
- 7.Psychology
- 8. Sociology, politics and anthropology
- 9. Economics
- 10.Information and communication sciences
- 11. Management, administration and real estate management
- 12.Law sciences
- 13. Natural sciences
- 14. Geography and earth sciences
- 15. Chemistry, chemical technologies and biotechnology
- 16. Physics, material science, mathematics and statistics

- 17. Information technology, computer engineering, electronics, telecommunications, computer management and computer science.
- 18. Mechanic and metal working, heat power industry, heat engineering and mechanical engineering.
- 19. Power industry, electrical technologies
- 20. Production and processing
- 21. Architecture and construction
- 22. Agriculture, forest management, fishing and food hygiene.
- 23.Health care
- 24. Social welfare
- 25. Hotel and restaurant service, tourism and recreation organization
- 26.Enviroment protection
- 27. Transport services
- 28. Internal security and civil defence
- 29. Military defence
- 30. Veterinary medicine\*
- 31. Sport\*
- 32. Maritime education\*

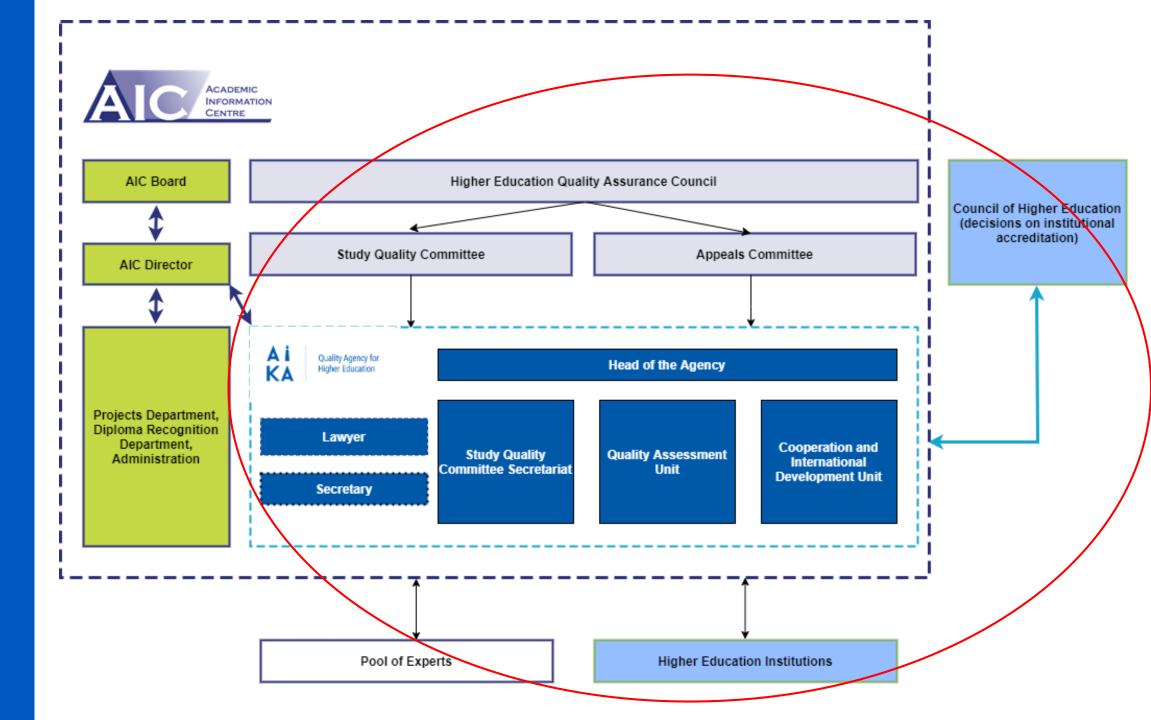


## Responsibility for Quality Assurance



Quality agency for higher education is trustful and internationally recognized, it contributes to the continuous quality enhancement of higher education in Latvia and takes active role in quality assurance processes of the European and global higher education area.







## Quality Assessment Procedures

#### Licensing of a study programme

non-cyclical procedure for each new study programme

#### Accreditation of a study field

cyclical procedure for a study field in each HEI, every 2 or 6 years

#### Accreditation of a higher education institution

only once for each HEI shortly after the HEI has started operating

#### **Assessment of substantial changes**

non-cyclical activity based on the request of HEIs



## Peer Review – Experts panel





- Labour market representative
- Student representative
- Academic field
- At least 2 foreign experts



Accreditation of study fields

#### at least 5 experts

- Student representative
- Labour market representative
- Academic field
- At least 2 foreign experts



Licensing of study programme

#### 3 experts

- Student representative
- Labour market representative
- Academic field



Changes in the Assessments due to the COVID-19





## Amendments to the Assessment methodologies

### Partially remote visits

- Experts participation is possible both on-site and online
- Chair of assessment experts group always participates personally
- Agency coordinator always participates personally

### Fully remote visits

- All experts participate remotely (online) but Agency coordinator personally
- All experts and Agency coordinator participate remotely (online)

Combination of both ways is possible

https://www.aika.lv/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Methodology-for-the-Assessment-and-Accreditation-of-Study-Fields-amended-08.12.2020..pdf



## Feedback from experts and higher education institutions

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<ul> <li>Assessments were not stopped</li> <li>It is possible to get necessary information for assessment</li> <li>ICT allows to get initial impressions about the infrastructure and methodological and study assurance</li> <li>Online trainings for experts</li> <li>Save money and time</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lack of direct communication and comprehensive understanding</li> <li>Quality of technical and internet connection</li> <li>ICT skills and competencies of all involved parties</li> <li>Risk of violation of some principles for organising on-site visits (for example, transparency of objectivity)</li> </ul>



## Trainings/ seminars

> Experts trainings

>Seminars/ conferences for HEI

> Feedback on quality assessment

>Tendencies on the development of study programmes

>Student-centred learning

➤ Monitoring and e-platform

➤ Follow-up

➤ Bologna Process implementati

>Strategic partnership





## Membership in international organisations

enga.















## International projects

Roadmap for Implementation of Institutional Assessment (RoadMap) 2020 - 2022



Enhancing the Coverage and Connectivity of QA in the EHEA through DEQAR (DEQAR CONNECT) 2020 – 2022

"Support in strengthening the higher TWINNING education system in Azerbaijan" (Twinning)

2018 – 2020



Microcredentials linked to the Bologna Key Commitments (MICROBOL) 2020 - 2022

Developing a European Approach for Comprehensive QA of (European) University Networks" (EUniQ)
2019 – 2021

Linking Academic Recognition and Quality Assurance (LIREQA) 2016-2018



### Youtube channel

(https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnZ5E6qxj2kMZ\_L9TZYaN6A/videos)





## E-platform

(eplatforma.aika.lv)



**Higher Education Institutions** 

Study Directions

Study Programmes

LV EN

Register as expert

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