

## Institutionalising a new academic careers framework in Latvia

Public Launch Event, 9 February 2024 (11:00 – 13:00, Riga local time)

Hybrid: Ministry of Education and Science, Valņu iela 2, Riga & online MsTeams webinar (open to registered participants)

### Context and purpose

In 2024 and 2025, the European Commission's Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support (DG REFORM) and the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) will support the Latvian Ministry of Education and Science and Latvian higher education institutions and research organisations as they navigate the complex reform process of institutionalising new approaches to academic career development, including doctoral education. This project funded by the European Union through the European Union's Technical Support Instrument will be implemented by the OECD's Higher Education Policy Team. It aims to support Latvia to manage the structural change and provide advice to Latvian institutions according to their specific needs and capacities. The TSI project follows from the recently completed initiative funded by the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) also managed by DG REFORM that proposed a new academic careers framework for Latvia. The SRSP project was implemented by the World Bank and developed through consultation with stakeholders from across Latvia's higher education and research system.

The purpose of this event is to:

- present the project's **objectives, activities and expected outcomes**.
- collect **feedback** from key stakeholders in the higher education and research sector in Latvia which can help inform and guide the activities of the project.
- outline how stakeholders can **get involved** in the different project activities.

### Agenda

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10:30 – 11:00    *Coffee*

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11:00 – 11:10    **Opening**

**Jānis Paiders** Deputy Secretary of State for Higher Education, Science, Innovation and Space, Ministry of Education and Science

- **Agota Kovacs** (Policy Officer/Country Coordinator, DG REFORM, European Commission) (Online)
- **Simon Roy**, (Analyst, Higher Education Policy Team, OECD)

#### Session 1: Project overview and objectives

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11:10 – 11:25    *Presentation: "Supporting the implementation of a new academic careers framework in Latvia"*

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- **Gillian Golden** (Analyst, Higher Education Policy Team, OECD)

## Session 2: Transforming Latvian doctoral education

11:25 – 11:40 *Presentation: “Progress on the development of the new Latvian Doctoral Studies model” – modelis/finansēšana*

- **Jānis Paiders**  
Deputy Secretary of State for Higher Education, Science, Innovation and Space, Ministry of Education and Science

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11:40 – 12:15 *Panel discussion*

- **Antra Boča**, Latvian Association of Young Researchers
- **Anda Barkāne**, Riga Technical University
- **Osvālds Pugovičs**, Latvian Institute of Organic Synthesis

Moderation: **Gillian Golden** (Analyst, Higher Education Policy Team, OECD)

## Session 3: The way forward for academic careers in Latvia

12:15 – 12:30 *Presentation: “Vision for academic career development in Latvia”*

**Brigita Kukjalko**, Ministry of Education and Science

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12:30 – 12:55 *Panel discussion*

- **Agrita Kiopa**, Riga Stradiņš University, Vice-Rector for Science
- **Agnese Dāvidsone**, Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences, Rector
- **Andra Kalnača**, University of Latvia, tenured professor

Moderation: **Simon Roy** (Senior Analyst, Higher Education Policy Team, OECD)

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12:55 – 13:00 **Closing**

- **Jānis Paiders**  
Deputy Secretary of State for Higher Education, Science, Innovation and Space, Ministry of Education and Science
- **Agota Kovacs** (Policy Officer/Country Coordinator, DG REFORM, European Commission) (Online)
- **Simon Roy**, (Analyst, Higher Education Policy Team, OECD)

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13:00 – 14:00 *Lunch/refreshment*

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