

## Erasmus Policy Statement

Riga Graduate School of Law (RGSL) has formulated its Erasmus Policy Statement with respect to the principles of Erasmus Charter for Higher Education 2014-2020. RGSL is a higher education institution in Latvia with study programmes in International and European law, Diplomacy and Business that are all taught in English, and the international and local faculty coming from both academic and professional backgrounds. Hence, it is part of overall RGSL strategy to be open to staff and student exchange with the aim of diversifying the student group and faculty cohort, creating enriching learning environment and meaningful discussions of inter-disciplinary subjects in law, international relations, economics and business. RGSL is devoted to promote and support inter-cultural study and teaching exchange, as well as staff training mobility in order to enhance professional skills, develop new insights, strengthen motivation and job satisfaction.

RGSL envisages to actively continue incoming and outgoing student and staff exchange within the scope of Erasmus+ Programme Countries, and to foster new partnerships with universities in the Partner Countries. Since 2014 RGSL is involved in designing and implementing educational projects for young professionals of the fields of law, economics and political science of the countries of EU Eastern Neighbourhood Policy and Central Asia. Strengthening cooperation in academic exchange and professional training projects is also aimed in these regions with initial emphasis on Georgia and the Ukraine. RGSL's ability to deliver internationally recognized academic education incorporating also Latvia's unique European integration experience gained through country's transition from a totalitarian regime to democracy, makes it particularly interesting to students and staff from countries aspiring to join the European Union and those seeking closer relations with the EU.

RGSL is a relatively small but highly dynamic institution with 500 students studying on Bachelor, Masters and Doctoral level. The Doctoral programme is jointly carried out with the Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen. With regard to outgoing student mobility RGSL prioritises the third bachelor and second year masters students, followed by the second year bachelor students. For Erasmus+ student placements priority is given to students whose study curriculum envisages mandatory internship component. RGSL encourages and promotes Erasmus+ placements for recent graduates and supports cross-border internships of other students, thus supporting strengthening the "knowledge triangle", linking education, research and business.

RGSL Erasmus Institutional Coordinator is a focal point concerning Erasmus+ mobility. Internal institutional regulations govern selection procedure of students by the Erasmus Selection Committee and staff applications and approval by the academic and administrative management of RGSL.