



RIGA  
GRADUATE  
SCHOOL OF  
LAW

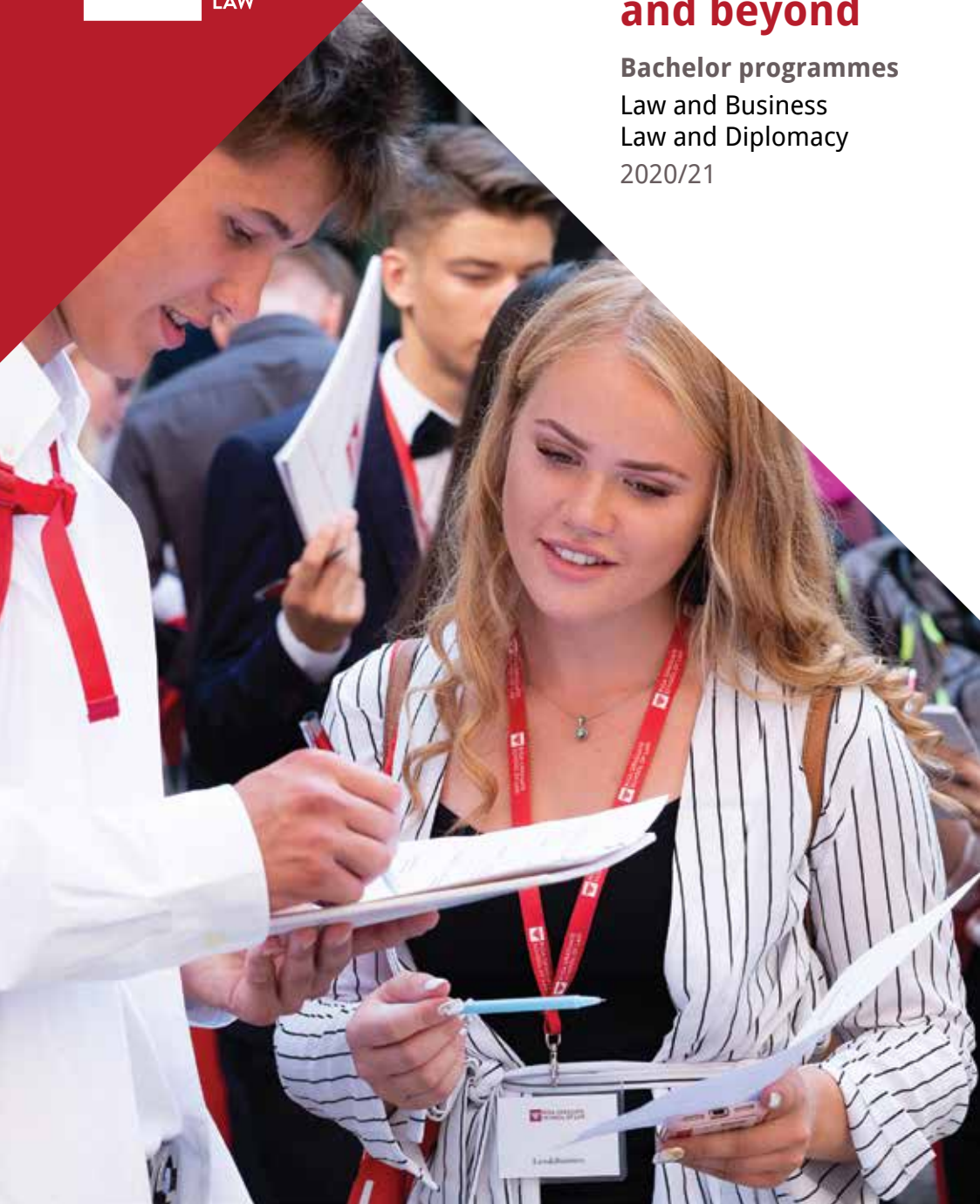
# International studies in law and beyond

Bachelor programmes

Law and Business

Law and Diplomacy

2020/21



## Riga Graduate School of Law

(RGSL) is a leading law school in the Baltic region offering interdisciplinary Bachelor and Masters studies in law combined with business, international relations, finance and policy. Founded in 1998, the goal of RGSL is to provide strong international, academic education within the context of an ever-changing and interconnected world.

Website: [www.rgsl.lv](http://www.rgsl.lv)



## International study environment

With a vibrant community of students and faculty representing over 30 countries, students are immersed in an international education setting from their first steps at RGSL. Studies in English, the Erasmus study exchange with more than 40 partner universities and internship opportunities in state, EU and international institutions, as well as companies in Latvia and abroad, allow RGSL students to expand their experience and develop connections not only across Europe, but also globally.



learning environment. Students enjoy small classes, which allow room for debate and individual questions, and facilitate contact with fellow students and faculty members. Our study approach allows students to develop critical thinking, problem solving skills and adaptability. We value an open and international culture and encourage students to develop their potential and make the most of their studies.

## Further study: Masters programmes

RGSL offers LL.M degrees in International and European Law, EU Law and Policy, Public International Law and Human Rights, Transborder Commercial Law, Law and Finance and the new programme the new programme which was just launched – Technology Law.

## Interdisciplinary Bachelor programmes

Studies in law can be undertaken in combination with either business or diplomacy on our two LL.B programmes. By combining two disciplines, you will receive a broad and international perspective on law, which includes a focus on business management or international relations. Our programmes lead to a recognised and competitive law degree.

## Individual learning experience

RGSL is a medium-sized, specialized university offering a tailored and stimulating



## RGSL Rector's welcome

Since its foundation, RGSL has the task to deliver high-profile legal education in a context which is both locally grounded and outwards looking. This has been achieved, among others, by attracting an internationally-renowned faculty and applying a multidisciplinary approach to teaching activities focused extensively on international and EU law.

Today we experience dramatic changes which put to the test the capacity of institutions delivering third level education to form students capable of satisfying the manifold requests of a rapidly evolving and globalized job market. According to a 2017 report by the Institute for the Future, 85% of the jobs that will exist in 2030 haven't been invented yet.

Our challenge is hence to think ahead and

equip you with those skills which will allow you to navigate a difficult global job market. To address these challenges RGSL works permanently towards the creation of new courses and teaching modules.

The results we aim at can be best achieved through a fruitful exchange between the students and the staff of the RGSL. Our ambition is to form permanent learners and promote the idea that, although sometimes challenging, learning is essentially pleasure.

The Italian intellectual Antonio Gramsci in a moment when Europe was dominated by authoritarianisms anticipating the tragedies of the second world war wrote: 'Educate yourselves because we'll need all our intelligence'. The context has deeply changed, but in Europe and beyond we keep facing unprecedented challenges. This is why I believe that Gramsci's motto keeps its deep meaning. Your education and your intelligence is needed in an EU in search for its identity after the Brexit and in a globalized world crossed by diplomatic crisis, commercial wars and marked by human rights violations both in time of war and peace. I think that the legal system is not a self-contained box separated from society, but, on the contrary, that law and society always influence each other. This means that you, as prospective jurists, have a significant responsibility towards society, but at the same time, that you can promote its development.

Finally, I would like to stress that students are here not only to read academic books and prepare for exams, as their education goes also through non-academic experiences.

Students benefit from the exchange with fellow students, lecturers and our guests and, not less importantly, enjoy Riga, its beauty and the opportunities it offers.

I look forward to cooperate with you to this end and to welcome you into the RGSL Family!

**Dr. Pietro Sullo,**

Rector, Riga Graduate School of Law

# Law and Business

## LL.B

<b>DEGREE</b>	LL.B (Bachelor of Laws)
<b>DURATION</b>	3 years full time (183 ECTS)
<b>LANGUAGE</b>	English
<b>FEES</b>	EUR 3500 per academic year

This programme ensures a clear understanding of the inter-relationships between law and business. It therefore prepares graduates for a successful career in legal practice or business and management.

Legal issues are addressed from a regional and international perspective within the programme, the main focus being on legal environment of the European Union (EU) and its Member States, as well as major trading partners.

The programme covers subjects relevant for successful commercial operations, which include economics, accounting, management, business strategy and marketing.



**Aksels Zingulis,**  
Law and Business Bachelor programme  
3<sup>rd</sup> year student

“I wanted to study something related with numbers and mathematics, as I already had my own company in high school – we manufacture grips for ice-hockey players. And a complaint about patent violation let me understand that doing business without the legal knowledge is not even possible, as you deal with bureaucracy and law at every step. So I decided to study at RGSL to protect myself in the future. We study international law, European law, and this is very important, if your main market is abroad – the business risks increase significantly. And this study programme combines the two together.”

### Important dates

**9 November** Open House at RGSL

**8 February** Open House at RGSL

**28 February – 1 March** Exhibition Skola 2020 ar Ķīpsalas Halle

**7 March** Open House at RGSL

**4 April** Open House at RGSL

**7 April** Early Admission deadline

**30 April** – Admission deadline for non-EU countries' applicants. Citizens of countries which have a visa waiver with Latvia, can submit their applications no later than 15 July, 2020.

**15 July** Admission deadline

### Law and Business programme structure

- ▶ The programme comprises of mandatory and elective courses as well as optional language courses
- ▶ Up to three courses can be taken simultaneously
- ▶ Each course lasts six weeks with 3–5 class hours per week, plus research work on assignments and preparation for classes
- ▶ Each course concludes with an exam, while the programme concludes with a thesis

### Courses

#### MAIN LAW COURSES

Legal Theory  
Introduction to Public International Law  
Research Methods  
European Union Law  
Internal Market Law  
Comparative Contract Law  
Competition and State Aid Law  
Constitutional Law  
International Human Rights Law  
International Private and Procedural Law  
International Commercial Law

#### MAIN BUSINESS COURSES

Introduction to Business Studies  
Mathematics and Statistics for Social Sciences  
Microeconomics  
Business Strategy  
Business Accounting  
Macroeconomics  
Financial Economics  
Applied Business Strategy  
Marketing  
Intellectual Property Law

#### ELECTIVE COURSES

Banking Law  
Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution  
International Tax Law  
Comparative Inheritance Law  
Comparative Insurance Law  
International Sales Law  
Comparative Non-Contractual Liability Law  
Project Management

#### OPTIONAL LANGUAGE COURSES

Elementary Latvian  
Contemporary Latvian  
Russian  
French  
Spanish  
German

### Questions about our programmes or studying at RGSL?



**Liene Briede,**  
Head of Study department  
liene.briede@rgsl.edu.lv / +371 67 039 236

# Law and Diplomacy

## LL.B

<b>DEGREE</b>	LL.B (Bachelor of Laws)
<b>DURATION</b>	3 years full time (183 ECTS)
<b>LANGUAGE</b>	English
<b>FEES</b>	EUR 3500 per academic year

The programme is designed for students who plan to work in the Foreign Service of their home countries or in international organizations. Our graduates also build successful careers in public affairs and the NGO sector.

The programme covers major fields of public international law. Furthermore, it focuses on international organizations and EU institutions, and their role in shaping international relations. On the diplomacy side, the programme delves into history, culture and political sciences.



**Kristiāna Plāte,**  
Law and Diplomacy Bachelor programme  
3rd year student

“Being the first UN Youth delegate from Latvia means I’m setting the framework for the next delegates to improve, and this is something I want to do well. It is a challenge, as I am studying and working at the same time. Studies at RGSL – lectures, moot courts, seminars, are useful in my work as currently I feel like I am my own case study. At RGSL you become more than a lawyer – you learn to understand the society, its history and rules. Classroom discussions help to understand which ideas and arguments are efficient to use in the future, and which are not. There is no feeling that someone pushes you to study – school gives you freedom within the academic framework and teaches that all depends on you.”

### Admission requirements

- ▶ Secondary education diploma + supplement (notarized English translation for applicants outside of Latvia) corresponding to European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) level C or higher.

- ▶ English language proficiency: IELTS 6+, TOEFL IBT 80+ or TOEFL paper based test 550+. 70% + in the English Centralized Exam for applicants from Latvia.
- ▶ Academic and scientific achievements, active participation in youth organisations, and other relevant activities are highly desirable.

### Law and Diplomacy programme structure

- ▶ The programme comprises of mandatory and elective courses as well as optional language courses
- ▶ Up to three courses can be taken simultaneously
- ▶ Each course lasts six weeks with 3–5 class hours per week, plus research work on assignments and preparation for classes
- ▶ Each course concludes with an exam, while the programme concludes with a thesis

### Courses

#### MAIN LAW COURSES

Legal Theory  
Introduction to Public International Law  
Advanced Public International Law  
Research Methods  
European Union Law  
Law of International Organizations  
Comparative Contract Law  
Constitutional Law  
International Human Rights Law  
External Relations of the European Union  
Diplomatic Law

#### ELECTIVE COURSES

Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution  
International Tax Law  
Comparative Inheritance Law  
Comparative Insurance Law  
International Sales Law  
Comparative Non-Contractual Liability Law  
Project Management

#### MAIN DIPLOMACY COURSES

Theory of International Relations  
Contemporary World History  
Introduction to Diplomacy  
International Security  
Foreign Policy Analysis  
Comparative Politics  
Crisis Management in International Politics  
Global Approaches to Public Diplomacy  
Political Negotiations, Strategy and Tactics

#### OPTIONAL LANGUAGE COURSES

Elementary Latvian  
Contemporary Latvian  
Russian  
French  
Spanish  
German

More information and application at [apply.rgsl.edu.lv](http://apply.rgsl.edu.lv)

## Key faculty members

RGSL is home to a resident faculty as well as a large international faculty that comes to Riga to teach selected courses. Our faculty represents both academic excellence and extensive practical experience, and offers an education that is highly relevant for career development.



**Ineta Ziemele,**  
PhD, Professor

An expert in public international law and human rights law, Prof. Ineta Ziemele has been a judge of the Constitutional Court of Latvia since 2014, and was elected President of the Court in 2017. Before, she was a judge at the European Court of Human Rights (2005 – 2014). She teaches Public International Law and Litigation at the European Court of Human Rights.

**Waleed Gumaa,**

MBA, Director of the Masters programmes, Lecturer

Waleed Gumaa oversees the Masters programmes at RGSL. He leverages his significant expertise in business to offer an interdisciplinary education to RGSL Masters students. He teaches Introduction to Business, Business Strategy and Project Management, amongst other courses.



**Carlos Llorente,**  
PhD, Visiting Professor

Prof. Carlos Llorente has been a practicing attorney since 1989, and has worked at Baker & McKenzie, Madrid (ES) and in Amya Abogados, Madrid (ES) and currently leads his own professional legal practice. University professor since 1990 at several national and foreign academic institutions, he specializes in international commercial Law, private international law, transportation law, competition law and international contracts, and litigation funding. He teaches Comparative Contract Law and International Commercial Law.

**Paolo Paesani,**  
PhD, Visiting Professor

Paolo Paesani is Associate Professor at the University of Rome Tor Vergata and Vice Dean of the School of Economics. Paolo's research interests include monetary economics, European macroeconomics and the history of economic thought. Paolo has a PhD in Economics from the European University Institute. He has done research at the World Bank and the European Central Bank. He teaches Macroeconomics and International Economics.



## Tuition fee waivers

The two best applicants from Latvia (outside Rīga and Pierīga regions) receive **100% tuition fee waiver** for the first year of studies.

To celebrate academic excellence and foster competition among students, RGSL has established the **RGSL Student Excellence Scholarship** for 2nd and 3rd year bachelor students with the highest grades in the previous study year.

RGSL offers tuition fee waivers for RGSL employees, their children, orphans and persons with 1st or 2nd degree of disability.

Successful graduates of RGSL Excellence school receive **15% tuition fee waiver** for the first year of bachelor studies. More information: [rgsl.edu.lv/study/fees-and-funding](http://rgsl.edu.lv/study/fees-and-funding)



## Early admission discount

All applicants, local and foreign, applying for studies by the Early Admission deadline 7 April 2020 receive a **10% tuition fee waiver** for one academic year.

## Latvian state scholarships

In accordance with bilateral agreements on co-operation in education and science signed between Latvian government and several countries, Latvia offers scholarships to foreign students from 40 countries for studies in Latvian higher education institutions. Applications for the year 2020/2021 are open from February 1 to April 1. More information: [viaa.gov.lv](http://viaa.gov.lv)



## Research and Law Library

Research at RGSL is supported by the RGSL Law Library which is a popular place for students, faculty and visitors alike. Located on the top floor of the university, with stunning views across Art Nouveau Riga, it offers the top collection of legal literature in the Baltics and Northern Europe.

The library is open to students from RGSL and other universities, teaching staff, and the public. In addition to students, an increasing number of professionals make extensive use of the library, with its impressive collection of law books, legal journals, plus access to valuable legal and multidisciplinary databases such as Westlaw, HeinOnline, and resources from the Kluwer Law and Oxford University Press, and others.

Workspaces in the library are available for all students. It has a modern study environment and a rooftop terrace, which is especially good for taking study breaks or simply some fresh air.



**Ligita Gjortlere,**  
M.Sc.Soc., Head of  
RGSL Law Library,  
Lecturer

“Having been with the school since its inception has been a unique experience for me, because we, the staff, managed

to create common goals and go ahead with the development of RGSL in the interest of our students, who are the most valuable asset for the school. I am proud to meet our alumni at various occasions and glad that they remember their time at RGSL with joy.”



## Location and campus

RGSL is located in the heart of Riga's famous Art Nouveau District, within walking distance of the city's UNESCO-listed historic centre. Academic facilities are of the highest standard, including fully-equipped auditoriums and a student lounge. Many RGSL facilities are shared with the Stockholm School of Economics in Riga, providing additional opportunities for networking and socializing.

## Life in Riga

Combining the rich culture and history of a European capital city with a thriving community of international students and reasonable living expenses, Riga offers an ideal environment for studies, work and socialising. It is a home for more than 6000 international students who enjoy a quality education, a rich cultural life, great entertainment venues, very fast internet and outdoor adventures. RGSL is served by efficient public transportation while Riga itself offers easy connections to other European cities via bus or plane. As a medium-sized university, RGSL is able to assist its students in finding suitable housing in Riga.

## Living expenses

During your stay in Riga, you can expect to spend from EUR 500 per month on living expenses. This includes rent but not tuition fees.

**ACCOMMODATION:** EUR 200 – 400 per month

**INSURANCE:** European Health Insurance Card

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT:** EUR 16 (student pass)

**GENERAL LIVING EXPENSES:** EUR 280 – 300



## Student life

The dynamic academic atmosphere at RGSL is bolstered by an equally exciting student life, as extracurricular and social activities provide balance to intensive studies. Guest lecturers provide fresh perspectives to traditional study work while Student Association activities offer opportunities to develop relationships outside the classroom.

RGSL provides full support in helping students find relevant internships and networking opportunities.

**Mariam Kharabadze,**  
Erasmus exchange student from Caucasus University, Georgia

“The fact I like the most at RGSL is how small and student-oriented the university is. I have always been convinced that in smaller universities it is much easier for a student to succeed in studies and develop social relations at the same time, and RGSL is great for both. It is located in a stunning historical building in the heart of Riga, which is an old, comfortable and beautiful city with an



extraordinary coziness that I enjoy. At the moment, I am content to the extent that I can't think of anything that I would like to be changed. The thing that has surprised me in RGSL the most is how friendly and obliging everyone is. This applies for Riga in general as well - on the contrary to stereotypes, locals are very hospitable. In addition, the university has a very open-minded approach towards student activities and is eager to make your time in Riga as enjoyable as possible.

I would definitely recommend studying at RGSL to Georgian students because it is an opportunity to get high-quality education in a reputable European university and have a wonderful experience of a student life abroad.”

## Student mobility

RGSL is actively promoting the student and staff exchange with the aim of diversifying the student group and faculty cohort, to create an enriching learning environment with meaningful discussions of inter-disciplinary subjects in law, international relations, economics and business.

RGSL also welcomes incoming Erasmus students from partner universities to spend one or two semesters in Riga, as all courses are taught in English and are available to mobility students. Wide range of subjects, small classes, quality of lectures and international professors, as well as many students from different countries, comfortable facilities and a good location in the city centre are mentioned as the strengths of RGSL by Erasmus students.

**Suzanna Paula and Marta Barbara Buka,**  
Law and Diplomacy Bachelor programme 2nd year students on Erasmus exchange in University of Deusto in Bilbao.

“With welcoming Spanish people we feel like home. We are living in a big flat and sharing the place with three other girls from Peru, Japan and Bulgaria. Therefore, Erasmus is a great opportunity to make international friendships not only at school but also at “home” too. Studies at Deusto University are intense, there is a lot of reading, but the interesting courses we are taking and the welcoming lecturers make it so much more enjoyable, and we even have time for some extra-curricular activities like yoga and Basque dancing.”



**Ulla Zumente-Steele,**  
Erasmus Institutional Coordinator:

“RGSL students can choose to study abroad for an Erasmus exchange semester in one of 40+ partner universities from over 20 countries. The most popular destination countries are The Netherlands, Norway, Italy and Spain, but experience has been empowering for our students in every place they have studied at during Erasmus. In addition, many RGSL students and alumni are increasingly pursuing Erasmus traineeships – an international work placements for a period of 2-6 months with financial support of the EU Erasmus+ grant. They have worked at a wide range of host organizations such as international organizations, embassies, business companies, NGOs and research institutes.”



**Edgars Poga,**  
Law and Diplomacy Bachelor programme 3rd year student on Erasmus internship at Latvia's Permanent Representation to NATO in Brussels.

“The trust which was bestowed upon me made this experience a truly lifelong lesson. My colleagues warmly welcomed me within their team and it gave me the confidence to put extra effort in my research and work. The professional community was truly a pleasure to work with. The connections and discussions gave me an insight about the process of international organizations and state role within them. Multinational society with my peers was also a delightful company to spend my time with traveling as well as going to different events which gave the opportunity to experience Belgian as well as many other cultures.



## Academic platform, projects and research

Every year, RGSL hosts a wide range of events with distinguished guests from academia, government, legal practice, industry, regulatory authorities, NGOs and the judiciary, where the students are invited to participate and benefit from the high-level content for their research purposes and networking opportunities.

RGSL publishes “RGSL Interdisciplinary Studies”, a series of refereed publications critically analyzing current issues in European and international studies. Starting with 2019 RGSL overtakes publication of the internationally recognizable “Baltic Yearbook of International Law”.

## RGSL academic year in review - 2018/19

### SEPTEMBER

- ▶ **Public lecture** by Prof. Dr. Alexander von Mühlendahl “Consequences of Brexit for the protection of Intellectual Property Rights”.

### OCTOBER

- ▶ **Public lecture**, the first in a series powered by Ellex Kļaviņš, by Dr. Vasileios Karagiannopoulos “Hacktivism and the law: The moral and legal challenges of the use of hacking techniques for political expression”.
- ▶ **Public lecture** by Prof. Dr. Dana Beldiman “Knowledge, innovation and IP protection”.

### NOVEMBER

- ▶ **Annual Human Rights Conference** organised by RGSL in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia. Speakers included President of the Constitutional Court and RGSL Professor Ineta Ziemele, judge of the European Court of Human Rights and Associate Professor of RGSL Mārtiņš Mits, Representative of Latvia at International Human Rights Organisations Kristīne Līce, RGSL lecturer Arina Melse, Head of the Department of Administrative Cases of the Supreme Court of the Republic of

Latvia Veronika Krūmiņa and Personal Data Protection Officer Agnese Boboviča.

### DECEMBER

- ▶ **A lecture to RGSL students** by newly appointed Georgian Ambassador to Latvia Tea Maisuradze, “10 years since Russia’s aggression and occupation of Georgian territories.”
- ▶ **Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Conference** “Competition, Big Data and Fundamental Rights”, the second in a series of four conferences, devoted to Fundamental Rights at the Frontiers of the European Union.
- ▶ **Public lecture**, second in the lecture series powered by Ellex Kļaviņš, by Pēteris Zilgalvis, J.D., Head of Unit, Digital Innovation and Blockchain, Digital Single Market Directorate, DG CONNECT and Co-Chair, FinTech Task Force, European Commission, “The Law and Political Economy of Decentralised Digital Technologies”.

### FEBRUARY

- ▶ **Public discussion** on “Current state of the conflict settlement in Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine: Security, Political and Human Rights implications of

the illegal Russian military presence” organized by the Embassies of Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine to the Republic of Latvia in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia.

### MARCH

- ▶ **Public lecture**, third in the lecture series powered by *Ellex Kļaviņš* by Professor at NYU Law School and Senior Fellow at the Center for European Studies at Harvard Joseph Weiler “Judicial Review in the Contemporary World - from Democracy to Identity”.
- ▶ **Public lecture**, fourth in the lecture series powered by *Ellex Kļaviņš* by Senior lecturer in media/privacy law at Aston University, UK Dr Edina Harbinja “Is it time for post-mortem privacy online?”
- ▶ **Erasmus public lecture** by Associate professor at the Faculty of Law and Political Sciences of University Eötvös Loránd (ELTE) in Budapest, Hungary Dr. János Fazekas “Centralization of public administration, with special regards to Hungary”.

### APRIL

- ▶ Law and Diplomacy programme bachelor students **meeting with ambassadors** – H.E. Ilvars Kļava, Ambassador, Head of the Bilateral Relations Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, H.E. Annika Jagander, Ambassador of Sweden and H.E. Tea Maisuradze, Ambassador of Georgia to hear first-hand insights on the career in the foreign service.
- ▶ **Erasmus public lecture** by Senior lecturer in European and Economic Law at the University of Groningen Dr Lorenzo Squintani “Public participation in energy transition”.
- ▶ **Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Conference** “Constitutional Law and Fundamental

Rights”, the third in the series of four conferences, devoted to fundamental rights at the frontiers of the European Union.

### MAY

- ▶ **Erasmus public lecture** by Assistant professor at the Faculty of Law of University Eötvös Loránd (ELTE) in Budapest, Hungary Dr Eszter Bodnár “The role of comparative law in constitutional adjudication”.
- ▶ **Summer School** “Legal Challenges in International Investments, Indigenous Peoples and Environment Protection” hosted by RGSL in the framework of the eponymous project implemented together with the University of Versailles and the University of Lapland.
- ▶ Lecture for RGSL students by the European Commission Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis “Deepening Europe’s Economic and Monetary Union”.

### JUNE

- ▶ RGSL co-hosted **14th congress of the Association of European Public Law Scholars - *Societas Iuris Publici Europaei* (SIPE)**, organized by Constitutional Court of Latvia.
- ▶ **Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Conference** “Fundamental Rights at the Frontiers of the European Union – Looking for a New Balance”, last in the series of four conferences, devoted to fundamental rights at the frontiers of the European Union.

### JULY

- ▶ RGSL co-hosted the **discussion on specialized courts** organized by the Ministry of Justice of Latvia.

More information at [www.rgsl.lv](http://www.rgsl.lv)



## 7 reasons to choose RGSL

1

Careers in law,  
business and  
diplomacy

2

Teaching  
exclusively in  
English

4

Students and faculty  
from 30+ countries

3

International  
environment



5

Exchange opportunities  
with 40+ universities

6

Top collection of  
legal literature in the  
Baltics and Northern  
Europe



7

Modern campus  
in the heart of Art  
Nouveau Riga



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LAW

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