

## **80<sup>th</sup> International Scientific Conference of the University of Latvia 2022**



# THE HISTORICAL STUDENT KARZER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LATVIA: EUROPEAN CONTEXT AND RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

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#### Aim and tasks

**Aim:** Present an overview of the previous research results on the Student Karzer history achieved in the project "The Student Karzer Phenomenon in the Context of the History of European Universities" funded by the *Baltisch-Deutsche Hochschulkontor* and after.

#### Tasks:

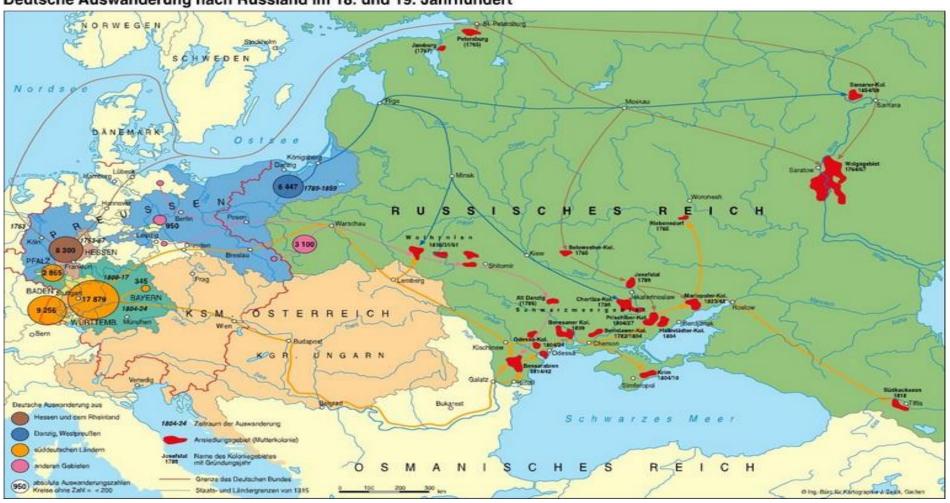
- Give a small introduction to the history of the higher education of Latvia through Student Karzer context;
- 2) Explain current research results and problems which slowed to reach greater results;
- 3) Formulate new prerspective in research and future cooperation with project and other potential partners.

## The beginning of the higher education in Latvia

- The higher education in Latvia began with 1862 when Europe experienced the industrial revolution. The first higher education institution in Latvian territory which was once a part of the Imperial Russia (1721-1917) was the Riga Polytechnikum, known also as the Riga Polytechnical institute;
- The RP/RPI was the second major institution next to the University of Dorpat in Estonian territory;
- Imperial Germany's technical research and higher education export around the World, notably in the USA and Imperial Russia. It is connected with the German influence in vast Russian territory – Baltic Germans, Black sea Germans, Volga Germans etc.

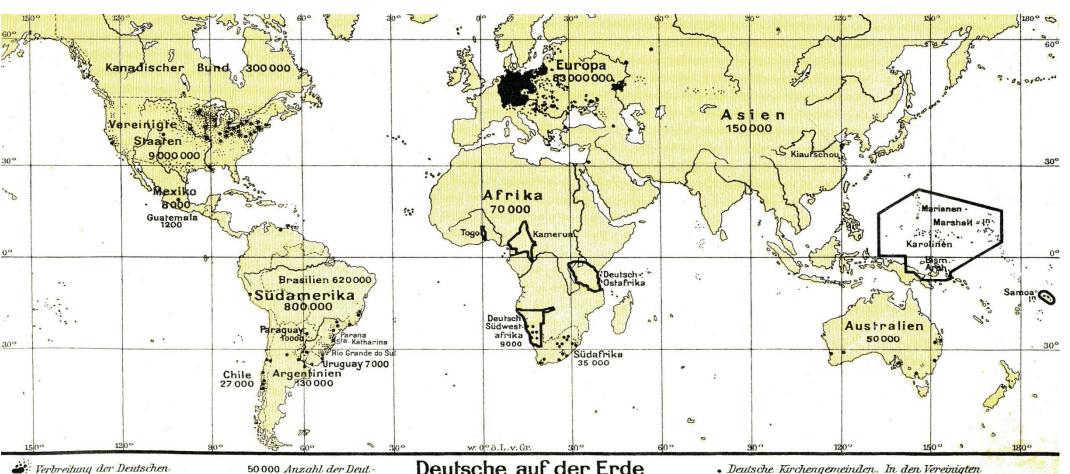
### German Settlement's in Imperial Russia

Deutsche Auswanderung nach Russland im 18. und 19. Jahrhundert

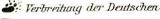


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#### German Settlement's around the World



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Deutscher Kolonialbesitz bis 1920

50 000 Anzahl der Deutschen in den betr. Ländern Deutsche auf der Erde Äquatorial-Maßstab 1:180000000

Staaten Stääte mit mehr als 10 000 Deutschen



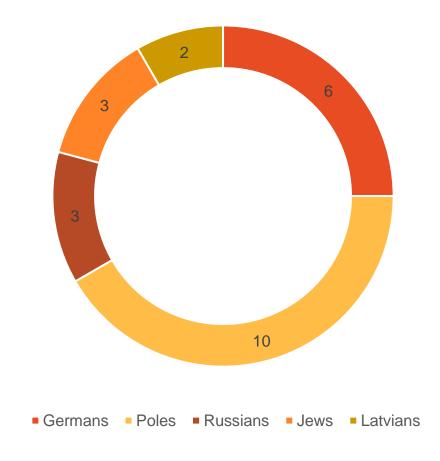
#### **The Student Karzer**

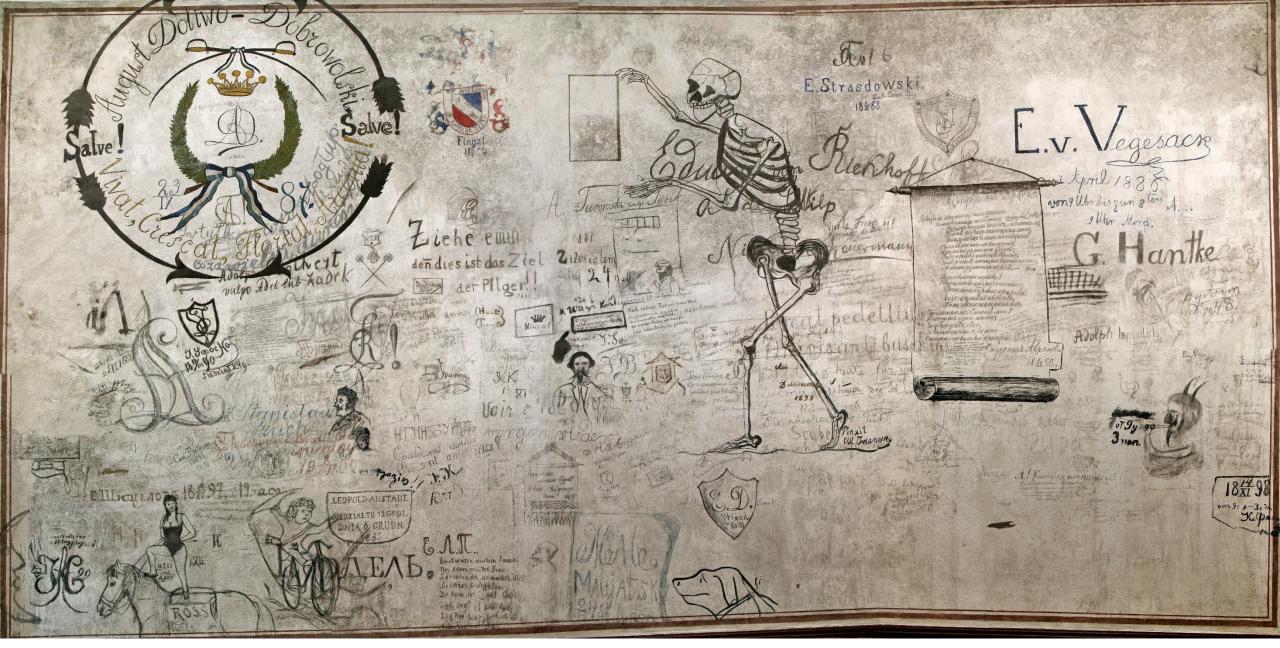
- The Historical Student Karzer of the University of Latvia was used by the RP/RPI in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century;
- It is said that the Student Karzer started to function in 1875, but it is not precise fact. The Student Karzer started to function earlier – on 6<sup>th</sup> March 1874, when the Rules of the Student discipline were adopted by the first director of RP/RPI – Ernest Nauck;
- Student Karzer punishment is not the harshest punishment, because the harshest is the expelling from the RP/RPI. Before locking in the Student Karzer, a Student receives a warning. If Student Karzer doesn't affect the Student he receives a threat of expelling from RP/RPI.
- Expelling from RP/RPI as a final solution

- The Director of the RP/RPI has the right to lock up the Students in Student Karzer, but with the alignment of the RP/RPI Student Discipline commission;
- The Discipline commission is elected for three years, which has three officials – the director of the RP/RPI and the two plenar conference officials;
- The lock up term can be expanded if the commission agrees to do it;
- Minimum lockup period 12 h (half a day), max. 120 h (5 days);
- However, the rules allow lock up term up to 4 weeks, but the writtings on the Karzer walls don't show evidence that Student was locked for 4 weeks.

#### Student nationalities in Student Karzer

Students idenfified in the Student Karzer













#### Conclusion

- The research work of the Historical Student Karzer of the University of Latvia has revealed that the Student Karzer is not only a phenomenon of of Latvian, but of Estonian, Lithuanian, German, Polish, Russian, Belarusian and Ukrainian History;
- The research project has initiated international networking in researching and publicly promoting this rare historical phenomenon of European universities. The core of the networking is formed by the university museums of the Universities of Latvia, Tartu and Heidelberg, with other German universities being included in the networking process;
- In total there are 24 identified students who have left there writtings on the walls of the Student Karzer. From 24 students, 2 continued to live in USSR, Leningrad.

#### Thank you!

