



**UNIVERSITY OF  
LATVIA**

**UNIVERSITY OF LATVIA  
LANGUAGE POLICY**

Annex  
**APPROVED**  
by the Senate decision No. 20  
of 28.06.2010.

The language policy of the University of Latvia has been developed in order to promote the achievement of the goals and activities set forth in the Constitution of the University of Latvia, Mission of the University of Latvia, Strategic Guidelines of the University of Latvia and Strategic Plan.

The language policy of the University of Latvia as a Member State of the European Union complies with the directives and recommendations of the European Union and the Council of Europe, including the *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment* and *"Multilingualism: an asset for Europe and a shared commitment"*, and the Republic of Latvia legislation and planning documents: *The Constitution of the Republic of Latvia, the Law on the State Language, the Law on Education, the Law on Higher Education Institutions, the Law on Scientific Activity, the National Development Plan of Latvia (2006) and the State Language Policy Guidelines 2005-2014. year.*

1. The aim of the University of Latvia's language policy is to:
  - 1.1. to promote, as a matter of priority, proficiency in Latvian as an official language and English as an internationally recognized language of scientific communication among the staff and students of the University of Latvia;
  - 1.2. to promote a multicultural study, research and work environment at the University of Latvia that would provide it or its graduates with broader networking and cooperation opportunities elsewhere in the world;
  - 1.3. to guarantee the correct use of the Latvian language in studies, research and communication, promoting the development of Latvian terms and their implementation in Latvian society;
  - 1.4. to progressively increase the use of English in undergraduate and postgraduate studies, taking into account the specificities of the humanities and social sciences to use other languages.

2. The University of Latvia adheres to the following principles in its language policy:
  - 2.1. The University of Latvia, as a national university, assumes responsibility for the protection and development of the Latvian language in higher education and science and creates the preconditions for the Latvian language to be recognized worldwide;
  - 2.2. The multicultural study and work environment and tolerance at the University of Latvia is a prerequisite for ensuring the sustainability of the academic environment;
  - 2.3. language competences - Latvian, English and other foreign languages - is a prerequisite for professional growth in today's society.
  
3. In order to maintain the Latvian language and to ensure the protection and development of the Latvian language, the University of Latvia undertakes:
  - 3.1. to ensure the acquisition of Latvian language skills in study programmes of all levels in accordance with the study outcomes planned in the study programme;
  - 3.2. to provide study programmes with Latvian as a language of instruction in all branches of science represented at the University of Latvia;
  - 3.3. to provide Latvian language courses for foreign/ international students;
  - 3.4. to provide an opportunity to acquire and improve the Latvian language for members of the academic staff of the University of Latvia who do not have Latvian as their mother tongue;
  - 3.5. to develop terminology in the Latvian language and to promote its use;
  - 3.6. to promote the preparation of teaching aids and study materials in Latvian in at least bachelor's level programmes;
  - 3.7. to promote the Latvian language and culture.
  
4. To facilitate foreign language learning among students and staff, the University of Latvia undertakes to:
  - 4.1. to develop separate study courses and study modules in English alongside the Latvian language, thus providing students with the opportunity to acquire competitive English language skills in the international labour market;
  - 4.2. to expand the offer of all levels study programmes involving foreign language studies;
  - 4.3. to develop joint study programmes with foreign universities;
  - 4.4. to offer university students and staff the opportunity to advance or learn English;
  - 4.5. create the conditions for students and staff to learn at least one additional foreign language in addition to English;

- 4.6. to emphasize the need to acquire the language and culture of Latvia's neighbouring countries and to promote the acquisition of the same.
5. In order to publish the results of research and to develop scientific terminology in Latvian and Latvian as a language of science, the University of Latvia undertakes:
  - 5.1. to develop the Latvian language of science in abstracts and theses written in Latvian, higher education study and scientific literature;
  - 5.2. to popularize the results of the research in the Latvian language and to observe these achievements in the evaluation of academic activities;
  - 5.3. to offer language support by publishing research results in foreign languages.
6. In order to create a multicultural working environment, the University of Latvia undertakes to create a language environment where the information required for studies and work, including in the University of Latvia Information System, is available in both Latvian and English.