

## V. KITOS PUBLIKACIJOS

### BASIC DIRECTIONS OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE POLICE ACADEMY OF LATVIA IN 1998-2005

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#### **S u m m a r y**

During six years since its establishment, the PAL has achieved a remarkable progress. Present number of students is around 2700. The Academy provides different levels of education: college education, higher professional education with integrated academic education, Bachelor's studies and Doctoral studies. The number of applicants is growing each year. The teaching staff includes 9 professors and 32 doctors. The Academy has published several manuals, study materials and booklets.

The state order for years 1998-2005 allows to design basic directions of the development of the Academy. They are as follows:

- 1) to supply services of the Ministry of the Interior with professional staff;
- 2) to provide refresher courses for the staff of the Ministry;
- 3) to proceed with scientific research;
- 4) to renovate the teaching staff of the Academy.

During 6 years of activity, the Police Academy of Latvia has found its place among the higher education establishments founded by the Latvian State. According to information published by the Ministry of Education and Science, our Academy's showing is in the middle of the list of the state-founded higher education institutions. We have achieved one of the aims stated when founding the Academy – next year the demand for qualified specialists for the vacant positions of the State police will be met. Today, there is no police institution where several our graduates do not work. Many of them continue their studies in the extra – mural department. In January 1998, there were 2313 students in the Academy– 1198 full – time students and 1115 extra – mural students. Among the students there are not only police officers but also employees of the citizenship, migration and naturalization services, prisons and the Public Prosecutor's Offices. The structure of the Academy has been established and traditions begin to appear. Studies take place in different levels of education: colleges, higher professional education with integrated academic education, Bachelor's studies, Master's

studies and Doctor's studies. The promotion council of the Academy has accepted for defending 3 promotion theses, all the claimants successfully defended their theses and received the degree of Doctor of Law. For 3 years, the researchers of the Academy have been fulfilling orders of different services of the Ministry of the Interior. Several manuals have been published as well as many study materials, brochures and monographs. The libraries of the Academy receive publications in English, French, Russian, German and other languages. Both the academic staff and students upgrade their knowledge and skills in education establishments abroad and in courses conducted by foreign specialists in Latvia. The number of staff who knows English, French or other foreign languages grows each year. All speak Russian. This autumn one student went to the University of Nanzan in Nagoy, as her knowledge of Japanese was sufficient to study law there.

Each year, the number of applicants to the Academy grows. This year there were over a thousand applicants to the day department. There are several reasons for that. Firstly, lawyers are in high demand in the labour market; secondly, the state demand guarantees positions for the graduates in budget institutions, a guaranteed salary and pension; thirdly, the full-time students who are in the police service receive a monthly allowance and increased grants, but the extra – mural students also get salary during the academic leave, and transport and accommodation costs are partly compensated; fourthly, the graduates are in high demand – there is no unemployment among them.

According to the suggestion of the State police and in accordance with article 25 of the Higher Education Institution Law, the Senate of the PAL formed the Police College and approved its study programme on March 20, 1996. The length of studies is 3 academic years (140 credit points). During studies cadets undergo a military training programme of a reserve commander (instructor) of the Home Guard infantry platoon unit.

In 1994, the Academy started the programme of higher professional studies in following specializations: Order police, Criminal police, experts – criminalists, pre – trial inquiry and penitentiary institutions. Starting with 1997, 3 programmes (except) are carried out in the extra – mural department as well.

In 1996, the Academy started the programmes of Masters and experts – criminalists Doctors studies (both full – time and extra – mural). Since 1993, the Academy also carries out post – graduate training programmes – basically for upgrading professional qualification of the staff of the Ministry of the Interior.

The Academy has published 648 publications of the Academy staff in 74.849 copies. 4 professors habilitated doctors (i.e. doctors who have defended habilitation theses) work at the Academy: V. Jakubaņecs, O. Joksts, A. Kavalieris and I. Vedins. In November 1997, the Academy of Science of Latvia elected I. Vedins a corresponding member in philosophy. There are 21 full – time doctors. There are also 4 part – time doctors. Each year specialists from various state institutions of Latvia and from abroad are involved in the academic process.

The six – fold increase of the number of students, realization of Master's and Doctor's studies (65 and 20 students respectively) create additional responsibility for the academic staff. The main problem is to prevent the gap between the demand for legal service and its quality. If the quality is not provided, we will be the ones who will destroy the prestige of the legal profession if our graduates fail to fulfil their social role.

A deep concern is caused by the insufficient number of doctors both at the Police Academy of Latvia and the Faculty of Law of University of Latvia. The academic staff is ageing: 2 years ago the average age of habilitated doctors was 54 years, today it is 59 years. There is no doctor in Latvia who is younger than 50. No habilitated doctors have joined our Academic staff. The average age of doctors has stayed the same as 5 years ago – 51 years. Only one doctor is younger than 40 years. The average age of masters, who work full time at the Academy, is 41 years. Only 8 of them are below 30 years. (It should be mentioned that this degree has been re-established in Latvia only some years ago). We are worried about the fact that in 1997 there were 2 vacancies in full – time Doctor's studies and 18 vacancies

in full – time Master’s studies. In early 1997, the Police Academy of Latvia assessed the results and achievements and then developed and submitted to the Ministry of the Interior:

- 1) plan of strategic realization of management of the state budget programmes for 1998–2002;
- 2) draft project of the concept of professional training of the staff of services of the ministry;
- 3) draft project of the state order for the PAL for 1998-2002;
- 4) proposals on matters of salaries of the staff, the students grants and course of service.

The draft projects of these documents (Z. Indrikovs “Professional and Academic Training”, LPA, 1997) were substantially examined by the Ministry of the Interior, finalized and approved. The state order of the Ministry of the Interior is based on the conclusion of the Board of Higher Education that the Ministry of the Interior shall make the order as well as provide for finances, equipment and facilities.

The state order for 1998-2002 allows the PAL to work out the basic directions of its development during this period. What are the most important problems the Academy will have to solve in next 7 years?

Firstly, it has to provide the services of the Ministry of the Interior (the State Police, the Security Police, the Frontier Guards, the Prison Administration, the Department of Citizenship and Immigration, the Institutions of Forensic Expertise) with professionally skilled specialists in the field of science of law with professional and academic education. The government resolution of May 22, 1991 and the state order state that the Academy has to prepare specialists for other pre – trial inquiry institutions, the Naturalization Service as well as state administrative institutions.

Secondly, according to the finances provided by the Ministry of the Interior, the Academy has to provide upgrading of qualification of the staff of services of the Ministry in brief courses (post – graduate education).

Thirdly, the Academy has to carry out scientific research according to orders of the Ministry and other law enforcement agencies as well as to meet needs of the Academy.

Fourthly, it has to supplement its academic staff with specialists of appropriate qualification.

The fulfilment of these tasks should be provided in following periods:

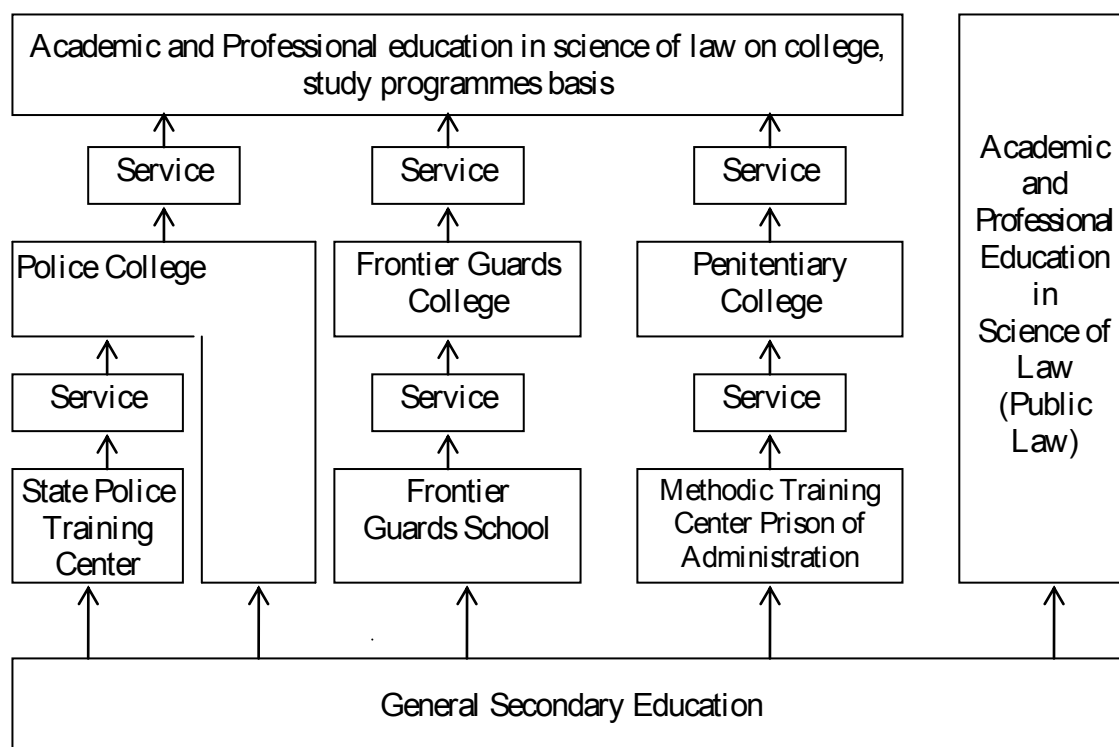
- 1) in 1998, vacant middle command positions should be filled with specialists of higher professional qualification (college higher professional educational level – education classification codes 423811, 423813). In 1999-2002, those staff members who do not meet the qualification needs for positions should be replaced (replacement of unqualified staff);
- 2) in 1999-2002, the needs for specialists with the highest qualification (lawyers qualification in science of law – education classification codes 453815, 473811, 473813) of the State Police, the Security Police, the Department of Citizenship and Migration, and the administrative staff of the Ministry shall be met;
- 3) in 2000-2004, the needs of Police, the Frontier Guards, Penitentiary and Probation Services for professionally trained middle command staff (college higher professional education level – education classification code 423811, 423813) shall be met;
- 4) in 2000-2005, the staff of the Academy has to be substantially supplemented with young specialists with master’s and doctor’s degrees, but the services of the Ministry – with specialists of appropriate professional training;
- 5) during the whole period, the qualification of the staff of the services of the Ministry should be upgraded in accordance with the signed agreements.

In order to fulfil these tasks, the Academy has to set priorities in realization of study programmes and their directions. The experience of recent years shows that the study programmes should be arranged as follows:

- 1) college higher professional study programmes for the State Police, the Frontier Guards and prison staff;
- 2) higher professional study programme with integrated standards of Bachelor's studies for the staff of the State Police, the Frontier Guards, Probation and Penitentiary Services, Naturalization Department, administration of the Ministry;
- 3) scientific research;
- 4) upgrading of professional qualification (postgraduate studies programme);
- 5) Master's and Doctor's studies programmes.

The control criteria for fulfilment of the programmes could be the number of graduates in the respective year, and the number of graduates working in positions appropriate to the specialization and qualification.

The general scheme of training at the PAL shall be as follows:



So, how many lawyers and other specialists of this qualification are necessary for the administration of the Ministry and its services? What are the needs of various related institutions (Naturalization Department, General Prosecutor's Office, Financial Police and others)? And how many of these should be trained at the Academy? Calculation shows that each year the Academy has to en-roll 308 full time state budget students and 224 part – time state budget students. There will be deviations from these figures in 1998 due to developing of new study programmes. The number of part – time students will be reduced gradually.

To ensure the study process 140-160 lecturers are necessary; at least half of them must have a scientific degree. At least 9 professors and 18 associated professors are needed. There must be at least one researcher in Theory of Law and Politology Department, State Law Department, Police Law and Frontier Guards Department, Criminalistic Department, Criminal Law Department, Civil Law Department and Philosophy Department. The volume of research will grow each year and the academic staff will not be able to cope with this work. A permanent team of specialists has to be attached to professional study courses so that they should be able to deal with 20-25 % of the volume of courses. Also, law enforcement and other specialists should be invited to conduct academic study courses of practical trend, which are not connected with specialization.

Calculation of the number of students and qualified academic staff made it possible to create new study programmes.

Today's student will be the foundation of this country in the first half of the 21st century. General requirements must be co-ordinated with the university autonomy of higher education institutions. General standard is the state standard (bachelor, master, doctor) which is identical for all branches of science of law. It should comprise around two thirds of the study time. University autonomy – these are the trends of studies which have to develop specialization of the Academy, and fulfil the state order. The Academy should create one third of the study programmes, including the experience of related education establishments abroad.

In Latvia, study programme of science of law cannot be limited to one branch of science of law, a sub – branch, or a group of study courses. The standard of general secondary education must be taken into account as well as the fact that a lawyer must often deal with legal aspects of a case that involves economics, politics, medicine, culture, science. Today's lawyer must have sound theoretical training, have to distinguish chief matters from second-class matters, independently determine trends of legal relationships. Knowledge of philosophy of law, attitude towards development of civilization determines a lawyer's attitude to his profession, his behaviour in different situations of life. A lawyer must know how to help people in realization of their lawful rights, how to create a strong democracy, not a weak and bureaucratic state. The graduate must be ready to change quickly in the world around him; he must take into account that new branches of law appear.

Admittance of Latvia to the Council of Europe and moving towards the European Union creates a new duty – our legal acts have to be co-ordinated with standards and principles of the CE and the EU.

However, courses of law studies must occupy a large part in the study programmes as the secondary school provides a wider secondary education including such spheres as culture, philosophy, psychology, ethics, history and other sciences. Some of our courses have disappeared in last 6 years from the study programmes or become optional, thus creating free space for law subjects. It causes resistance because one has to give up what is habitual, find a fresh approach to an old course or develop a new one. The level of knowledge of foreign languages and physical fitness level cause problems, because if the training in these subjects were better in secondary schools, there would be more time for other courses, students would be able to read relevant literature in foreign languages, they would have better capacity for work. Life develops rapidly and study programmes as well as matriculation requirements have to be revised every 3 years, but programmes of study courses – every 2 years. Therefore, the programmes that are adopted this year will have to be revised in academic year of 2000/2001.

The Academy has enlarged the studies of civil law – a new study course “International Private Rights” has been introduced. The studies of state law have been supplemented by 2 new courses – Human Rights and European Law.

When improving study programmes, too narrow specialization (at present there are 8) should be abolished as international practice shows that it is less expensive to specialize students during postgraduate training when they are working.

In special branches of law, more attention should be paid to the universal part, especially in academic study courses. At present, the largest part of these courses is devoted to the special part. In study course programmes there is no or too little information about the national history of the respective branch of law and comparative law. The two main directions of activity should be developed in the Master's programme: scientific research and pedagogics.

During 6 years the administration of the Academy has changed considerably. According to the Law of Higher Education Establishments the Student's Parliament was formed as well as the Convent of Counsellors – an institution giving advice to the Senate of the Academy and the Rector. Studies are organized by the Study department (strategic matters and planning of studies), Colleges and stage of academic and professional studies

department (current matters, realization of study programmes), Scientific department (the Doctor's studies, scientific research), In-service training department (matters of post-graduate education) and 10 departments, Computer centre and libraries.

The Academy is under the supervision of the Ministry of Interior. The Ministry of Education and Science controls its academic and scientific activity. The Council of Higher Education sets strategy of development, supervises the quality of education.



## ***Mokymo praktika ir strategija Latvijos policijos akademijoje***

***prof. Z. Indrikovs***

*Latvijos policijos akademija*

### **SANTRAUKA**

*Per 6 savo gyvavimo metus Latvijos policijos akademija toli pažengė į priekį. Šiuo metu čia studijuoja maždaug 2700 studentų. Akademijoje yra kelių pakopų studijos, teikiamas aukštasis, aukštasis profesinis ir integruotas akademinis išsilavinimas, bakalauro ir daktaro laipsniai. Kasmet daugėja stojančiųjų. Šoje mokslo įstaigoje dėsto 9 profesoriai ir 32 daktarai. Akademija yra išleidusi vadovėlių, mokomųjų bei metodinių leidinių.*

*Vyriausybės įsakymu numatytos pagrindinės 1998-2005 metų Akademijos darbo kryptys:*

- 1) rengti VRM įstaigoms profesionalius darbuotojus;*
- 2) rengti ministerijos darbuotojams kursus;*
- 3) plėtoti mokslinius tyrimus;*
- 4) atnaujinti Akademijos pedagogų personalą.*

