*Unofficial translation/Machine translation*

The Saeima has adopted and the State
the President promulgates such law:

**Law on the Academy of Justice**

**Article 1. Purpose of the Law**

The aim of the Law is to ensure a sustainable and effective training system for the quality performance of judicial and prosecutorial functions by establishing the Academy of Justice (hereinafter - the Academy).

**Article 2. Status and activities of the Academy**

(1) The Academy shall be a derived public person.

(2) Within the scope and procedure provided for in this Law, the institutional supervision of the Academy shall be exercised by the Cabinet of Ministers through the Minister of Justice. The functional supervision of the Academy shall be exercised by the Council of Justice.

(3) The Academy shall plan, organise and implement training for judges and court staff, prosecutors and prosecutor's office staff who provide legal support in the performance of prosecutorial duties, as well as investigators on issues relevant to the effective administration of justice (hereinafter - target groups).

**Article 3. Tasks and rights of the Academy**

(1) For the purpose of this Act, the Academy shall:

1. provide training for the target groups at the start of their duties (induction training) and training to develop professional knowledge, skills and personal competences and to support personal development;

2) ensure the development of judges' and prosecutors' skills as leaders of training events;

3. create, maintain and develop an environment conducive to learning;

4) study learning needs, prepare learning and personal development plans and curricula to meet them;

5) organise research to improve the efficiency of the courts and prosecution services;

6) implement international cooperation with training providers for judges and prosecutors and participate in international projects in accordance with its competences;

7) may provide training for applicants for the office of judge and prosecutor for a fee;

8. may provide training to other justice professionals on a fee-paying basis;

9) may provide services for a fee;

10) perform other tasks as provided for in this Law.

(2) The Academy shall process the personal data of the participants of training events which are necessary for the performance of the tasks set out in the first paragraph of this Article in planning, organising and implementing training for target groups.

**Article 4. Reimbursement of tuition fees**

(1) If a judge or a public prosecutor has received a positive initial assessment of his/her professional performance in accordance with the procedure established by law and has, not later than two years before his/her appointment or confirmation in office, participated in training organised by the Academy for candidates for the office of judge or public prosecutor for a fee, the Director of the Academy shall, on the basis of an application by the judge or public prosecutor, decide on the reimbursement of the tuition fee.

(2) The Cabinet of Ministers shall determine the procedure for reimbursement of tuition fees to candidates for the office of judge or prosecutor and the amount of tuition fees to be reimbursed.

**Article 5. Director of the Academy**

(1) The Director of the Academy shall be appointed by the Cabinet of Ministers for a term of five years. The same person may serve as the Director of the Academy for no more than two consecutive terms. The Minister of Justice shall nominate a candidate for appointment as the Director of the Academy on the proposal of the Judicial Council.

(2) The governing body of the Academy shall be the Principal, who shall manage and represent the Academy.

(3) The Principal of the Academy:

1) determine the structure of the Academy and approve the Statutes of the Academy;

2) recruit and dismiss the staff of the Academy;

3) ensure the development and implementation of the Academy's operational strategy;

4) organise the curricula and curriculum development;

5) by 1 May of the current year, submit to the Judicial Council for approval the annual training plan prepared by the Academy, as well as the developed or updated training programmes;

6) prepare the Academy's annual activity report;

7) perform other tasks as provided for in this Law.

(4) The Cabinet of Ministers, after hearing the opinion of the Judicial Council, shall determine the requirements to be met by the applicant for the post and shall announce an open competition for the post of the Director of the Academy. The Council of Justice shall determine the conditions and procedures for the application for the post of the Director of the Academy, as well as the procedures for the selection and evaluation of applicants. The selection of candidates for the post of the Director of the Academy shall be carried out by a committee established by the Judicial Council. The Commission shall include representatives of the judiciary and the executive in equal numbers.

(5) A person who meets the following requirements may be the Principal of the Academy:

1) it has an impeccable reputation;

2) is a Latvian national;

3) speak the national language at the highest level;

4. have completed at least the second cycle of tertiary education and have professional experience appropriate to the duties of the post;

5) understands the principles and values of the justice system.

(6) The Cabinet of Ministers may, on the proposal of the Minister of Justice, dismiss the Director of the Academy before the end of his term of office if:

1) has tendered his resignation;

2) in the performance of his/her duties, has committed wilful misconduct or negligence and has thereby caused damage to the State or to a person;

3) has not complied with the restrictions and prohibitions laid down in the Law [on Prevention of Conflict of Interest in the Activities of Public Officials](https://likumi.lv/ta/id/61913-par-interesu-konflikta-noversanu-valsts-amatpersonu-darbiba) and has thereby caused damage to the State or a person;

(4) has been absent from duty on grounds of incapacity for work for more than four consecutive months, or for more than six months in any one-year period if the incapacity for work has been intermittent. This period shall not include maternity leave or periods of incapacity for work where the incapacity for work is due to pregnancy, an accident at work or an occupational disease;

5) does not meet the requirements for the post of Director of the Academy or fails to perform his/her duties without justifiable reason.

**Article 6. Statutes of the Academy**

The structure of the Academy, the tasks of its structural units and the scope of the data to be processed referred to in [Section 3](https://likumi.lv/ta/id/356029#p3) (2) of this Law shall be laid down in the Regulations of the Academy.

**Article 7. Staff of the Academy and their remuneration**

(1) The monthly salary of the Director of the Academy shall be determined by the Council of Justice in accordance with the [Law on Remuneration of Officials and Employees of State and Local Government Institutions](https://likumi.lv/ta/id/202273-valsts-un-pasvaldibu-instituciju-amatpersonu-un-darbinieku-atlidzibas-likums)  .

(2) The salary of the staff of the Academy shall be determined by the Director of the Academy.

**Article 8. Competence of the Judicial Council**

The Judicial Council performs the following tasks:

1) set strategic learning objectives and directions;

2) approve the Academy's operational strategy and oversee its implementation;

3) define the principles of curriculum design;

4) determine the procedure for the selection of the leaders of training events from among judges and prosecutors;

5) approve the curricula and the annual teaching plan;

6) hear the annual report of the Academy's activities for the academic year presented by the Academy's Director and, if necessary, make recommendations for improvement;

7) provide the Director of the Academy with an opinion on the draft budget of the Academy;

8) perform other tasks as provided for in this Law.

**Article 9. Examination of the lawfulness of an administrative act or practice**

An administrative act or action issued by the Director of the Academy may be appealed to court [in accordance with the procedure set out in the Administrative Procedure Law](https://likumi.lv/ta/id/55567-administrativa-procesa-likums) .

**Article 10. Reports on the Academy's activities**

(1) The Director of the Academy shall annually submit to the Judicial Council a report on the performance of the functions and the results of the work of the Academy in the previous calendar year, the use of the allocated state budget funds and the paid services provided.

(2) The Academy shall prepare a public annual report and provide reports on the use of budget funds in accordance with the procedure established by the regulatory enactments.

**Article 11. Financing of the Academy**

(1) The financial resources of the Academy shall consist of:

1) state budget funding for the Academy's activities and the fulfilment of the tasks set out in this Law;

2) donations and gifts from legal and natural persons, including foreign legal and natural persons;

3) financial assistance from foreign and international organisations;

4) revenue from fee-based services and other own revenue.

(2) The State Budget Law shall, when providing for the financing necessary for the implementation of training in accordance with the possibilities of the State Budget, take into account the need to ensure a sustainable and effective training system for the performance of judicial and prosecutorial functions, taking into account the principle of the independence of the judiciary.

(3) The Director of the Academy shall submit the draft budget request of the Academy to the Ministry of Justice. The Ministry of Justice shall include the draft budget request of the Academy in the draft budget request of district (city) courts and regional courts.

**Transitional provision**

The Academy will open on 1 January 2025.

It enters into force on the day following its promulgation.

The Law was adopted by the Saeima on 24 October 2024.

Instead of the President
President of the Saeima *D. Mieriņa*

31 October 2024 in Riga