



FACULTY OF LAW



FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Joint Professional Master's Study Programme “Economic Security”

Code: 47861

Description of the Study Programme

APPROVED
Rīga Stradiņš University
Senate meeting of June 27, 2023, minutes No. 2-S-1/8/2023
Daugavpils University
Senate meeting of June 19, 2023, minutes No. 7

**INCLUSION OF THE LICENSED STUDY PROGRAMME IN
THE STUDY DIRECTION ACCREDITATION SHEET**

Riga, 2023

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BASIC INFORMATION ON THE STUDY DIRECTION “INTERNAL SECURITY AND CIVIL PROTECTION”

Aims and tasks of the study direction “Internal Security and Civil Protection”

The study direction “Internal Security and Civil Protection” was introduced at RSU in 2016, and the professional Bachelor’s study programme “Police Work” has been implemented within it since 2017 as the first study programme. In 2019, the study direction with one study programme was accredited for the maximum accreditation period of 6 years (until 23 April 2025).

The strategic aim of the study direction “Internal Security and Civil Protection” corresponds the strategic mission, vision, and key development goals of the Rīga Stradiņš University (RSU) Strategy 2022-2027, which are based on the key principles of science, education, and development of human capital (including students, lecturers, staff, and the wider society).

The objective of the RSU study direction “Internal Security and Civil Protection” is to prepare competitive specialists in the fields of internal security and civil protection for the Latvian labour market. The RSU Strategy until 2027 is available from section: rsu.lv/par-rsu/strategija-dokumenti, [in Latvian](#) and [in English](#).

The joint objective of the study direction “Internal Security and Civil Protection” of Daugavpils University (DU) (accreditation period until 31.12.2024) is to prepare, in the course of implementation of undergraduate studies and higher level programmes, highly-qualified civil profession and occupational safety specialists competitive at international level, who are capable of independently planning and performing tasks related to the profession, innovative research, and make a contribution to growth in welfare of the Republic of Latvia and the European Union.

The study direction is implemented and its further development is planned based on the Development Strategy 2015 – 2020 developed by DU https://du.lv/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/DU_attistibas_strategija_25.01.2021.-converted.pdf (available in Latvian only) and the Development Strategy 2022 – 2028, which has already been developed, but has not been approved yet.

The objective of the study direction matches the medium-term objective set by the DU Development Strategy: “To ensure quality education, which corresponds to further challenges and is based on theoretical knowledge and mastering of research skills by preparing specialists competitive in international labour market by developing their skills and motivating to life-long learning.” Guided by the strategic objective, the task of the study direction is to prepare qualified specialists in police, border guarding, penitentiary work and organisational safety, as well as occupational safety.

The study direction development strategy provides that DU reinforces positions of its higher education institution and the research centre in Eastern Latvia and develops into one of the most important education and science centres in Latvia and Baltic Sea region supported by highly qualified specialists and modern material, technical and informative facilities.

Tasks of the study direction:

- 1) To secure demand for higher education study programmes in the field of internal security;
- 2) To base the implementation of the study programme on the link between research and placement;

- 3) To foster the development of Latvian national economy by preparing high quality specialists in the field of internal security.

Study programmes included in the study direction “Internal Security and Civil Protection” at RSU:

The study direction “Internal Security and Civil Protection” includes 3 study programmes:

<i>Name of the programme</i>	<i>Level of the programme</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>Status</i>
1. Police Work (42861, EQF 6)	Professional Bachelor's StP	Valdis Voins	Active, planned to be closed
2. Police Work (44861, EQF 6) (study program of the "Internal Security Academy" Consortium)	Professional StP	Valdis Voins	Licensed on 2.08.2023, being implemented
3. Economic Security (47861, EQF 7)	Joint professional Master's StP	Jānis Grasis	Licensed on 04.10.2022, planned to include in study direction, is being implemented
4. Protection of economic security (47861, 7. EKI) (Study program of the "Internal Security Academy" Consortium)	professional Master's StP	Jānis Grasis	Licensed on 2.08.2023, being implemented

Study programmes included in the study direction “Internal Security and Civil Protection” at DU:

The study direction “Internal Security and Civil Protection” includes 3 study programmes:

<i>Name of the programme</i>	<i>Level of the programme</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>Status</i>
1. Civil Defence and Protection (41861, EQF 5)	Level 1 professional higher education StP	Igors Trofimovs	Active
2. Labour Protection (47862, EQF 7)	Professional Master's StP	Valfrīds Paškevičs	Active
3. Economic Security (47861, EQF 7)	Joint professional Master's StP	Igors Trofimovs	Licensed on 04.10.2022, planned to include StV, is being implemented

Analysis of compliance of the study programme “Economic Security” to be included in the accreditation sheet of the study direction “Internal Security and Civil Protection” with the study direction

As already indicated above, the study direction “Internal Security and Civil Protection” corresponds to the development strategies of RSU (2022-2027) and DU (2022-2027). The successful development and implementation of the study direction “Internal Security and Civil Protection” is due to successful cooperation with industry professionals from State Police and others. Cooperation with the State Police College is important in the creation, implementation and development of the study programme “Police Work”, because RSU provides college graduates with the possibility to continue their studies.

By developing the study direction “Internal Security and Civil Protection”, Professional Master’s study programme “Economic Security” was developed and licensed within it to prepare specialists for the field of economic security, because there was practically no offer of higher education in Latvia in this very specific field. Such development of the study direction was also determined by the National Security Concept, which emphasises that internal security is related to the everyday feeling of security of Latvian residents, socioeconomic situation in the country, observance of the rule of law, as well as security of the state border. This led to the choice to prepare specialists directly in the field of economic security, where there is a lack of both specialists and adequate education supply.

National security and its protection are linked not only to the prevention of physical dangers, but also to the establishment and maintenance of an economic security system. Today’s challenges include increasing the circulation of electronic currency, inflow of proceeds of crime into the economy, which is further used to sustain criminal groups, as well as capital mobility. Furthermore, to create favourable conditions for economic development, it is necessary to develop a business-friendly environment by improving the tax system. It should be noted that, as a result of increasing imports, significant financial resources from away from Latvia’s internal circulation and remain with foreign producers and exporters, and they are lost both to the state budget in the form of possible unpaid taxes and to businessmen in the form of possible profit.

With an increase in the number of economic offences in Latvia, for example, criminal offences related to the earning illegal profits, threats to economic stability information systems, cybercrime, illegal movement of goods, etc., there is a growing demand for skilled workers¹ who are able to address these challenges. In addition, the National Security Concept² also emphasises the current economic and cyber threat and the need for prevention, which accordingly raises the issue of the possibilities for existing and future specialists to acquire the appropriate education in the field of economic security.

As indicated in the National Security Concept, Latvia still has a significant share of the shadow economy, which negatively affects the revenues of the state budget, sustainable growth of the national economy, fair and competitive business environment, thus one of the priority issues to be addressed is to continue work on implementation of measures to reduce the shadow economy. Corruption, shortcomings in public procurement procedures, the judiciary and insolvency system are hindering the development of the business environment and, to reduce them, measures need to be continued to ensure the efficiency and transparency of public administration, while strengthening the transparency of public administration and the integrity of public officials.

Economic security is closely linked to various areas of security (e.g. social security, military security, cyber security), as it is the availability of primary economic resources for the performance of measures in other areas that is crucial for the country to be able to strengthen its capacity to successfully limit the consequences of any security threat.

The study programme “Economic Security” organically fits into the study direction

¹ Report of the Financial Intelligence Unit for 2022 (available in [Latvian](#), [English](#)).

² National Security Concept (available in [Latvian](#), [English](#)).

“Internal Security and Civil Protection”, but will also have close cooperation with the study direction “Law”, which is also implemented by the RSU Faculty of Law.

DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY PROGRAMME

1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme

1.1. Indicators of the study programme (specify only the indicators, which are applicable to the study programme).

1.	Title of the study programme	Economic Security
2.	Name of the study programme in English	Economic Security
3.	Code of the study programme in accordance with the Latvian Education Classification	47861
4.	Field of science of the study programme (applicable to the doctoral study programmes)	N/A
5.	Type of the study programme	Joint Professional Master's Study Programme
6.	Level of qualification to be acquired (NQF/EQF)	EQF level 7
7.	Amount of the study programme (CP, preferably also ECTS)	80 CP (120 ECTS)
8.	Form, type, and duration of the study programme (in case the duration cannot be measured in full years, specify the number of months), as well as the language in which the study programme is implemented	
	Full-time, on-site studies	2 years <i>Latvian, English</i>
	Full-time, off-site studies	- -
	Part-time, on-site studies	2 years 6 months <i>Latvian, English</i>
	Part-time, distance learning	- -
9.	Place of implementation	Rīga Stradiņš University and Daugavpils University
10.	Admission requirements	<p>Professional Bachelor's degree in Business and Administration, Management, Economics, Finance, Organisational Security, Internal Security and Civil Protection, Police Work or Law. Interview on the reflexant's previous professional experience with economic security issues.</p> <p>If previous education has been acquired in commercial knowledge and administration, management knowledge, economics, finance, organisation security, internal security and civil protection, then the reflexant shall have</p>

		<p>acquired law science study courses in the amount of at least 10 KP (15 ECTS).</p> <p>If previous education has been acquired in police work or law science, the reflexant shall have acquired a course of management studies in the amount of at least 10 KP (15 ECTS).</p> <p>For studies in English - evidence of knowledge of English at B2 level.</p>
11.	The degree, professional qualification to be awarded or the degree and professional qualification, the so-called specialisation, to be awarded (if applicable)	Professional Master's degree in Organisational Security; no qualification is awarded.
12.	Professional standard, its year of approval (if applicable)	Not applicable
13.	Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	Drafting and Defence of the Master's Thesis
14.	Director of the study programme	Jānis Grasis, Igors Trofimovs

The decision to license the study programme provided only for the award of a professional Master's degree in organisational safety, without any professional qualification that is not in line with the direction, the content and code of the joint study programme, and highlighted the need to initiate the development of an appropriate professional qualification until the accreditation of the direction. Several significant developments have happened during this period until the submission of the programme to the procedure inclusion of a licensed study programme in an accredited study direction, which delayed the possibility of defining new professional qualifications and developing a profession standard, but were significant for the development of the whole sector. In particular, the development of the programmes of the Consortium "Academy of Internal Security" provided for in the conceptual report "On the improvement of the education system of officials of law enforcement authorities" approved by the Cabinet of Ministers on 8 February 2022 started, which determined the creation of an additional study programme "Protection of Economic Security" at RSU (Agreement establishing the Consortium "Academy of Internal Security", RSU agreement registration No. 3-L-14/5/2022, concluded on 25 October 2022). The development of the new programme required the involvement of the management, lecturers, staff of the RSU Faculty of Law. Currently, when licensing of the two Master's study programmes "Economic Security" and "Protection of Economic Security" is over, RSU will be able to raise the need for the Ministry of the Interior to develop professional qualification and also make the necessary contribution to the development of the profession standard.

1.2. Objective of the study programme

The common aim of the StP "Economic Security" is to prepare highly qualified specialists with the knowledge and skills needed to be able and competent to assume responsibility and address the

legal and economic challenges of high complexity, including the prevention, detection and investigation of economic crimes, to develop and coordinate international cooperation, to represent diverse interests and to ensure sound decision-making in the field of economic security.

1.3. Tasks of the study programme

Tasks of the study programme “Economic Security”:

1. To promote research activity in the field of economic security, using theoretical foundations and skills acquired, independently acquiring, selecting, analysing and critically evaluating information, identifying challenges and offering possible solutions.
2. To provide students with basic and specialised knowledge in the field of economic security, to clarify the key concepts and regularities of the professional field.
3. To ensure the acquisition by students of the professional skills in the field of economic security.
4. To develop the skills of students to develop themselves also after mastering of the study programme for their further upskilling.
5. To develop decision-making skills in difficult situations and problem-solving skills in matters of economic security.
6. To provide knowledge and skills in the management of personnel, develop skills to explain and discuss matters of competence in the field of economic security with both specialists and subordinates.
7. To provide students with placement in institutions operating in the field of economic security. To provide opportunities for placement, within the framework of which students take decisions, take responsibility and initiative, perform work individually, in a team or manage the work of other people and find solutions in changing or unclear circumstances, increased stress and complex official situation, acting quickly in situations of increased danger.
8. To develop the ability to independently structure their further learning and professional development and that of their subordinate employees by participating in the development of the professional field.
9. To provide theoretical and practical knowledge in matters of economic security, highlighting new trends in the field concerned.
10. To raise awareness of professional ethics in working with colleagues, society and the media, the ability to assess the environmental and social impact of their professional activities in confrontation with the subject, conflict resolution and the use of different methods of force.

1.4. Learning outcomes to be achieved

Learning outcomes of the study programme “Economic Security”. After graduation from the programme the students:

1. Able to critically evaluate the considerations and legal methods of legal theory and practice to improve the conduct of research in the field of economic security and to offer original solutions to professional challenges in the context of economic civil security, i.e. economic security is assessed systematically as part of civil security of the state.
2. Able to creatively and constructively analyse and evaluate socioeconomic legal processes, debate and experiment on the results achieved, substantiating their views, develop

creative solutions for the detection, prevention and investigation of economic crimes at national and international level.

3. Able to follow innovations in the field of economic security independently and, on the basis of an analytical approach, define and analyse the challenges in the context of economic offences, offer a summary of these challenges by providing the professional area with proper solutions and innovations.

4. Able to group, qualify and compare knowledge from different fields, which enables the analysis of current economic security challenges in a broad comparative context and offer a non-standard solution by applying and integrating them into practice, detection and investigation of relevant crimes.

5. Able to formulate and critically analyse the knowledge of different areas in the context of economic security, creating new knowledge that is applied in the context of professional activities, solving challenges and taking responsibility for organisational management issues.

6. Able to define the tasks of an organisation, develop work plans, generate ideas, organise work, identify factors of financial and economic stability of the company and identify areas to be developed, coordinate cooperation among colleagues, thus generating competitive results in the field of economic security.

7. Able to collect, compare and evaluate information in relation to economic security and interdisciplinary fields in the context of international and national professional environment in accordance with the specialisation and independently choose the methodology for improvement of professional competence appropriate for the purpose.

8. Able to group, qualify and compare knowledge from different fields, which enables the analysis of current economic security challenges in a broad comparative context and offer a non-standard solution by applying and integrating them into practice, detection and investigation of relevant crimes.

9. Able to demonstrate in-depth and extended knowledge and understanding in the management of organisations consistent with the field and the latest findings of the manager's professional field, which, inter alia, help to predict and prevent risks to economic security, identify threats to the insolvency of an institution or company, prevent financial schemes and attempts to conceal them, and identify signs of illegal financial transactions.

10. Develops an understanding of what economic security is, both in a specific organisation and in a country and in the world as a whole, able to manage an organisation, address problems and justify decisions, including to prepare necessary documents and use information and communication technologies to address professional issues within the organisation concerned.

2. Topicality of the study programme

2.1. Brief description of the study programme, including in specifying:

2.1.1. Rationale for creating the study programme, compliance with trends in the sector in Latvia, European Union and the world.

Rationale for creating the study programme Economic Security, compliance with trends in the sector in Latvia, European Union and the world.

On 24 April 2019, RSU concluded an agreement with the Central Finance and Contracting Agency (CFCA) on the project “Reduction of fragmentation of StPs and promotion of internationalisation of studies at Rīga Stradiņš University” (project No. 8.2.1.0/18/A/014, Operational Programme “Growth and Employment”, specific objective “To reduce fragmentation of study programmes and strengthen resource sharing” second project applications selection round(hereinafter referred to as SO 8.2.1). Within SO 8.2.1, a joint professional Master’s study programme (PMSP) “Economic Security” was developed, on the creation of which RSU and DU agreed before the approval of consolidation plans at the Ministry of Education and Science.

After the liquidation of the Latvian Police Academy in 2009, study programmes with specialisation in detecting and preventing financial economic criminal offences, including provision of structural units of the Economic Crime Combatting Board, the State Revenue Service, the Organised Crime Prevention Board, the Financial Police, etc. with highly qualified specialists, are practically not implemented in state educational institutions. Study programmes, which would prepare specialists in the abovementioned field of activity, are not developed, licensed and implemented in Latvia. A first level higher education study programme with specialisation in the field of criminal police (criminal investigation) is successfully implemented at the State Police College. However, the acquisition of this programme provides only basic knowledge and basic skills in the discovery of economic criminal offences.

Foreign experience in the preparation of highly qualified specialists in the discovery and prevention of financial economic criminal offences (in the field of economic security) confirms the need for special study programmes in the abovementioned field, where appropriate study courses would be taught by highly qualified teaching staff with large practical work experience, using not only national but also foreign methodologies.

Currently, the focus of the study programme is to prepare managers with knowledge and skills in economic security, in the Future Development Plan, taking into account the need for a new profession (the head of an organisation in the field of economic security), it is necessary to think about acquisition of in-depth knowledge and skills, noting that the internet environment, artificial intelligence, cryptocurrencies are developing, there is no reason to believe that similar development will not be required by the programme itself.

The challenge is the development of a legal framework for cryptocurrencies and cross-border cooperation in the fight against crime, which will undeniably require experts with in-depth knowledge.

In cooperation with Daugavpils University, combining the capacity and previous experience of both institutions of higher education and developments in implementation of the study direction “Internal Security and Civil Protection”, a qualitative and competitive study programme “Economic Security” will be implemented, which will ensure improvement of the security system at the national level. The study of the economic security situation is one of the areas of activity of increasing attention, especially given the increasing impact of economic processes on national security and individual foreign efforts to use economic instruments to realise their geopolitical interests.

For this reason, it is important to identify and prevent activities in a timely manner, which are aimed at gaining control over companies or sectors important to the national economy of Latvia and the real purpose of which is not only commercial activity and profit making, but rather formation of positions of political influence in the interests of other countries.

In the context of economic security, stability of the financial sector is indispensable, so it is important for the development and sustainability of the Latvian national economy to identify and eliminate risks related to the reputation of public finances in a timely manner, paying particular

attention to possible cases of terrorist financing and risks related to the impact of non-resident funds on the financial sector.

The study programme corresponds to the challenges of the modern and future international labour market and provides practice-based interdisciplinary studies, preparing competitive specialists, developing their competences in law, management and financial security issues. Due to digitisation and transparency processes, the financial sector is also being modernised and new services are emerging, creating a variety of previously unconceived risks. The analysis of these challenges and prevention of related criminal transactions requires complex, interdisciplinary knowledge and skills in management, security, finance and law. Thus, specialists in the field of economic security are equally relevant in the context of current national, EU and global challenges (including international trade restrictions, the spread of the shadow economy in the region, sanctions and supply chain disruptions caused by COVID-19), including the further development of digitisation and optimisation processes in organisations. The relevance of these aspects is also confirmed by the economic security agenda that gains newfound relevance in Latvia and Europe, for example, the National Economy Conference of the Bank of Latvia in 2020 will be dedicated to money and public security aspects emphasising the financial security factors and challenges for the population.³

A more detailed assessment of the shadow economy trends leads to the conclusion that, in the context of Baltic States, the volume of shadow economy in Latvia is the largest (the share of shadow economy is 23.9% of GDP), moreover, the volumes of shadow economy in Latvia decreased insignificantly overall despite the relatively rapid economic growth over the previous 3-4 years, as well as various policy initiatives to reduce the shadow economy. It is therefore important to educate the population and explain the negative effects of the shadow economy more broadly. Also to increase the number of specialists who have a thorough understanding of these processes, their modern forms and ways, and are able to effectively capture their manifestations and restrict shadow economy activities. Taking into account the geopolitical peculiarities of Latvia and Baltic States region and different levels of financial security (including significantly different volumes of shadow economy⁴), it should be noted that it is important to educate both society and specialists to maintain the security of the entire EU financial system and economic security.

The uniqueness of the programme in Latvia and the Baltics is determined by the fact that it will be implemented as a joint interuniversity professional Master's study programme in economic security, the modules of which will be implemented at both universities in different regions of the country.

The study programme "Economic Security" will be developed in cooperation with foreign higher education institutions:

- in Lithuania (The General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania);
- in Poland (Warsaw War Studies University);
- in Lithuania (Mykolas Romeris University);
- in Luxembourg (University of Luxembourg).

It is planned to organise joint roundtable discussions with these universities, promoting research among students and lecturers, organising visiting lectures, including remotely, using internet technologies. These universities are intended to be used to organise Erasmus mobility events for both lecturers and students. These universities implement similar programmes, including

³ *Conference of the Bank of Latvia "Money and Public Security" (25.09.2020)*

<https://www.makroekonomika.lv/notiks-latvijas-bankas-konference-nauda-un-sabiedribas-drosiba#tab=3>

⁴ *Shadow Economy Index for the Baltic States*, available only in [English](#).

Lithuania and Poland, which are countries of the Baltic region with a relatively similar situation in terms of economic security, while the University of Luxembourg is in a strategically important geographical location in the context of shaping EU policy on economic security.

Given the low level of financial literacy of Latvian population⁵, it can be assumed that part of financial risks and illegal financial transactions are accepted on the basis of lack of understanding in the population of their nature and impact on the economy. The need for new, modern skills as well as newly updated skills in diverse professions (e.g. *reading documents, reading bills, invoices, bank or financial statements; reading diagrams, maps or schematics*)⁶ emphasises the importance of both financial and legal literacy in today's labour market. This is also confirmed by the proposals made by the cooperation partners of the StP Working Group, representatives of the professional field for the content of the StP.

In April 2020, the informative report on the fulfilment of the tasks of the Latvian delegation in the Committee of experts on the evaluation of the fulfilment of tasks in the Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (ML/TF) of the Council of Europe ("Moneyval") and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) was supported at the Latvian Government meeting. Latvia received many recommendations from Moneyval – part of the recommendations are related to the adequacy of the regulatory framework, part – to the effectiveness of the current system. Meanwhile, the Moneyval report released in January this year provides that Latvia has made progress in strengthening its ML/TF prevention system, but our country remains monitored. On 20 February 2020, the FATF decided not to include Latvia in the so-called "grey list" and not to subject Latvia to increased monitoring, recognising that a strong and resilient financial system has been established in Latvia for protection against money laundering, financing of terrorism and financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

In addition, it should be noted that on 7 January 2020, the Cabinet of Ministers supported the two draft laws "Amendments to the Civil Procedure Law" and "Amendments to the Criminal Procedure Law" developed by the Ministry of Justice, which determine the competence of the Economic Court in relation to the adjudication of commercial disputes, economic and financial crime cases. The Economic Court has already commenced its work (as of 31 March 2021) and had dealt with 110 cases in the first six months of its functioning.⁷ The number of cases reviewed indicates the need for specialists in the field of economic security, which in turn confirms the need and sustainability of the newly established study programme.

2.1.2. Outline of the content of the study programme. Study programme "Economic Security".

The content of the study programme "Economic Security" is based on the mapping performed to ensure that the knowledge, skills and competences to be achieved in study courses ensure the achievement of the aim of StP. According to the mapping performed, when evaluating the StP planning, it has been designed to develop the knowledge, skills and competences of students in the field of economic security during 4 (or 5 – part-time regular) academic semesters. In the provision of StP content acquisition, alongside knowledge transfer and skill development, during the creation equal attention was given to both knowledge transfer and co-creation methods, as well

⁵ The latest overview of the Financial Literacy Index of Latvian Population is available only in [Latvian](#).

⁶ Additional Results from the Survey of Adult Skills. OECD, 2019 (available only in [English](#)).

⁷ Economic Court. Information available only in [Latvian](#).

as to the format of teaching and implementation of the study courses, including extracurricular and seminar activities in real economic security environment, covering a specific amount of knowledge for the interconnection of study courses, in particular over a semester and respective academic year.

The implementation of the study programme is planned by creating study course modules after the previous Bachelor's education of students, namely, to offer economic study courses to students whose Bachelor's level education is in law, while legal study courses to students of economics. Paragraph 2.31.3 of Academic Regulations I approved by RSU - "modular study system" at RSU means intensive implementation of a study course over a period of two weeks to one semester, organising successive lectures, classes, independent work and examinations. In the present case, it is not a module within the meaning of the Law on Higher Education Institutions, but a system for the implementation of a study programme, in English such an approach to the implementation of courses is referred to as "block teaching" or "block mode of teaching". Individual descriptions of such modules are not created because the module at RSU is an organisational rather than a content solution for the study programme. During a study semester, not all, but only part of study courses planned in the semester are implemented in parallel, for example 4 intensive study courses. When one set of study courses (module) ends, the next begins.

The description of each semester states the amount of studies to be studied in each semester in credit points, including in each study course, indicating also the type of studies:

- Full-time studies: 20 credit points (30 ECTS credit points) in each semester;
- Part-time studies: 16 credit points (24 ECTS credit points) in each semester

The **first semester of studies** provides for the acquisition of knowledge corresponding to higher education and the content of the programme. Study courses such as Scientific Research in Economic Security, Financial and Tax System, Risk Identification, Theory and Management of Organisations, Management of Strategic Resources, National and International Legal Regulation of Credit Institutions, Commercial Law and Insolvency Law, Human Resources Management and Protection of Personal Data, Administration of Customs Cases, International Security, Economic Security Management, Financial and Tax Law, Financial Management will be implemented. The mastering of these study courses will provide an opportunity for students to continue the in-depth mastering of specialisation courses during the next semesters.

In the second study semester mastering of knowledge and skills of students mainly continues equivalently to the principles of the 1st semester in other and new study content topics in full-time studies amounting to 20 credit points (30 ECTS credit points), but in part-time studies – amounting to 16 CP or 24 ECTS credit points, implementing the following study courses: Management of Strategic Resources, Prevention of Economically Financial Crime, Criminological Characteristics in National and International Aspect, Economic Cyber Crime and Security, National and International Aspect of Prevention of Money Laundering, Terrorism and Proliferation Financing, Drafting of Regulatory Enactments and Document Management, Civil Defence and Environmental Protection, Professional English, Communication Psychology and Negotiation and Professional Relationship Building Skills, Analysis of Open Sources and Data, Tax Policy and Its Influence on the Development of Economy, Law of Cryptocurrency and Blockchain Technologies, Legal Order of Operational Activities in Latvia and Abroad, Methodology and Specific Character of Investigating and Combating Economic Crime, Specifics of Administrative Liability in the Field of Economic Security, Placement (in the amount of 6 weeks). The abovementioned principle of modules will be ensured in the implementation of the second semester study courses, ensuring supplementation of students' knowledge, skills and competences in a different direction, such as their Bachelor's education, thus ensuring proportionality and at the same time equalisation of knowledge, skills and competences among graduates from different directions of Bachelor's

programmes. In the second semester, the student will also start placement that will allow the acquired knowledge to be strengthened in practice, in a professional working environment.

This provides a link between the knowledge learned by the students and current needs and trends of the labour market.

During the **third study semester**, students are provided with placement to complete the consolidation of knowledge acquired in previous semesters in practice, develop practical skills and competences. Placement will make it possible to establish contacts with employers, as well as obtain materials for writing a Master's thesis so that the Master's thesis is drafted on an important problem for the sector and contributes to the development of the national economy.

In the **fourth study semester**, students guided by their supervisor and in cooperation with StP partners draft and defend their Master's thesis.

The fifth study semester is intended only for part-time regular students, during which students complete their placement and, like full time regular students, draft and defend their Master's thesis.

The study programme "Economic Security" is implemented at RSU and DU. The responsibilities of the parties with regard to teaching of courses are clearly shown in the programme planning in Annex 19.

Study placement is an essential part of the programme, placement takes place in law enforcement agencies competent in economic security matters. Placement in an institution is supervised by industry professionals. It would be advisable for a student to go outside his or her workplace to another related law enforcement institution for placement to ensure the transfer of knowledge competences and skills, to improve his or her professional skills and competences and also to introduce in his or her working environment the improvements that would result from such professional improvement.

Placement has placement regulations defining specific tasks, which are subordinate to the aim of placement and the aim of the study programme. Taking into account a student-centred approach, the student's placement site shall be evaluated individually, evaluating the capacity of the potential placement site and the possibilities of the student, as well as taking into account recommendations of the Ministry of the Interior. Employers will be actively involved in the implementation of the programmes by providing placements.

Placement aims to combine students' theoretical knowledge with the latest trends in the field of economic security and to develop their skills in ensuring economic security by linking it to the activities of a specific law enforcement agency. As a result of the placement, the student has strengthened and deepened the knowledge and practical skills acquired during studies to use in the prevention and combating of economic crime. During and after the placement, the student is able to link theoretical knowledge with the application of practical skills in the field of economic security.

The study placement ensures that the student is able to analyse complex cases, solve non-standard situations and find the most appropriate solution in their future professional activity. Thus, during placement the student supplements and deepens knowledge of the objectives and tasks of the placement site (law enforcement authority) in the prevention and combating of criminal offences in economics, internal regulations of the institution, operational processes and functions related to the prevention and combating of criminal offences in economics, explain and justify the operative activities and investigative activities of the law enforcement authority in the prevention and combating of criminal offences in economics. The student develops the skills to apply theoretical knowledge in the assessment of prevention and combating of criminal offences in economics, to implement preventive measures in risk environments and with risk persons, is able to develop and implement specific measures for prevention and combating of criminal offences in

economics, is able to independently follow changes in regulatory framework, assess the conformity of internal regulations, processes and methods of the institution with changes in external regulatory framework, draw conclusions and put forward proposals for improvement of cooperation and coordination of the institution with other departments. This focuses on the process of creativity, which creates new ideas that are useful to society when protecting economic security. In addition, transversal skills are developed to help acquire knowledge in different fields, as well as the ability to cooperate at all levels, build positive communication and gain personal authority.

Studies are personalised – different forms of studies exist, individual study plan, informative and material support, digitalised study process, placement at workplace, individual study courses, as well as opportunities are provided for continuation of studies at the next level of studies.

2.1.3. List and justification of the changes made in the study programme since licencing of the study programme.

The implementation of the licenced study programme started on 10 February 2023. No significant changes have been made.

2.1.4. Statistical data on students in the study programme and analysis and assessment of the comparison to the planned number of students within the licencing procedure (the analysis shall be broken down by different study forms, types, and languages).

In academic year 2022/2023, 11 students were enrolled during winter enrolment: 10 study for study state-funded study places, and one for privately-funded study place. 20 students were expected to be admitted to the study programme.

2.1.5. Employment opportunities of the graduates of the study programme.

The development of the knowledge economy requires strategic and intelligent investment of limited resources of Latvia both in the creation, acquisition and transfer of knowledge, as well as in the development of a society capable of responding to the challenges posed by global trends and finding new opportunities for growth. Public safety and securability is an essential foundation for sustainability and development. Public awareness of cyber security should also be promoted and will help mitigate potential cyber security risks and prevent cybercrime. The StP intends to address such civil security issues by strengthening the competence of the graduates of the programme, thus the priorities included in NDP 2021-2027 are in line with the tasks of the new StP “Economic Security” and provide sustainable influence for the development of the Latvian national economy.

Already in 2018, then-Prosecutor General of the Republic of Latvia Ēriks Kalnmeijers spoke about economic crimes and pointed out: “In the absence of high-level police, tax and customs police investigators, prosecution officers and judges, we can make any laws we want, we can make reorganisations we want, but there will be no results.”⁸ The study programme “Economic Security” aims to strengthen the capacity of law enforcement officers to prevent and investigate economic

⁸ Helmane, I. Ekonomisko noziegumu apkarošana: likumu netrūks, bet tie jāievieš. *LV portāls*. 8 June 2018. Available only in [Latvian](#).

crimes. The conceptual report “On the improvement of the education system of officials of law enforcement institutions” approved by the Cabinet of Ministers on 10 February 2022 indicated that increasing attention is being paid to combating financial and economic crimes related to money laundering and corruption, emphasising the necessity to develop a Master’s study programme with specialisations in operative activities in combating economic crimes, cyber security and prevention of money laundering and terrorism. The conceptual report highlights the number of specialists to be prepared in the study programme “Economic Security” in the longer term (after 2030), which confirms the interest of the state in supporting the implementation of the study programme in the long term.

3. Resources and provision

3.1. Description of the study provision, scientific support (if applicable), informative provision (including libraries), material and technical provision and financial provision and assessment of compliance with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and ensuring the achievement of the learning outcomes, and the changes made since the beginning of implementation of the study programme, their impact of the study quality.

Study base of the study programme “Economic Security”

In the process of planning and development of the study programme “Economic Security”, particular attention was also paid to the analysis and provision of the **study base** needed to implement the StP because the study programme is interdisciplinary and is implemented in civil security, law and management. Even previously, developers of PMSP “Economic Security”, including the Latvian and foreign experts involved, considered it essential to take into account examples of world good practice from Lithuania, Estonia and Poland, which show that a modern study base and infrastructure are essential for high-quality modern higher education. Such an approach identified and also provided the elements of the study base necessary for the full implementation of PMSP “Economic Security”, which are available and are developed since the introduction of the study direction.

Key elements:

- Auditoriums equipped in a modern way and maintained in good quality, which are fully compatible with the study methods planned for the implementation of study programme “Economic Security”, including e-learning environment, video lectures, online visiting lectures, debates, business games, innovative technological solutions in the study and teaching process, etc.
- The e-studies environment, which includes full study programme course information for both the study process and the achievement of learning outcomes, including practical tasks for the verification of knowledge in the e-environment, the assessment system in the e-environment, the provision of a platform for discussion in the e-environment, etc.
- RSU and DU Library (available [in latvian here](#) and [in english here](#)) appropriate for complete support of the modern study, scientific and research process, including for convenient availability of study materials on-site and online, quick ordering of new materials in accordance with needs of study programme “Economic Security” and content of study courses.
- Forensic laboratory, where forensic techniques can be mastered in practice.

- RSU Medical Education Technology Centre, which is the only simulation centre in Latvia and the largest in the Baltic States, with the right infrastructure and equipment in one place to ensure acquisition and improvement of skills, as well as implementation of simulation programmes in various sectors.

RSU support structural units and general staff for ensuring the study process provide a significant and complete support during the entire study process – starting from the [Faculty of Law](#), (english version [available here](#)) which supports the study process in general, the [Centre for Educational Growth](#), (english version [available here](#)) which consults and administers the development of StP, including provision of study materials in the e-learning environment and possibilities of continuing education for lecturers. The [Study Department](#) (english version [available here](#)) ensures the maintenance of study courses in RSU systems, provides methodical support to lecturers and creation of the timetable of study course classes (time and rooms), maintenance of the student information system, issuing of diplomas and reports on pedagogical work; the RSU Legal Department – review and approval of agreements of cooperation partners, etc., the Human Resources Department and the Finance Department – ensuring employment relations with and remuneration to lecturers of study courses; provision of an auditorium for classes and IT; Department of Infrastructure and [Information Technology Department](#) (english version [available here](#)). Significant support in work with foreign students is ensured by the [International Department](#) (SD) (english version [available here](#)) and the [Student Services](#) (english version [available here](#)). SD and the [Communication Department](#) (english version [available here](#)) are involved in provision of information about the study programme. Support to the study process is also provided by the Quality Assurance and Internal Audit Department, Research Department, Student Union. The work of RSU support structural units is effectively organised so that lecturers and the head of the programme can maximally focus on the implementation of study content and achievement of learning outcomes without any disturbances. RSU management is an important study base support point in planning and implementation of PMSP “Economic Security”, including, for example, university support and motivation in maintaining and improving qualifications of PMSP “Economic Security” teaching staff using different support mechanisms, as well as acquiring the innovation necessary in the study process.

The education process at DU is provided in the DU study building at Parades iela 1, Daugavpils, where the Faculty of Social Sciences is located and lecturers involved in the study programme work on a daily basis. The resources and provision of the study programme fully complies with conditions of the implementation of the study programme and for the achievement of learning outcomes. Resources available to students, including study rooms, material technical bases, tools and equipment (for the preparation, combining, integration, visualisation and dissemination of study and research materials), information networks (internet, intranet, Moodle), databases (library network, DU research centre databases, free access to databases (book resource database)), materials (research materials, scientific publications, including Web of Science and SCOPUS publications, archives), services (administrative, financial, IT and network support services, access to official statistics), computerised applications and software (Standart Office, SPSS, GIS, online data visualization tools and software, online communication tools) enable to learn all of the study courses in the programme, as well as perform research at different stages, provide a flexible and student-oriented environment. The programme uses the necessary technical equipment (computers with licensed software, projectors, interactive boards, etc.), different teaching methods are used (group work, role plays, simulations, seminars, discussions, etc.).

Informative and methodological base

The e-learning environment is used in the implementation of different forms of studies, where up-to-date information on general matters of the study process and materials to be used in the study process for students – links to internet resources (e.g. at.gov.lv; likumi.lv; lv.lv; etc.), individual PDF files (e.g. from court judgements, scientific articles) are published, and study substance tests for study substance, including interactive tests and situational games using H5P methods, are created, video lectures inserted using the Panopto tool are included.

As for the supply of RSU e-resources, two e-book databases and seven full-text multisectoral databases of journals are available for the study programme “Economic Security”. E-books in law, civil security, management, political science and other relevant thematic areas are available in subscribed databases *ebook Academic Collection (EBSCO)* and *Ebook Central (Proquest)*. For example, the database *ebook Academic Collection (EBSCO)* contains 18109 e-books, when searching by subject “Law”, but *Ebook Central (Proquest)* – contains 9158 e-books. Subscribed multidisciplinary databases *Ebook Central (ProQuest)* and *EBSCO eBook Academic Collection* offer e-books in different fields and from different publishers that provide selected information results searching by various topics/keywords.

The full texts of scientific articles in economic security are available in subscribed databases: *SAGE Premier 2021, Communication Source (EBSCO), Sociology Source Ultimate (EBSCO), PsycARTICLES (APA), Wiley Online Journals, Science Direct, Academic Search Complete (EBSCO)*. The single search engine Primo shows 1326 journal names in “Law”, 2224 journal names in “Business, Economy & Management” and 63 journal names when searching using the keyword “Security”.

Respective resources in the field of economic security can be searched also in bibliographic citation databases Web of Science and Scopus.

RSU students and academic staff are provided with a developed IT infrastructure and virtual study environment. RSU students and academic staff have access to:

1. E-studies environment, which contains study materials and where student knowledge is evaluated.
2. Student Portal, which contains the necessary study information and e-services.
3. Different IT solutions for ensuring remote studies and examinations, for example, *Zoom* and *Respondus LockDown Browser*.
4. Anti-plagiarism system Turnitin.
5. Academic portal containing information on academic staff, academic structural units, register of study courses and study programmes, survey system and feedback.

During the implementation of the study programme, material and technical resources are planned to be developed by investing funds into purchasing them as needed:

- accounting software,
- simulation programmes, including H5P, which foster mastering of theory close to practice,
- examples of cryptocurrency,
- forensic materials, which are used in the work of judicial experts,
- specialised computer software identifying malware,
- library resources as needed,
- resources for conducting study experiments, including means for practical studies in the circulation of electronic currencies; for conducting study experiments with cryptocurrency mining and blockchains, blockchain splits, network nodes and alternative cryptocurrencies, and investment opportunities in cryptocurrencies and their trading opportunities.

It is also necessary to attract an appropriate expertise for the development of the study programme, therefore it is planned to involve industry professionals and visiting lecturers in the

implementation of the programme, including IT specialists, providing adequate financial resources for that.

To develop mobility of students and lecturers, such as traineeships in Europol (European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation).

The development of the Master's programme is important for the scientific research activities of students and lecturers, therefore it is planned to provide the necessary support in conducting of doctoral and student research, drafting and publication of publications, attraction of consultants.

While RSU has the necessary material and technical resources to ensure a high-quality study process, they need to be developed, for example, by upgrading technical support in computer rooms so that each student has access to a computer for the study process.

It should also be mentioned that for the needs of the Faculty of Law, it is planned to develop the material and technical provision in the renovated building complex on Kuldīgas iela 9, which will also be used for the needs of the students of the programme, envisaging a financial contribution for the purchase of technical and special equipment.

Financial base

The RSU system for determining the financing necessary for the implementation of study programmes has been developed in accordance with the Law on Higher Education Institutions, Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 445 of 5 July 2016 "Regulations Regarding Remuneration of Teachers", internal regulatory enactments of RSU, etc.

Funding for all study programmes is used for remuneration of personnel, attraction of visiting lecturers, taxes, maintenance of IT infrastructure, acquisition of inventory and equipment, licences and scientific activities. In addition to the direct costs of conducting lectures and classes, the study programme should cover infrastructure (premises, IT solutions) maintenance expenses and other RSU's joint resources used in the study programme (Student Services, library, organisation of study process, grant to Student Union and other support and administrative functions).

The study programme will be implemented by RSU Faculty of Law and DU in cooperation with Medical Education Technology Centre, Faculty of European Studies, Language Centre.

The overhead costs for full-time study programmes are proportionally higher than for part-time programmes due to more intensive use of the RSU and DU infrastructure.

The tuition fee is determined equal to the State budget funding. Under the RSU discount regulation, an excellence discount may be granted, which would set the tuition fee at EUR 3,000 per year or EUR 6,000 per year for 2,0 years.

The planned number of students in the study programme is 30 students, incl. 20 budget students.

Information on student costs

Title	Value
Breakdown of RSU costs in the study programme:	
Remuneration costs, %	76.4%
Goods and services (incl. Licence expenses), %	1.3%
Depreciation of fixed assets of departments, %	0.4%
Overheads, %	21.9%

Professional Master's study programme "Economic Security" 2 years, full-time on-site studies, English

It is planned to finance the study programme from the funding of individuals and legal entities. The tuition fee at EUR 7,000 per year or EUR 14,000 per year for 2,0 years. Under the

RSU discount regulation, an excellence discount may be granted, which would set the tuition fee at EUR 3,500 per year or EUR 7,000 per year for 2,0 years.

The planned number of students in the study programme is 44 students.

Information on student costs

Title	Value
Breakdown of RSU costs in the study programme:	
Remuneration costs, %	72.1%
Goods and services (incl. Licence expenses), %	1.1%
Depreciation of fixed assets of departments, %	0.4%
Overheads, %	26.4%

Professional Master's study programme "Economic Security" 2,5 years, part-time on-site studies, Latvian

It is planned to finance the study programme from the resources of private and legal persons, setting the tuition fee of 2,760 EUR per year or EUR 6,900 per 2,5 years.

The planned number of students in the study programme is 55 students.

Information on planned student costs

Title	Value
Breakdown of RSU costs in the study programme:	
Remuneration costs, %	69.1%
Goods and services (incl. Licence expenses), %	1.8%
Depreciation of fixed assets of departments, %	0.7%
Overheads, %	28.4%

Professional Master's study programme "Economic Security" 2,5 years, part-time on-site studies, English

It is planned to finance the study programme from the resources of private and legal persons, setting the tuition fee of 3,960 EUR per year or EUR 9,900 per 2,5 years.

The planned number of students in the study programme is 55 students.

Information on student costs

Title	Value
Breakdown of RSU costs in the study programme:	
Remuneration costs, %	69.6%
Goods and services (incl. Licence expenses), %	1.5%
Depreciation of fixed assets of departments, %	0.6%
Overheads, %	28.3%

Material and technical base

For administrative efficiency, quality management and financial management the following e-solutions are used:

- Self-service portal HOP providing a wide range of e-services (coordination of invoices, absence planning and applications, duty trip applications and duty trip reports, material value management, etc.).
- Document management system, which ensures coordinating and signing of contracts, correspondence and other documents.
- The work execution management (WEM) system that includes continuation of work at shortening and simplification of evaluation survey will be replaced in 2022.
- In 2022, it is planned to purchase an invoice digitalisation service, thus maximising work and compliance with requirements of the EU directive.
- Additional QPR software functionality – *QPR Enterprise Architect* – software intended for improvement of RSU process management system has been introduced.

Students of RSU Faculty of Law mostly use the rooms of the following structural units: administration rooms, library rooms, rooms of the Department of Humanities, rooms of the Study Department at Dzirciema iela 16, rooms of the Medical Education Technology Centre and rooms of the Department of Welfare and Social Work at Anniņmuižas bulvāris 26a, rooms of the Department of Morphology at A. Kronvalda bulvāris 9.

Capacity and possibility of use of the buildings at Kuldīgas iela are developed for the needs of the Faculty of Law and the study direction “Internal Security and Civil Protection”, where potentially available rooms are the lecture halls of the 1st and 2nd floor of the training building (7–8 medium-sized lecture halls).

All training rooms of RSU are adapted for studies, are provided with environment accessibility, sanitary requirements are complied with, and the rooms are compliant at the highest level with other current provisions of laws and regulations on quality of training rooms.

The implementation of the study process in the Master’s study programme “Economic Security” at Daugavpils University mainly takes place in the DU building at Parādes iela 1. Students may use at least 25 different DU rooms: computer classes, auditoriums for tutorials, meetings, library rooms for literature analysis, preparation of independent and research papers, and specially equipped rooms for holding conferences with synchronous translation booths. The following infrastructure is provided for the implementation of PMSP “Economic Security”: apparatus and equipment (for the preparation, combining, integration, visualisation and dissemination of study and research materials), information networks (internet, intranet, Moodle), databases (library network, DU research centre databases, free access to databases (book resource database), materials (research materials, scientific publications, including Web of Science and SCOPUS publications, archives), services (administrative, financial, IT and network support services, access to official statistics), computerised applications and software (Standart Office, SPSS, GIS, online data visualization tools and software, online communication tools) enable to perform research at different stages, and provide a flexible and student-oriented environment. Auditoriums on Parades iela 1 meet the needs of the study process, are equipped with the necessary technical equipment (computers, video projectors, multifunctional devices, interactive boards) for use in both computer classes and other auditoriums for demonstrating lecture and seminar materials. A DU CISCO System Networking Local Academy computer class with new access technology; Technical resources of the DU Multimedia Centre are used in the study process and in the implementation of independent research projects. Large auditoriums are available to provide lectures and smaller rooms to organise discussions, seminars and group work. Students can communicate with teaching staff via email, Skype, Zoom or Moodle environment. Technical and methodological supplies of the study programme comply with aims and tasks of the study programme.

3.2. Analysis and assessment of the changes to the composition of the teaching staff (impact on the quality of studies, implementation conditions and compliance with the requirements of regulatory enactments).

Since licencing of the study programme ends in the autumn 2022, so no changes in the composition of teaching staff have happened, and the implementation of the study programme started on 10 February 2023.

3.3. In case of Master and Doctoral study programmes, specify and provide the justification as to whether the degrees are awarded in view of the developments and findings in the fields of science or artistic creative work.

Obtaining of a Master's degree is clearly based on scientific achievements and developments. The study process of PMSP "Economic Security" is divided: acquiring theoretical knowledge in regular studies, independent studies and learning of practical skills while studying.

Regular lectures teach theory; practical study courses teach students the skills to be acquired in practice through their practical participation. Practical classes build on the knowledge acquired in theoretical classes, thus strengthening the theoretical knowledge base and complementing professionalism with practical skills. Following the practical work, there is analysis in the form of discussions, where the student is able to identify their own strengths and weaknesses and those of other students, as well as to identify the mistakes and weaknesses made. Independent studies are a mandatory part of the study process of an institution of higher education, independent work of a student within the scope of a study course, the amount of which corresponds to the credit points of the study course. This includes mandatory and additional literature studies, the performance of routine tests, preparation for classes, seminars, test work and final examinations, etc., according to the description of the study course. The study process ends with the development of a Master's thesis, which requires the application of acquired theoretical and practical knowledge, the application of scientific methods and the drawing of newly discovered conclusions and proposals on the subject selected by the student.

RSU study courses are created and updated according to the procedures specified by RSU (RSU Process Description No. 34 "Updating and Development of the Study Courses, Study Programmes, Study Directions"). It is determined in accordance with the procedure that for 10 days before the beginning of the study semester updated study course descriptions for the relevant flow have been placed in the lecturers' portal.

Lecturers of the study programme independently prepare scientific and popular science publications, as well as lead and implement scientific projects. For more information and the list see [RSU ZDIS Pure system](#).

4. Implementation of the recommendations received during the licensing of the study programme

4.1. Assessment of the fulfilment of the plan regarding the implementation of the recommendations provided by the study programme licencing experts and the assessment of the impact of the given recommendations on the study quality or the improvement of processes within the study programme.

An overview of the implementation of the recommendations is attached in Annex 11. Most of study course descriptions have been reviewed, including by specifying readings for the Latvian flow and readings for the English flow separately. The possibilities of placement have also been reviewed within the framework of existing cooperation agreements concluded with State Police and State Revenue Service. Not all placements are necessarily related to the use of restricted access information. In addition to the industry professional competence, the English language and digital competences of the lecturers involved in the implementation of the study programme are regularly increased.