

## Latvia Section

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### Getting Closer to Industry

- The nature of industry in Latvia (mostly SMEs, does not value IEEE very high, especially if they are not involved in research or scientific activities, thus they do not support workers to be members of IEEE or any other large professional union) negatively affect the number and enthusiasm of industrial members.
- Latvia Section fostering Industrial Relations working with industry through industrial associations (e.g., Latvian Information Technology and Telecommunications Association, Association of Latvian Electrical Engineering and Electronics Enterprises) as well as through personal contacts of IEEE members in industry, pointing both local and international as well as industrial and academic nature of IEEE in Latvia.
- Section establishing new relations with industry through IEEE student/graduate student and PHD students, who are working in industry.
- Section invites speakers from industry at local IEEE events
- IEEE members and students are invited to different local industrial exhibitions and event

### Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- Students and Young Professional are involved in all major activities of Section and Chapters, incl. planning and organization.
- 3-5 conferences and summer schools are organized yearly for IEEE and non-IEEE students and YP free of charge.
- Students participation in SYP Congresses are always supported by the Section, as well as participation in local and international contests, e.g. Student paper contest, IEEEExtreme programming contest.
- Organized regular students visits to industrial and research institutions and collaboration trainings for pre-university students in electrical engineering and computer applications.

### Section Vitality

- Regular face-to-face ExCom meetings, planning Sections activities and special events, usually inviting students and guests
- Increasing efforts from chapters and societies to encourage students and young professionals
- Student competition programs, which provides IEEE student membership to awardees
- Co-sponsorship of scientific and popular events, like AIEEE Workshop, RTUCON, RTUWO, summer schools, with special IEEE prizes
- Direct mailing special events

### IEEE in Africa

- Traveling grants for students and young professionals from African academia or industry.
- Invitation of speakers from Africa to our local events (free of charge or with special rate)
- Delegate Sections volunteers to African events (on-line too)

### Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

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### Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Annual IEEE Latvian-Lithuanian Workshop on Advances in Information, Electronic and Electrical Engineering shows the continuous great success with its multidisciplinary scientific and research platform free of charge for students and young professionals.