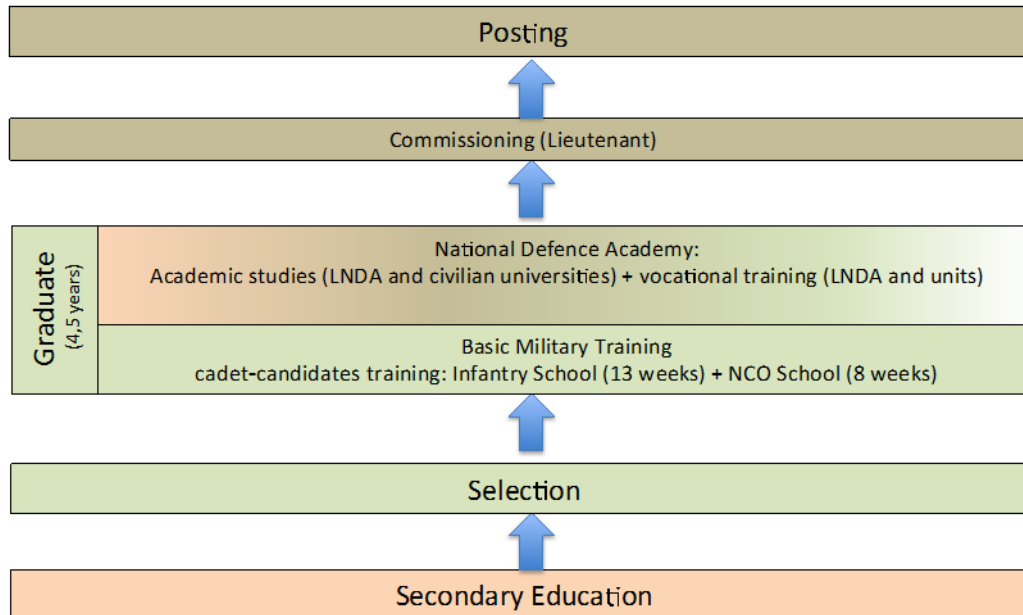




LATVIA

How to Become a Military Officer in the Latvian Armed Forces:



The basic education and training of the Latvian Army, Navy and Air Force officers is primarily the role of a joint institution, the National Defence Academy.

The Academy organises both the academic education and the vocational training of the cadets, in collaboration with civilian universities. By graduation from the National Defence Academy cadets receive a Professional Bachelor degree in Land Force, Navy or Air Force Military Leadership. The Diploma contains information on credits obtained during studies in credit points and ECTS credits.

In the vocational training Latvian National Armed Forces units provide also their support to the National Defence Academy.

AIR FORCE

National Defence Academy

(<http://www.naa.mil.lv/>)

Academic curricula

Undergraduate (basic education)	Air Force Military Leadership
Master (advanced education)	Professional Master degree in Military Leadership and Security

Military specialisations

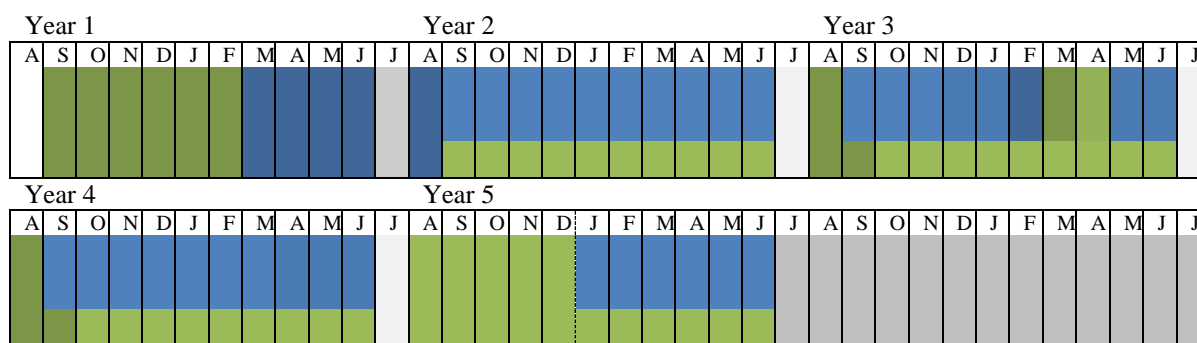
All specialties	National Armed Forces schools + Foreign countries
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Number of cadets first year: 25 (all services)

Total number of cadets: 18 (Air Force)

Organisation of the basic officers' education

Graduation:



Integration in the European Higher Education Area

Academic education:

Credit system			Learning outcomes (described and used)	Internal quality assurance mechanisms		External quality assurance mechanisms		Recognition of education taken abroad
Nature	Ba	Ma		Following the European Standards and Guidelines	Involving the students	National accreditation	Involving EQAR agencies	
ECTS	270	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Case-by-case

Vocational training:

Credit system			Learning outcomes (described and used)	Internal quality assurance mechanisms		National accreditation	Recognition of training done abroad
Nature	Ba	Ma		Following the European Standards and Guidelines	Involving the trainees		
None			Y	Y	Y	Y	Case-by-case

<u>Doctoral studies</u>	<u>Forefront expertise and research fields of the main institution</u>
The National Defence Academy does not organise the doctoral studies of the Latvian officers.	The National Defence Academy has the Centre for Security and Strategic Research. The main areas of research are: <i>political science, military history, economics, sociology, defence, military pedagogy, military psychology and operational art and tactics.</i>

An exchange culture

Number of military students sent abroad on an exchange in 2013-2014: 16 (all services)

According to recommendations prepared by the Study Accreditation Commission for accreditation of the LNDA bachelor and master study programmes, LNDA has to promote mobility of cadets and academic staff.

LNDA cadets take part in events organised by foreign institutions, such as cadets International Weeks.

The Academy also organises a number of European and international mobility events, such as International Weeks and exchange of modules.

Context:

Erasmus charter signed	Member of fora	Use of the framework arrangement	Joint degrees with European military institutions
N		N	N

Practice:

Academic				Vocational			Practice of full-curriculum mobility	Common modules proposed	Offer of "international programmes"
Sends students	Hosts students	Exchanges staff	Exchanges with civilian	Sends students	Hosts students	Exchanges staff			
N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N		N

Learning of, learning in foreign languages

At the National Defence Academy cadets learn military English during the first three years of their initial education. During and at the end of studies cadets are being tested by ALCPT. Their ALCPT skills should not be less than 70 points (NATO STANAG 6001 level 1111 equivalent).

As for Master programme, in their advanced education, students are requested to pass STANAG 6001 level 2222.

Command of the English at the end of basic education and training (CEFRL/STANAG 6001):

	Speak	Write	Read	Listen/Understand
Graduation curriculum	SLP 1	SLP 1	SLP 1	SLP 1

Before and beyond basic education

The cadets are recruited among the young nationals of less than 27 years old who are graduated from secondary education. Candidates must comply with medical, physical and psychological standards and successfully pass a selection exam, including English language tests.

In the course of their career, the Latvian Air Force officers will receive the following additional education and training:

- *Air Force Staff Officers Course (prerequisite for OF2);*
- *Joint Command and General Staff Course (prerequisite for OF4);*
- *Higher Command and Staff Course (prerequisite for OF6).*