
Counselling - Latvia

1. Current Situation resp. reform approaches in the field of vocational guidance and counselling

Vocational guidance and counselling is in an early stage of development in Latvia. Presently there are only few possibilities to get a qualified counselling. There are only some state-owned facilities offering advice to young people (e.g. in Riga and some regions). Organizations offering this service to adults scarcely exist. New instruments and methods have to be developed for this purpose. Presently some projects for life-long learning are implemented, some more are planned. The subject of career counselling is, however, irrelevant in this context.

In Latvia plans regarding reform of the system of vocational guidance and counselling do not exist presently.

2. Organizations offering counselling on vocational guidance for the crafts sector

Area	Institution	Type of counselling	Counselling	Special target groups
state-run employment administration	Profesionālās karjēras izvēles centrs (Vocational counselling centres in Riga and the regions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • counselling on career choice • aptitude test 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one-on-one interviews • group measures • information day 	pupils, apprentices, unemployed persons
	PIAP(state-run agency in Riga)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • counselling on training facilities at universities (in Latvia and abroad) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one-on-one interviews • Internet 	Pupils after secondary school
School facilities	Vocational schools	From our point of view there is no vocational counselling at schools.	The vocational schools fight for filling the apprenticeship places which is a difficult task in view of the demographic situation (decline in birth rate). Counselling comes off badly in this situation.	
Economic associations and organizations	Chamber of crafts Latvia	Counselling on career choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one-on-one interview, • group measure • fair 	pupils, apprentices, disadvantaged persons
Other organizations	private employment agencies	Apart from employment service no other counselling exists		

3. Craftspeople going abroad

Apprentices can participate in Leonardo Mobility Projects
Craft enterprises participate in fairs, cooperate regarding exchange of skilled employees or qualification measures abroad (making use of new technologies, interacting with new materials)
The target group does not use EURES counselling

4. Information sources for crafts sector on vocational training and employment chances abroad

Source of information	Kind of information
Information centre, homepage of Chamber of crafts Latvia	Further training, exchange programmes (esp. building sector) mainly focussing on Germany
Employers of their business partners abroad	Proposals for industrial placement
Magazines or daily newspapers like „Diena“, „Neatkarīgā Avīze“ etc.	Employment service abroad (England, Ireland, USA)

5. Potential users of MOBILINT training modules

not specified