

**LATVIA**  
**(Introduced in 2013)**

1. Legal basis			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regulations on Qualification Improvement and Continuing Training of Sworn Advocates, approved with 26/06/2012 Decision No 149 of the Latvian Council of Sworn Advocates;</li> <li>- entry into force: 01/01/2013</li> </ul>		
2. Training			
2.1. Basic information			
	Extent	min. 16 points (qualification hours) annually	
	Exemptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- within period of accredited master or doctor studies in Latvia or foreign universities;</li> <li>- within 3 years period after obtaining doctorate of Law;</li> <li>- for advocates who at least one semester in the year do pedagogical work in accredited Law studies program in Latvia or foreign universities – 4 points are required;</li> <li>- sworn advocates who previously were assistants to sworn advocates - within current and next year from the date of inclusion in the roll of sworn advocates;</li> <li>- in case of objective circumstances with the decision of the Latvian Council of Sworn Advocates</li> </ul>	
2.2. Activities and methods			
Activities	Courses	✓	- 1 academic hour (45 min) is equal to 1 point
	Language courses	✓	- 1 academic hour is equal to 1 point
	Teaching	✓	- 1 academic hour is equal to 4 points
	Writing/publishing	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- publication in a legal periodical or literature edition – 8 points;</li> <li>- published study or monograph – 16 points per author's sheet</li> </ul>
	Foreign training activities	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- foreign courses - 1 academic hour is equal to 2 points;</li> <li>- foreign teaching - 1 academic hour is equal to 8 points;</li> <li>- publication in foreign legal periodical or literature edition – 16 points</li> </ul>
	Other	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- speech with the report at the conference – 8 points, at the foreign conference – 16 points;</li> <li>- representation of the Latvian Collegium of Sworn Advocates in advisory councils or in permanent legislation working parties if the meetings in average per year take place once a month or more frequently – 16 points, if the meetings in average per year take place less than once a month – 10 points;</li> <li>- service in the institutions of the Latvian Collegium of Sworn Advocates – 4 points</li> </ul>
Methods	Availability of e-methods	N/A	
2.3. Course providers			

	Bar/Law Society	✓	The Latvian Council of Sworn Advocates
	Accredited providers	N/A	
	Other providers (free market providers)	✓	
<b>3. Assessment of training activities</b>			
N/A			
<b>4. Supervision</b>			
<b>4.1. Compliance procedure</b>			
	Regular control	✓	each year sworn advocate submits to the Latvian Council of Sworn Advocates affirmation about the qualification improvement activities in the previous year
	Random control	N/A	
<b>4.2. Sanctions</b>			
	Non-disciplinary	✓	The Latvian Council of Sworn Advocates explains to the sworn advocate the wrongfulness of the advocate's conduct
	Disciplinary	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- note;</li> <li>- reprimand;</li> <li>- suspension for a period up to 1 year</li> </ul> <p>It is currently considered by The Latvian Council of Sworn Advocates that advocates, who do not comply with the requirements of the qualification improvement activities, may be obliged to repeatedly pass the advocate exam</p>