

Cabinet of Ministers Order No 576
Riga, June 11, 2024 (prot. No. 24§ 4)

On Approval of the Constitution of the National Defence Academy of Latvia

1. In accordance with Section 10 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions to approve the Constitution of the National Defence Academy of Latvia.

2. To declare null and void the Cabinet of Ministers' Order No. 576 of 24 September 2015 "On Approval of the Constitution of the National Defence Academy of Latvia" (Latvijas Vēstnesis, 2015, No 189).

Prime Minister *E. Siliņa*
Minister of Defence *A. Sprūds*

Annex
Cabinet of Ministers
June 11, 2024
to Order No. 447

(Cabinet of Ministers'
June 11, 2024
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National Defence Academy of Latvia Constitution Preamble

The National Defence Academy of Latvia (hereinafter - the NDAL) was established on 13 February 1992. NDAL is a continuation of the history and traditions of Riga Higher Military School, a state-founded higher education institution, the legal status of which is defined in the Law on Higher Education, Section 7 Paragraph (2) and (2) (prim). The competence of the NDAL and its representative and management bodies and decision-making bodies, insofar as it differs from the competence established by the Law on Higher Education Institutions, as well as other issues related to its activities shall be determined by the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation of 7 November 2023 No. 643 "Rules of Operation of the National Defence Academy of Latvia".

I. General provisions

1. According to the typology of higher education institutions adopted in the Republic of Latvia, the NDAL is a higher education institution of applied sciences, and its strategic specialization is national security and defence. The NDAL performs scientific and applied research, and offers innovation and lifelong learning opportunities.

2. The official name of the NDAL in other languages:

2.1. *National Defence Academy of Latvia* (in English);

2.2. *Académie Nationale de la Défense de Lettonie* (in French).

3. The registered office of the NDAL is Ezermalas iela 8 B, Riga, LV-1014, Latvia.

4. The NDAL has its own coat of arms, flag, emblem, motto and anthem, as well as a seal with the NDAL coat of arms and the inscription "National Defence Academy of Latvia".

II. Main aspects of action and tasks

5. The NDAL aims to:

5.1. prepare professional officers for the National Armed Forces - leaders with high morals, honor and a sense of duty, who are able to successfully lead their subordinates and assume responsibility for the performance of tasks;

5.2. implement study programmes in professional higher education, producing knowledgeable, skilled and competent professionals in the military field;

5.3. conduct research in the field of national defence and security.

6. The main activities of the NDAL:

6.1. to implement study programmes;

6.2. to ensure the quality of education;

6.3. to develop scientific and applied research;

6.4. to offer lifelong learning opportunities;

6.5. promote the development of innovation and technology transfer;

6.6. promote international cooperation.

7. Tasks of the NDAL are as follows:

7.1. to create a development strategy based on the guidelines set by the NDAL Council;

7.2. in cooperation with the regular units of the National Armed Forces, to develop, implement and continuously improve academic and professional study programmes;

- 7.3. to determine the admission requirements for students;
- 7.4. to ensure the quality of studies;
- 7.5. to issue state-recognized higher education diplomas and other educational or professional qualification documents;
- 7.6. to conduct scientific and applied research in the field of national security and defence and present the findings to the public;
- 7.7. to pursue innovation, diverse cooperation with industry in the field of national security and defence;
- 7.8. to promote the involvement of academic staff in international cooperation processes;
- 7.9. to develop and issue the internal normative acts of the NDAL;
- 7.10. to develop, implement and continuously improve professional development and continuing education, formal and non-formal education programmes in line with the needs of national security and defence;
- 7.11. to implement exchanges and academic mobility of academic staff and students with other higher education institutions and foreign military training institutions;
- 7.12. cooperate with other institutions, bodies, non-governmental organizations, natural and legal persons;
- 7.13. organize conferences, seminars and other events in the field of national security and defence;
- 7.14. promote the patriotic consciousness of the staff, organize sports and cultural events.

8. In carrying out its tasks, the NDAL shall respect the academic freedom of students and academic staff insofar as it does not conflict with the rights of other persons, this Constitution and other laws and regulations.

9. Students have the right to choose and study the free elective part of their studies, to engage in research, and, in agreement with the Rector of the NDAL, to attend lectures at other universities.

III. Governance and decision-making bodies

10. Governance and decision-making bodies:
 - 10.1. The Council;
 - 10.2. Senate;
 - 10.3. the Rector of the NDAL;
 - 10.4. Academic Arbitration Court.

11. The Council is the highest collegiate decision-making body of the NDAL, responsible for the sustainable development and strategic oversight of the NDAL and for ensuring that the NDAL operates in accordance with the objectives set out in its development strategy. The organization of the Council's work shall be laid down in its Statutes.

12. The competence, establishment principles and functioning of the Council are determined by the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation of 7 November 2023 No 643 "Rules of the National Defence Academy of Latvia".

13. The Senate is a collegial governing body of the NDAL staff, which approves the rules and regulations governing academic and scientific affairs of the NDAL.

14. The Senate is composed of 13 members, nine of whom are academic staff representatives and three of whom are student representatives, and the Rector of the NDAL is a member of the Senate by virtue of his or her office.

15. The members of the Senate shall be nominated, elected and recalled by the General Assembly of Academic Staff and the General Assembly of Students.

16. The term of office of the members of the Senate shall be three years, unless a member has resigned or lost his or her seat and has been replaced by another member of the Senate. The term of office of the new member of the Senate shall be the same as the term of office of the current member.

17. The members of the Senate shall elect the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary of the Senate from among their number for a term of three years. The meetings of the Senate shall be presided over by the Chairperson of the Senate and, in his or her absence, by the Vice-Chairperson of the Senate.

18. The Senate shall be convened by the Chairperson of the Senate, not less than one-third of the members of the Senate or the Rector of the NDAL. The Senate shall meet at least once a semester. The Senate's work is governed by its rules of procedure.

19. Senate:

- 19.1. elect civilian staff to academic posts;
- 19.2. review and approve study programmes;
- 19.3. review and approve the internal normative acts regulating the study process and scientific activities;
- 19.4. review and approve the Regulations on the Students' Council;
- 19.5. establish councils or commissions to deal with academic and scientific matters and approve their statutes;
- 19.6. perform other duties prescribed by normative enactments.

20. Rector of the NDAL:

- 20.1. provide the management of the NDAL as a higher education institution and a component of the National Armed Forces;

20.2. plan and organize the activities of the NDAL in accordance with the requirements of the regulatory enactments and the Constitution;

20.3. report on the activities of the NDAL to the Council of the NDAL and its staff;

20.4. by order, ensure the implementation of the decisions of the Senate and the laws and regulations considered and approved by the Senate;

20.5. perform other duties of the Rector established by normative enactments.

21. The Academic Arbitration Court shall hear only the matters stipulated in Section 19, Paragraph 1, Paragraph 1 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions. The functioning of the Academic Arbitration Court shall be governed by the Rules of Procedure of the Academic Arbitration Court.

IV. Structure and staff of the NDAL

22. The NDAL is a state institution and a part of the National Armed Forces.

23. The NDAL has units for education, research and support functions. The Rector of the NDAL shall submit proposals for changes in the structure of the NDAL to the Commander of the National Armed Forces for approval.

24. The staff of the NDAL includes:

24.1. academic staff positions – military personnel appointed to academic staff positions, elected and recruited civilian employees;

24.2. general staff;

24.3. students.

25. The staff of the NDAL has the right and duty to promote freedom of study and research and to promote openness in the administration and activities of the NDAL.

26. The staff of the NDAL shall have the right to participate in decision-making and the elaboration of internal normative acts in accordance with the procedure laid down in this Constitution, to participate in meetings of the collegial governing bodies of the NDAL, as well as to express their opinion and be heard.

27. The staff of the NDAL shall have the right to participate in the elections and to be elected to the governing bodies of the NDAL.

28. The students of the NDAL have their own student self-government decision-making body - the Students' Council. It operates in accordance with the Regulations on the Students' Council approved by the Senate.

29. The management of the NDAL is obliged to support and facilitate the activities of the Students Council by providing it with funding of not less than one-twentieth of the maintenance costs of the NDAL.

30. The Students' Council:

30.1. represents and defends the interests of students;

30.2. represents the students of the NDAL in Latvia and abroad;

30.3. plans students' activities and request funding for them;

30.4. determines the procedure for the election of students to the collegiate bodies of the NDAL.

31. The decisions of the Students' Council are binding on the students after they have been approved by the Rector of the Academy.

Minister of Defence *A. Sprūds*