

# Latvia Section

## Getting Closer to Industry

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- collaboration collaboration with the largest professional associations (e.g., Latvian Information Technology and Telecommunications Association, Association of Latvian Electrical Engineering and Electronics Enterprises)
- organizing of Industry Tracks on Section supported conferences and events
- technical and financial sponsorship of local IEEE events with invited industry speakers
- organizing of industrial visits for pre- and university students

## Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- regular students visits to industrial and research institutions (e.g., contest for robots builders "Robotica", visits to Latvian Television, Incukalns natural gas storage)
- organization or support of student competition programs, which provides IEEE student membership to awardees
- collaboration trainings for secondary schools in electrical engineering and computer applications, promoting IEEE membership
- organization of the scientific events (open for non-members) with publications, included in IEEEXplore and indexed in WoS and Scopus (higher level students are interested in) and regional practical and scientific events with neighboring countries with social programs; Nordic cooperation would be beneficial

#### Section Vitality

- well organized team of volunteers, continuously expanding with new blood
- regular face-to-face ExCom meetings, planning Sections activities and special events, inviting non-IEEE important persons and students
- direct mailing special events
- organizing / sponsoring at least 3 international conferences and 5 local events yearly gives a good recognition level both locally and internationally

## IEEE in Africa

Collecting the best working practices from different regions of Africa and development of the working tools for African Sections is a key to success -the ideas, that works in EU of northern Africa may not work in central or south Sections. Traveling grants for students and young professionals from African academia or industry to R8 organized conferences can increase interest in IEEE membership, the same with the invitation of speakers from Africa to our local events (free of charge or funded by R8).

#### Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Vienna Office can organize promoting IEEE in EU and provide legal support for R8 Sections, e.g. visas to EU for non-EU volunteers, visiting R8 organized events; helping in foundation of IEEE legal entities in EU countries. Still, the main goal and the necessity of Vienna Office is unclear.

## Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback