*[Data that has been automatically pre-filled in the templates for the cover notes is based on the operational arrangements which have last been updated on 2024-03-22. Should the respective CID and/or operational arrangements have been amended in the meantime, please reach out to ECFIN-RECOVER.]*

*[DATE]*

*[AUTHOR (Organisation, not name)]*

**LV-C[C5]-R[5-2-1-r-] Reform of Higher Education and Scientific Excellence and Governance**

**LV-C[C5]-R[5-2-1-r-]-M[160] Higher education reform**

**Date of completion:** **Q4 2024**

**1) Context: description of the measure and relevant context from the CID annex** [text in full from the English version]

The objectives of the reform are to increase the international competitiveness of higher education institutions. The reform concerns structural changes in three pillars: (i) the governance through establishing a separate academic and strategic decision-making, involving external members; (ii) funding that shall be allocated according to the results achieved according to national priorities and higher education institution typology objectives; and (iii) human resources by developing a new and unified career model for academic and scientific staff in line with best global practice, promoting the attraction and retention of global staff, especially the diaspora in Latvia. By 31 December 2022, the measure shall ensure the entry into force of the regulatory framework for implementing the reform of the governance of the higher education system covering (i) higher education institution typologies and criteria for qualifying for a particular type; (ii) the procedure for the establishment and approval of higher education institution councils, the competence of the councils, while clarifying the competences of the Senate, the Rector and the Constitutional Assembly; (iii) the procedure for selecting and approving new university reactors; (iv) defining the strategic specialisation of higher education institutions . By 30 September 2023 at least four consolidation plans of institutions of higher education shall be approved and eligible for consolidation grants (investment: 5.2.1.1i. Research, development and consolidation grants). By 31 December 2024, the measure shall ensure the entry into force of legal provisions (i) introducing a new doctoral model; (ii) introducing cyclical institutional accreditation of higher education institutions and colleges; (iii) further development of the financing model for higher education and (iv) linking public funding to the results of the international evaluation of scientific institutions. By 31 August 2026, all state-founded higher education institutions shall implement the new governance model, including changes to the internal governing bodies, established the criteria for election of the rector in accordance with the requirements of the law, appointed a management team.

**2) Copy of the milestone/target wording** [text in full from the English version]

| Seq.num | Measure (reform or investment) | Milestone/Target | Name | Qualitative indicators (for milestones) | Quantitative indicators (for targets) | | | Indicative timetable for completion | | Reporting and implementation responsibility | Description of each milestone and target |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Unit of measure | Baseline | Goal | Quarter | Year |
| 160 | C5.5-2-1-r- Reform of Higher Education and Scientific Excellence and Governance | Milestone | Higher education reform | Legislative amendments entered into force |  |  |  | Q4 | 2024 | Ministry of Education and Science | The Parliament has adopted amendments to the Law on higher education and the Law on Scientific Activities and the Cabinet of Ministers has adopted amendments to related Cabinet Regulations in relation to: — Introduction of the new doctoral model in Latvia; —Implementation of the new academic career model in Latvia; —Implementation of cyclical institutional accreditation of higher education and colleges in Latvia; —3 pillar further development of the financing model for higher education;  — linking public funding to the results of the international evaluation of scientific institutions |

Verification mechanism:

A copy of the legislative amendments to the Law on Higher Education, the Law on Scientific Activities and the Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers or a link to the publication in the Official Journal, including a reference to the provisions indicating the entry into force and accompanied by a summary document duly justifying how the milestone (including all the constitutive elements) was satisfactorily fulfilled, with appropriate links to the underlying evidence.

Further specification: (if relevant)

**3) List of key evidence provided in FENIX**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Identifier [same as in FENIX] | Name of the evidence.  For legal acts please provide the full legal reference and date of entry into force | Short description | Link to the requirements below |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |

**4) Detailed justification**

*[Explain clearly how the achievement of the milestone/target is demonstrated by the evidence provided,* ***covering ALL elements of the milestone/target and the elements of the measure description that are directly or indirectly linked to the milestone/target’s requirements.***  *(e.g. the fact that (i) a certain institution had (ii) to accomplish something (iii) in a certain way in order (iv) to achieve a certain goal (v) by a certain date). Please provide* ***a clear link between all the below elements and the one or more evidence items listed above.***

Requirement 1: ‘[excerpt from the milestones/target or the measure description]’

*[Explanation of fulfilment]*

Requirement 2: ‘[excerpt from the milestones/target or the measure description]’

*[Explanation of fulfilment]*

Requirement 3: ‘[excerpt from the milestones/target or the measure description]’

*[Explanation of fulfilment]*

[…]

Contribution to the achievement of other elements from the measure description: [evidence related to the elements that are not directly addressing the M/T but in the measure, where relevant]