

Arkādijs Zvaigzne

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DOCTORAL STUDENT, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Higher Education, Inequality, Workforce Development

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Ph.D. in Education, Education Policy and Program Evaluation 2020 - 2026 (*expected*)

Advisor: Peter Q. Blair

Training in quantitative and qualitative policy and program evaluation. Courses in econometrics, microeconomic theory, machine learning, and big data analysis.

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Master of Science in Education, Higher Education 2019 - 2020

Training in quantitative analysis and international higher education. Courses in network analysis and quasi-experimental design.

RTU Riga Business School, Riga, Latvia

Master of Business Administration, Finance Specialization 2016 - 2019 Training in management, accounting, financial investing, and statistics.

Riga Stradins University, Riga, Latvia

Bachelor's Degree, European Economics and Business 2013 - 2016

Training in statistics, microeconomic theory, economic research methodology, macroeconomics, and European Union law

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

The Project on Workforce at Harvard

Doctoral Researcher 2021 - Ongoing

Conducting data analysis using administrative data on workforce training and preparation programs and their participants. Writing a report detailing and analyzing public jobs training in the US. Working on analyzing the match of college degree growth to changes in the labor market.

Harvard University

Researcher, BE-Lab 2020 - Ongoing

University of Pennsylvania

Research Assistant, Institute for Research on Higher Education 2019 - 2020

Researching the performance of Californian higher education, using federal- and state-level education data sets to review the performance of the system and institutions.

AFFILIATIONS

Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University

Graduate Student Affiliate

Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University

Graduate Student Affiliate

Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Harvard University

Graduate Student Associate

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia

Senior Expert 2021, 2022 - Ongoing

Drafting and validating with stakeholders a conceptual report on the reformation of Latvia's higher education funding system. The goal of the reform is to create a system that promotes equity, addresses inequality, and develops clusters of excellence in higher education.

RTU Riga Business School Education Innovation Lab

Research Director

2022 - Ongoing

Supporting evidence-based educational development and conducting process and impact evaluations of programs designed for supporting innovation development and training digital skills.

Dynamic University

Analyst-Consultant

2020 - 2021

Conducted research and wrote a report on the existing performance of Latvian postsecondary education in comparison with its region. Generated proposals for further reforms.

Coordinated and consulted the development of a consortium of three universities. Conducted a review of the existing capacities of each institution and potential for cost-sharing between them.

RTU Riga Business School

Director's Assistant

2017-2019

Organized the academic side of implementing a new interdisciplinary double-degree computer science program, and its accreditation

Handled the writing of the RBS accreditation process for the Central and East European Management Development Association accreditation

Developed and implemented structures for increasing academic integrity

Council of Higher Education of Latvia

Council Member, Project Expert

2016 - 2019

Provided commentary on policy proposals of the Ministry of Education and Science, especially in the fields of higher education financing and the reorganization of higher education institutions

Evaluated policy proposals in higher education from the viewpoint of them being in line with national policy planning documents

Assisted the Latvian accreditation agency on developing the new quality assurance system in Latvia

Compared the work of the Latvian quality assurance agency with counterparts in Austria and Portugal

AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Frederick Sheldon Travel Fellowship

Harvard University, Frederick Sheldon Travel Fellowship to research College Access and Its Labor Market and Civic Consequences for Low-Achieving High-School Graduates in Latvia.

Merit Scholarship

University of Pennsylvania

SKILLS

Programming Languages: R, \LaTeX

Statistical and Data Analysis Software: Stata, PowerBI, Tableau, Shiny

Languages: Latvian, English, Russian
