

Aija Žigure



Born

17 January 1952

Education

2002–2006 Doctoral Studies at the University of Latvia, Faculty of Economics and Management.

1970–1975 Latvian State University, Faculty of Economics – diploma for higher education in economics, statistics. Higher academic education equivalent to a Master's degree – economist statistician.

Additional education

2017–2018 Courses within the project “Top-Level Manager Development Programme”
2015 “New Data Sources – Big Data” course at the Latvian School of Public Administration (LSPA)
2015 “Process Management. Process Measuring, Analysis and Optimisation.” course at LSPA
2014 “Improvement of Managing Skills” course at LSPA
2000 European statistician training course “Added Value Through Strategic Management”
1997 “Economic Indicators” labour statistics training course of the United States Department of Labour
1996 “International Statistical System” course of the International Statistical Institute for leading statisticians
1995 “Management Changes and Development” programme of the Swedish consulting company OMNIA
1995 “Production and Analysis of Price Indices” training course of the Bureau of Labour Statistics of the United States Department of Labour

Work experience

1998–present President of the Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia (CSB)
1995–1998 Vice-President of CSB
1993–1995 Director of the Price Statistics Department of CSB
1988–1993 Head of the Trade and Price Statistics Section of CSB
1985–1988 Head of the Trade Statistics Section of CSB
1978–1985 Chief Economist and Deputy Head of the Summary Section of CSB
1976–1978 Chief Economist of the Summary Section of CSB
1975–1976 Economist of the Regional Statistics Section of CSB
1974–1975 Senior Accountant of CSB
1972–1973 Assistant at the Political Economy Department of the Latvian State University

Academic experience

- 2017–present Lecturer at “Turība” University, “Statistical Research Methods”
1999–2006 Lecturer at “Turība” University, “Quantitative Methods in Economics”

International positions

- 2018–present Member of the European Statistical System (ESS) Partnership Group.
The mission of the Partnership Group is to further the development of the European Statistical System through facilitating the work of the ESSC, strengthening the strategic capacity of the ESS and fostering co-operation within the ESS and beyond.
- 2016–2019 Member of the Statistical Commission of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, Rapporteur of the Commission in 2016–2017.
The Commission is the highest decision-making body for international statistical activities in the world.
- 2016–2019 Co-chair of the Eurostat High-level Group on Quality.
Contribution to the implementation of the Quality Declaration of the European Statistical System and work on the strategic directions for reviewing the European Statistics Code of Practice.
- 2014–present Member of the Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
Presentation of a report on the national statistical system and responding to questions of delegations during the interview on 18.06.2015 on Latvia’s accession. Presentation of the post-accession progress report on 20.06.2018.
- 2009–present Member of the European Statistical System Committee, representation of the national statistical institute of Latvia.
The European Statistical System provides professional guidance in the production, preparation and dissemination of statistics.
- 1999–present Participant of the Conference of European Statisticians of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.
During the 2015 conference, A. Žīgure was involved in the creation of the Bureau of the Conference as the most experienced director-general of a statistical institute within the region. This honourable responsibility serves as an international acknowledgement of A. Žīgure’s contribution to the field of statistics.
- 2015 I–VI Chairman of meetings of the Working Party on Statistics of the EU Council during the Latvian Presidency of the Council.
With the help of the CSB’s expert group 5 meetings of the Working Party on Statistics were chaired during the Latvian Presidency of the Council of the European Union.
- 2008–2012 Member of the Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics.
The Institute prepares information on issues related to education, science, culture and communication according to the needs of the member states for making decisions in the respective areas. It provides support to member states in the improvement of their statistical and analytical capacity. The Board of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics consists of representatives from 12 member states who are elected for a term of 4 years.
- 2005–2009 Member of the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.
The Bureau assesses the statistical work programme of the UNECE, as well as performs detailed research in various fields of statistics and takes part in

- the preparation of the work of the Conference of European Statisticians.*
- 2004–2009 Member of the Eurostat Statistical Programme Committee.
- 2004–2008 Vice-President of the International Association for Official Statistics of the International Statistical Institute.

Awards

- 2016 Certificate of Gratitude from the Cabinet of Ministers for significant contribution in ensuring Latvia's successful accession to OECD.
- 2015 Award of the Cabinet of Ministers for continuous and highly professional work and innovative approach to the development of the national statistical system.
- 2015 Certificate of Appreciation of the Ministry of Economics for contributing to the work of the Latvian Presidency of the Council of the European Union.
- 2012 Certificate of Gratitude of Prime Minister Valdis Dombrovskis for extensive contribution in the development of the national statistical institute.
- 2010 Cross of Recognition for merits in the development of the Central Statistical Bureau, as well as extensive personal contribution in the formation of statistical standards and methodology, thus facilitating the inclusion of the Latvian Statistical System in the European Statistical System.

Publications, reports

- 2019 II Conference of the University of Latvia – paper “New Opportunities and Challenges in the Use of Statistical Data”
- 2018 II Conference of the University of Latvia – paper “Recent Developments in Statistical Data Production and Quality of Data”
- 2016 X Conference of European Statistics Stakeholders in Budapest – report “Use of Statistical Information and Challenges in the Presentation of Statistical Information Presentation”
- 2015 II Conference of the University of Latvia – paper “Challenges and Development Areas in Official Statistics”
- 2014 II Conference of the University of Latvia – report “Courses of Development of Statistical Work Processes and Methods”
- 2014 I Conference of the University of Latvia – report “The Increasing Importance of Statistical Data in the Analysis of Business Development”
- 2010 II Conference of the University of Latvia – report “Quality and Methodology in Official Statistics”
- 2009 VI 59th Plenary Session of the Conference of European Statisticians in Geneva (Switzerland) – report “Experience of Statistics Latvia in Labour Market Forecasting”
- 2009 III Report for the High-Level Seminar in Cairo (Egypt) on European Statistics Code of Practice and the UN Principles of Official Statistics within the framework of the project “Institutional Capacity Building for the Central Agency for Public Mobilisation and Statistics (CAPMAS) and Developing the Legal Framework for Statistics in Egypt”
- 2009 I Eurostat/Statistics Netherlands Conference in Hague (the Netherlands) on the Recommendations for Further Development of the European Statistical System prepared by Task Forces funded by DGINS in 2006, report
- 2008 XI 10th Ordinary Session of the Governing Board of UNESCO Institute for Statistics in Montreal (Canada); report
- 2008 IX Forum of the Conference of European Statisticians in Skopje (Macedonia) on

	Human Resources Management and Training in the Statistical System; report on the experience of Statistics Latvia
2008 IV	UNSD/ Eurostat/ World Bank/ Statistics Norway International Conference “Climate Change and Official Statistics” in Oslo (Norway); report
2007 VII	“Statistical Challenges” meeting of the Eurostat Task Force in Brussels (Belgium); proposals for further development of the European Statistical System
2006 IX	Conference of the International Association of Official Statistics (IAOS) of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) in Ottawa (Canada); report
2005 XII	Eurostat Conference “Knowledge Economy – Challenges for Measurement” in Luxembourg
2005 V	91st DGINS Conference in Copenhagen (Denmark); report “Focusing on non-professional data users”
2005	Scientific publications of the University of Latvia – publication “Statistical and Management Problems”; publication “Analysis of Interests of Informal Data Users”
2005	Scientific papers of the Latvian Statistical Institute – publication “Efficient Training System – a Precondition for Improvement of Official Statistics”
2004 XI	OECD Forum on Key Indicators in Palermo (Italy) within the framework of the “Statistics, Knowledge and Policy” conference; report
2004 V	Conference “Development of Official Statistics: the Role in Market Society and the Process of Transition” in Zagreb (Croatia); report on the Latvian experience during the transition process
2003 II	Eurostat Forum “The Role of Statistics in the EU Enlargement Process” in Brussels (Belgium); report
2001 VIII	53rd Session of the International Statistical Institute in Seoul (Korea); report “How to Improve the Efficiency of Technical Co-operation Activities of Statistics”
2001 VI	87th DGINS Conference “Strategic Planning in the Context of Enlargement” in Madrid (Spain); report “Integration of Candidate Countries in the Current Decision-Making Process. A New Model for Working Together in the ESS”
2001 VI	Conference of European Statisticians in Geneva (Switzerland); report “Collection of Statistics in Small Countries – the Experience of Latvia”

Language skills

Latvian – native language

English – fluent

Russian – fluent

Professional interests

Production and analysis of price statistics and economic indicators, methodology of statistics

Development of statistical standards and methodology

Other interests

Reading, theatre, travel