

International Conference

“Human Biomonitoring as a Public Health Instrument: from Science to Policy Decisions”

Organized by
Rīga Stradiņš University
in cooperation with
the Ministry of Health and Human Biomonitoring Council of Latvia

Focus:

The conference will focus on the role of human biomonitoring in public health, the interpretation of scientific evidence, and its translation into evidence-based policy at national and European levels. It will provide a platform for exchanging experience, discussing results from Latvia in an international context, and strengthening cooperation between science and policy.

Target audience:

- National and international policy makers
- National and international researchers and scientists
- Public health, environmental and occupational health professionals
- Representatives of national authorities, laboratories and research institutions
- Doctoral students and early-career researchers

Date: 29.05.2026.

Time: 10:00-14:00 (local time), 9:00-13:00 CET

Venue: Hybrid / In presence: RSU Medical Education Technology Centre (Anņīņmuižas blvd. 26A, Riga)

Registration: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/1NRZtQuZWV>

Participation fee: Free of charge

TENTATIVE AGENDA

| Local time | Topic | Speaker |
|---------------------------|---|---------|
| Welcome | | |
| 10:00-10:15 | Opening by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">— Liene Ņikitina-Zaķe, Rīga Stradiņš University— Dzintars Mozgis, the Human Biomonitoring Council of Latvia— Ministry of Health - tbc | |
| Session: Yesterday | | |

| Local time | Topic | Speaker |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| 10:15-10:25 | Before HBM4LV: the historical background of human biomonitoring in Latvia and key activities of the project | Ivars Vanadziņš, project leader, RSU |
| 10:25-10:35 | Identification of high-priority human biomonitoring substances in the Latvian context | Lāsma Akūlova, Researcher, RSU |
| Session: Today | | |
| 10:35-10:55 | Pesticides, metals, persistent organic compounds and other substances: project findings | Inese Mārtiņšone, Leading researcher, RSU |
| 10:55-11:10 | Human biomonitoring in Europe: example from Germany | Marike Kolossa-Gehring Ruhr University Bochum, IPA |
| 11:10-11:25 | Human biomonitoring in Europe: example from the Flemish region | Liese Gilles – Flemish Institute for Technological Research |
| 11:25-11:40 | Human biomonitoring in Europe: example from Ireland | Alison Connolly, University College Dublin (online) |
| 11:40-11:45 | Questions and answers | |
| 11:45-12:15 | Break | |
| Session: Tomorrow | | |
| 12:15-12:30 | Human biomonitoring in Baltic countries: example from Lithuania | Loreta Strumylaitė, Principal investigator, senior researcher Lithuanian University of Health Sciences |
| 12:30-12:45 | Human biomonitoring in Baltic countries: example from Estonia | Hans Orru Professor of Environmental Health, University of Tartu |
| 12:45-12:55 | Key recommendations for advancing human biomonitoring in Latvia | Ivars Vanadziņš, project leader, RSU |
| 12:55-13:20 | Strengthening national human biomonitoring: a discussion with the Baltic countries Moderator – Linda Matisāne, leading researcher, RSU Latvia - Dzintars Mozgis Lithuania – Loreta Strumylaitė Estonia – Hans Orru | Panel discussion |
| 13:20-13:50 | Building bridges: the role of national data in advancing human biomonitoring from a global perspective Moderator – Linda Matisāne, leading researcher, RSU Latvia – Ivars Vanadziņš Germany – Marike Kolossa-Gehring Ireland – Alison Connolly Belgium – Liese Gilles | Panel discussion |
| 13:50-14:00 | Summary and closing remarks | <i>Representative of the Human Biomonitoring Council of Latvia</i> |