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A strong scientific network between Germany and Latvia

BfR and Latvian partner organisation renew cooperation agreement in Riga

The German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) has been cooperating for years with numerous international partner authorities in the field of consumer health protection – and is now also working more closely with the Scientific Institute for Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment (BIOR). From 21 to 22 October 2025, a delegation led by BfR President Professor Andreas Hensel visited Riga to further strengthen existing relations with the Latvian partner organisation.

Professor Hensel and BIOR Director Dr Olga Valcina signed a joint declaration of intent with the aim of establishing a scientific network, strengthening exchanges at the technical level and promoting scientific and technological cooperation between the two organisations.

During his visit to Latvia, Professor Hensel was also an honorary guest at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the Latvian University of Life Sciences and Technologies (LBTU). There he gave a lecture on current trends and causes of foodborne disease outbreaks. The LBTU is one of the largest and leading scientific universities in Latvia.

The scientific network is primarily intended to strengthen the quality of risk assessment and the professional qualifications of experts from both organisations. An important step in this process is encouraging professional exchange. To support this, a platform will be created for sharing information between the BfR and the BIOR. Another objective of the joint declaration of intent is to promote scientific and technological cooperation through future research and cooperation programmes. Thanks to such programmes, research results on topics of consumer protection and food safety are to be disseminated both within the scientific community and among the general public.

Further information on the BfR website on international cooperation

European and international co-operations

<https://www.bfr.bund.de/en/about-us/co-operation/european-and-international-co-operations/>

About the BfR

The German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) is a scientifically independent institution within the portfolio of the German Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity (BMLEH). It protects people's health preventively in the fields of public health and veterinary public health. The BfR provides advice to the Federal Government as well as the Federal States ('Laender') on questions related to food, feed, chemical and product safety. The BfR conducts its own research on topics closely related to its assessment tasks.

Name des internen Partners/(Studien-)Projektes (löschen, falls nicht benötigt)

Beschreibung des internen Partners/(Studien-)Projektes (löschen, falls nicht benötigt)

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