research Latvia
Value Through Knowledge

Latvijas Zinātnes padome

EXPERT INSIGHTS ON RESEARCH PROJECT EVALUATION AT THE LATVIAN COUNCIL OF SCIENCE AND USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELIGENCE, 2025

Latvian Council of Science, 2025

Summary

In the beginning of 2025, the Latvian Council of Science (LCS) conducted a comprehensive survey of foreign experts to evaluate their experiences with the scientific project evaluation process and gather feedback on the integration and regulation of artificial intelligence (AI) in research contexts. A total of 262 experts from 34 countries participated, representing diverse disciplines of science.

The findings reveal generally high satisfaction with LCS's professional communication and administrative processes. Experts particularly appreciated the responsiveness and competence of the LCS staff, which was often highlighted as a mitigating factor in overcoming challenges related to digital systems and evaluation logistics. However, criticisms were voiced regarding the usability of the evaluation platform and limitations in English-language accessibility.

The report also analyzes the evolving role of AI in scientific work. Nearly half of the respondents reported using AI tools, especially for proofreading and language support. Although experts acknowledged the utility of AI in research support tasks, concerns about accuracy of the obtained information, ethics, and potential misuse were prevalent. A majority supported the development of regulations for AI use in project writing and evaluation processes, with many emphasizing the need for transparency, accountability, and the safeguarding of confidential data.

Objective and tasks of the survey

The survey of foreign experts' opinions regarding their cooperation with the Latvian Council of Science (LCS) was conducted from February 3rd to March 3rd, 2025. The survey was developed by the Research Expertise Unit of the LCS, in collaboration with the Program and Project Analytics Unit.

The selection of qualified experts is an important step in the scientific evaluation process, ensuring the quality of the process. The selection of experts is regulated by the "Guidelines and Basic Principles of the Latvian Council of Science for the Selection of Foreign Experts for the Application Tenders of Research Projects (approved by the LCS Order No. 1-13/41 of 24 May 2022, https://www.lzp.gov.lv/lv/starptautiska-zinatniska-ekspertize)

The **objective of the survey** was to gather the opinions of experts serving for the Latvian Council of Science regarding **their experiences** with the **scientific evaluation** of research project proposals, as well as midterm and final reports, in order **to improve this process.** The survey also explored their **use of and attitudes toward artificial intelligence** in research activities.

The **tasks** of the survey were:

- to explore the experts' experience working with the Latvian Council of Science during the project evaluation process;
- to invite experts to share good practices in scientific evaluation of research projects in other countries;
- to gather expert opinions on the use of artificial intelligence tools in the research activities and the possibilities for regulating it.

The survey was created using the SurveyMonkey.com platform and tested during January and February 2025. On February 3, 2025, the survey link was sent via email to **428** foreign experts. A reminder email was sent on February 17, 2025, encouraging those who had not yet responded to complete the questionnaire. In total, **262 completed questionnaires** were received.

The survey asked respondents to indicate three demographic characteristics - gender, age and nationality - and to respond to or comment on 13 additional questions and statements.

The results of the survey analysis are structured as follows: the methodology used is presented first, followed by a discussion on potential risks and limitations. This is followed by a summary of demographic characteristics, analysis of statistical questions, analysis of jurisdictional questions, analysis of open-ended questions, and finally a section of conclusions and recommendations.

Methodology and risks

The questionnaire sent to the experts consisted of three demographic indicators, seven statistical questions, three experience evaluation (Likert scale) blocks of questions and seven open-ended questions. Each section was designed to balance structured data collection (for statistical analysis) with qualitative insights (for thematic analysis).

Analysis methods:

- **Descriptive Statistics**: Frequencies and distributions were calculated for categorical and Likert-scale items (e.g., age groups, types of evaluations, number of projects evaluated, satisfaction levels);

- **Thematic Analysis**: Open-ended responses were reviewed using inductive coding to identify recurring themes, concerns, and suggestions. This included the extraction of representative expert quotations to highlight key viewpoints;
- **Cross-tabulations**: Some variables (e.g., AI use vs. attitudes toward AI regulation) were analyzed in conjunction to identify patterns or divergences among subgroups;
- **Visualizations**: Data was supplemented with charts and tables to enhance interpretability, including bar graphs for programme involvement, project types, and attitudes toward AI.

The analysis identified a number of limitations and risks. Initially, it was important to make sure that the questionnaires received did not represent systematic anomalies, this was done by looking at demographic and statistical indicators, identifying and excluding duplication of comments. Challenges were also posed by language that was not always clear, grammatical and punctuation errors, technical inaccuracies such as unfinished comments. Qualitative analysis should always be alert to the challenges of possible subjective perspectives, misunderstandings and some inaccuracies in language and cultural understanding. Despite these limitations, the diverse participation and rich qualitative feedback provide a strong foundation for understanding expert experiences and identifying areas for future improvement in the LCS evaluation process.

The survey results offer valuable insights into the strengths and weaknesses of the LCS project evaluation process and expert perspectives on the use of artificial intelligence in research activities.

Results

A total of 262 respondents completed the survey, comprising 186 males and 76 females.

Table 1. The Number of Respondents by Gender

Gender of respondents	Number of respondents
Male	186
Female	76
Total	**262**

The majority of experts (49%) fall within the 45 to 54 age group, followed by 25% in the 55 to 64 age group. Notably, only two experts were under the age of 34.

Table 2. Number of respondents by age group

Age group of respondents	Number of respondents
25 to 34	2
35 to 44	52
45 to 54	129
55 to 64	65
65 to 74	14
Total	**262**

Respondents represented 34 different countries, with seven experts indicating one country of representation and five indicating two countries. The majority of experts were from Italy (42 respondents) and Spain (33 respondents).

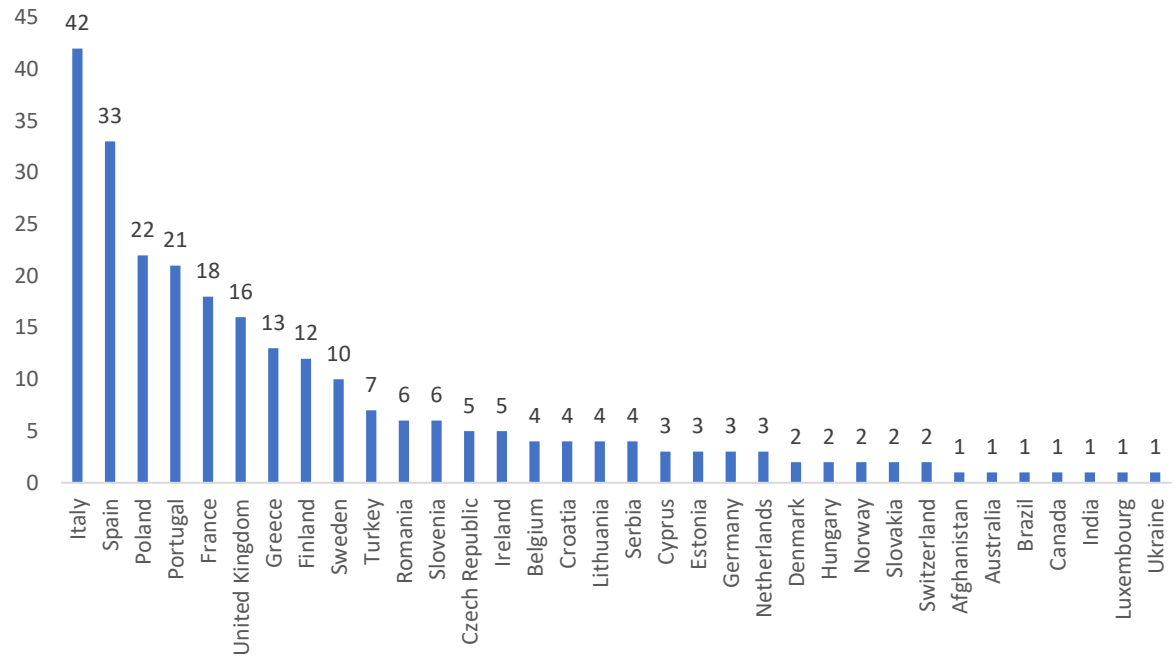

Figure 1. Number of Experts by the Country of Origin

Data collected from the answers to the **Question 4** "Please indicate the group of scientific branches in which you have provided scientific evaluation of project proposals during last calendar year" show that scientific evaluations were most commonly conducted in the natural and exact sciences, as well as technical fields, while social sciences and humanities were less represented.

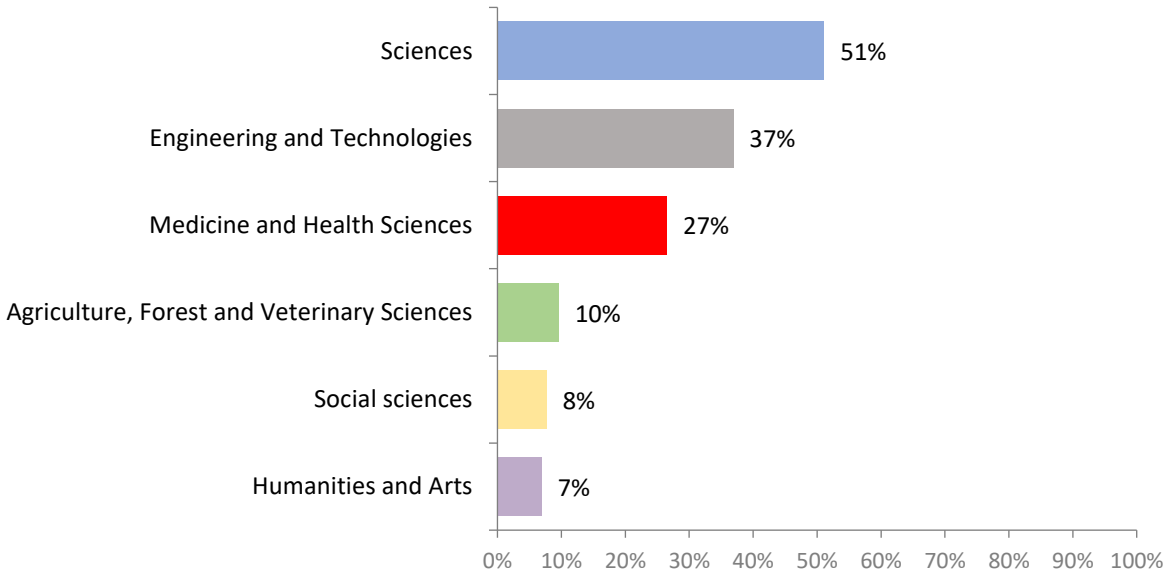

Figure 2. Fields of science in which projects were evaluated

Data collected from the answers to **Question 5** "Please indicate programs for which you have provided scientific evaluation of project proposals or mid-term and final scientific reports during the previous calendar year" show that Fundamental and Applied Research Projects were by far the most commonly evaluated, with 91% of respondents involved in assessing proposals or reports under this program. PostDoc programmes were the second most frequently mentioned, with 27% of respondents

participating in their evaluation. State Research Programme followed with 20%, indicating moderate engagement. Less commonly evaluated were: Latvian–Ukrainian cooperation projects, Latvian–Lithuanian–Taiwan cooperation projects, Other programs (specified by respondents).

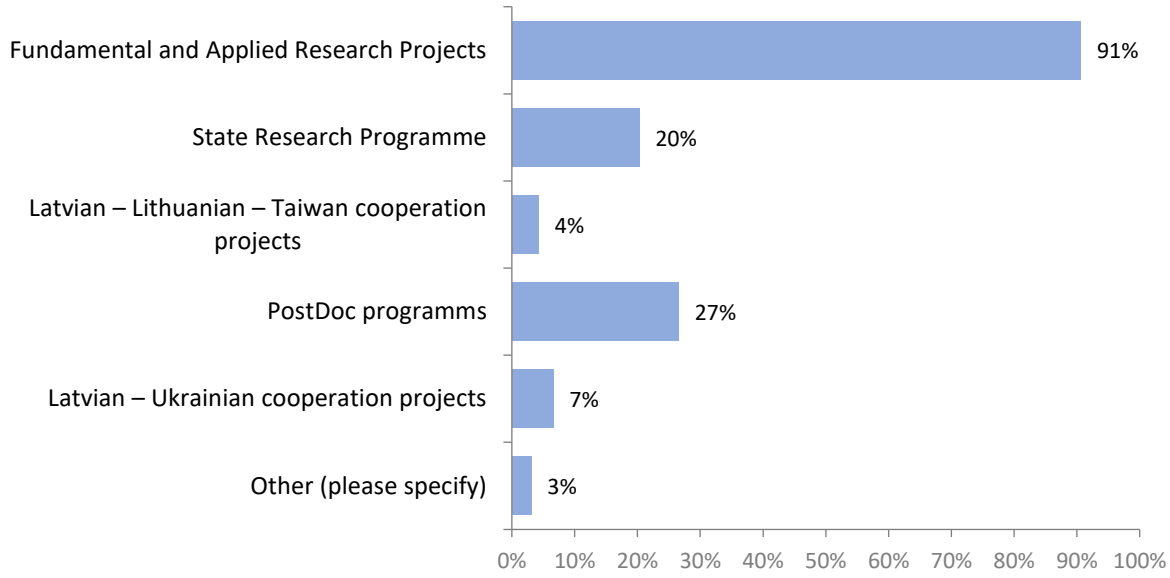

Figure 3. Scientific programmes assessed by respondents

Data collected from the answers to **Question 6** "Please indicate which type of scientific evaluation of projects you have carried out during previous calendar year" indicate that nearly all participating experts were engaged in project proposal evaluations, while significantly fewer were involved in assessing the progress or final outcomes of funded projects.

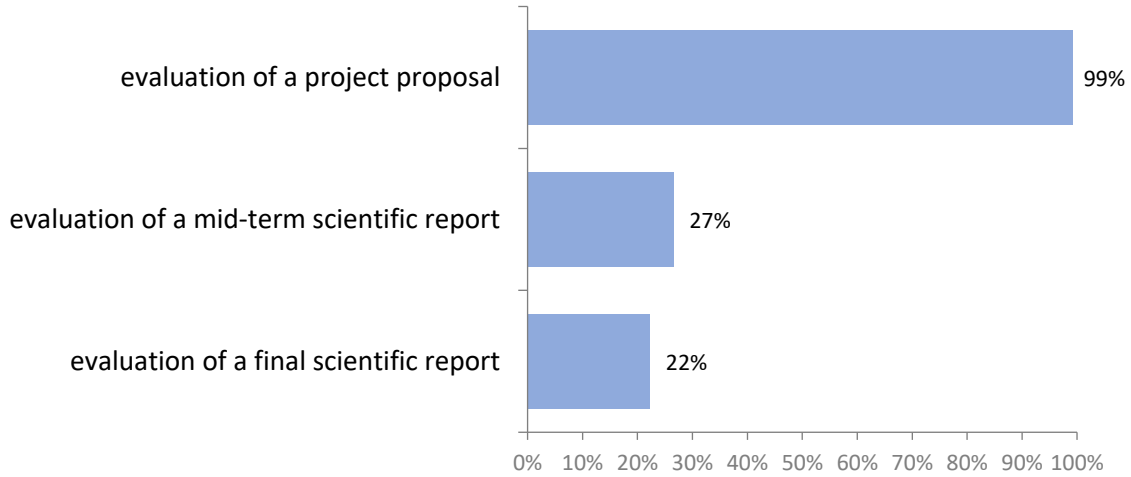

Figure 4. What type of scientific evaluation has the respondent carried out in 2024

The responses from the answers to **Question 7** "Please indicate the number of projects for which you carried out a scientific evaluation for during the previous calendar year" reveal a wide range in the number of projects evaluated per expert in 2024: The largest group of respondents (60 individuals) evaluated just one project, suggesting a significant number of experts participated in a limited capacity. This distribution suggests that while most experts were involved in the evaluation of 1 to 3

projects, there is a notable group of highly active evaluators handling a substantially greater number of assessments.

Table 3. Number of projects evaluated in 2024

Number of projects evaluated	Number of respondents
1	60
2	41
3	37
4	15
5	22
6	15
7	17
8	7
9	4
10	16
From 11 to 15	12
More than 15	10

Responses to **Question 8** "Please rate your experience with the cooperation process with the Latvian Council of Science (Please choose one option for each statement)" showed experts' experience during the collaboration with the LCS:

- **professionalism of communication** received the highest satisfaction: 98% fully agreed and 2% partly agreed that communication with the Council was professional;
- **contract conclusion process** was also highly rated: 91% fully agreed and 9% partly agreed that the process was simple;
- **time allotted for assessments** was generally seen as sufficient: 76% fully agreed and 22% partly agreed, though 1% expressed some dissatisfaction;
- **acceptance and submission of results** was viewed as smooth: 83% fully agreed and 15% partly agreed, with just 1% in partial or full disagreement;
- **ease of using the evaluation information system** had slightly lower ratings: 68% fully agreed, but 29% only partly agreed, and 3% expressed disagreement—indicating room for improvement in system usability;
- **remuneration adequacy** received the most critical responses: while 57% fully agreed and 36% partly agreed, 7% partly disagreed and 1% fully disagreed that the compensation was adequate.

Overall, respondents reported **very positive experiences** with the Latvian Council of Science, especially regarding **communication, administrative processes**, and **professionalism**. However, there is **moderate dissatisfaction** with the **evaluation system interface** and **remuneration**, suggesting potential areas for improvement in digital infrastructure and compensation policies. The results highlight a generally efficient and respectful evaluation environment, with minor areas needing attention to enhance the expert experience.

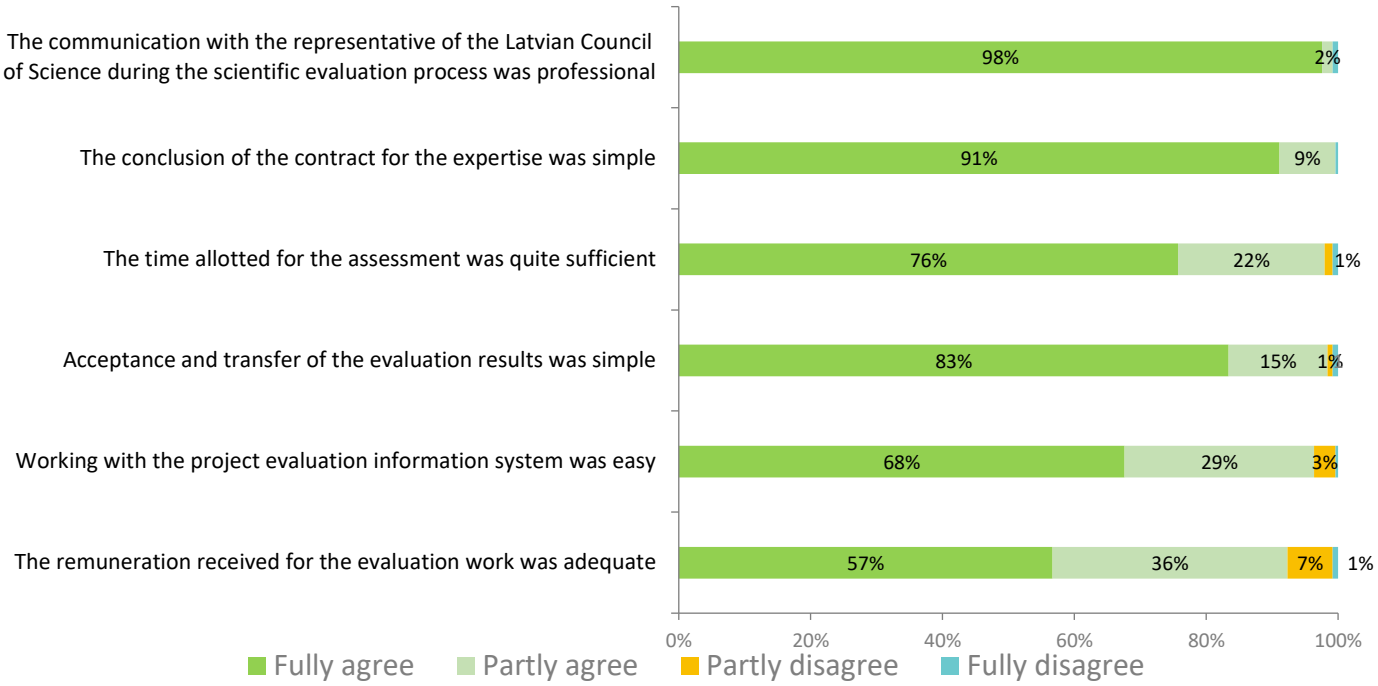

Figure 5. Expert experience with the cooperation process with the Latvian Council of Science

This question received 33 comments. Overall, the collaboration experience with the Latvian Council of Science was viewed positively. Experts appreciated the evaluation process, professionalism of LCS staff, and expert interactions among themselves. Nevertheless, some challenges were noted, such as issues related to remuneration, proposal evaluation and occasional complexities with the evaluation system.

About a half (17) of experts who provided comments described their collaboration with the Latvian Council of Science as positive, highlighting professional interactions and the intellectual stimulation gained from the evaluation process:

> *"I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with the Latvian Council of Science and would be delighted to do so again."*

Many experts acknowledged that the evaluation process was well-structured and straightforward. Several respondents noted that they received adequate support and found the procedures to be clear and easy to follow:

> *"The evaluation process is clear and straightforward. I received help when I needed it."*

Regarding remuneration, several experts mentioned that the payment was too low compared to other EU countries. Some also reported issues related to deductions and taxes, while two experts noted that they did not receive their payment as planned.

Regarding remuneration, the Latvian Council of Science (LCS) explains that the local reimbursement methodology is based on the European Commission's expert remuneration model. The compensation depends on the length of the project proposal and the anticipated project budget. Therefore, shorter and less costly projects receive lower reimbursement, as they require less workload and responsibility compared to larger projects.

A few experts noted concerns about taxation, with one stating:

“I had to pay tax on the payment when I don’t reside in the country – I don’t think this was appropriate.”

The Latvian Council of Science (LCS) clarifies that, at the beginning of each year and upon request, it obtains a certificate from the State Revenue Service confirming that taxes have been paid in Latvia. This certificate can be submitted in the expert’s country of residence to avoid double taxation. Additionally, LCS offers the option to pay the full amount without tax deductions if the expert provides a residency certificate verified by their local tax authority.
Regarding the evaluation system, several evaluators noted that it functioned effectively once they had become familiar with its structure and requirements:

“Once you get to know the project evaluation system (and find the way to change to English—sorry, cannot understand Latvian), it becomes quite straightforward.”

Despite these positive remarks, several experts identified areas for improvement—particularly in navigating the online evaluation platform. Some experienced technical difficulties accessing the system, including overly strict security measures and issues with two-factor authentication:

"A webpage that only opens on working days and working hours, and the excessive security control to enter, makes it very hard to enter. I have lost much time trying to enter. The 2FA did not work always, and I did not receive the OTP code or received it too late."

The Latvian Council of Science is well aware of the challenges related to the project evaluation system. As the system is currently under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education and Science, active efforts are underway to identify and implement improvements.

Regarding the time constrains, a few of experts expressed concerns that the time allocated for evaluation was insufficient given the complexity of the proposals. One expert remarked:

"Sometimes the turnaround time is less than two weeks, which is much too short."

Another expert emphasized the extensive preparatory work required before even starting the review process:

“I was called to serve as Rapporteur of one project only. However, the work was actually made up of three tasks: (1) overhead to read all documents of the Call (Objectives, rules, etc.), (2) reviewer, and (3) Rapporteur. It would have been worth it if I had received at least three projects, so that the overhead to read the Call documents and get used to the online evaluation tools would have been distributed over multiple projects and not just one.”

LCS explains that the usual time allocated for individual evaluations is two weeks, and one week is provided for the consolidated evaluation. In certain cases—such as when two experts cannot reach a consensus—LCS may invite an additional expert to act as a rapporteur. In these situations, the newly invited expert may face time constraints. LCS makes considerable efforts to prevent such cases from occurring.

Overall, while the evaluation process of the Latvian Council of Science is generally well-structured and supported by professional administrative staff, several areas require further attention. Experts noted technical issues in accessing the evaluation platform and raised concerns about remuneration. Addressing these challenges could improve the efficiency, fairness, and sustainability of the peer review process, contributing to a more balanced and positive experience for evaluators.

Summarising the data from the answers to **Question 9 "**Please describe your experience in preparing a consolidated expert evaluation" the majority of respondents indicated that they participated in a consolidated evaluation and found it **easy to agree with other experts**. The data suggests that most experts involved in consolidated evaluations experienced a **smooth and collaborative process**, indicating effective peer communication and consensus-building.

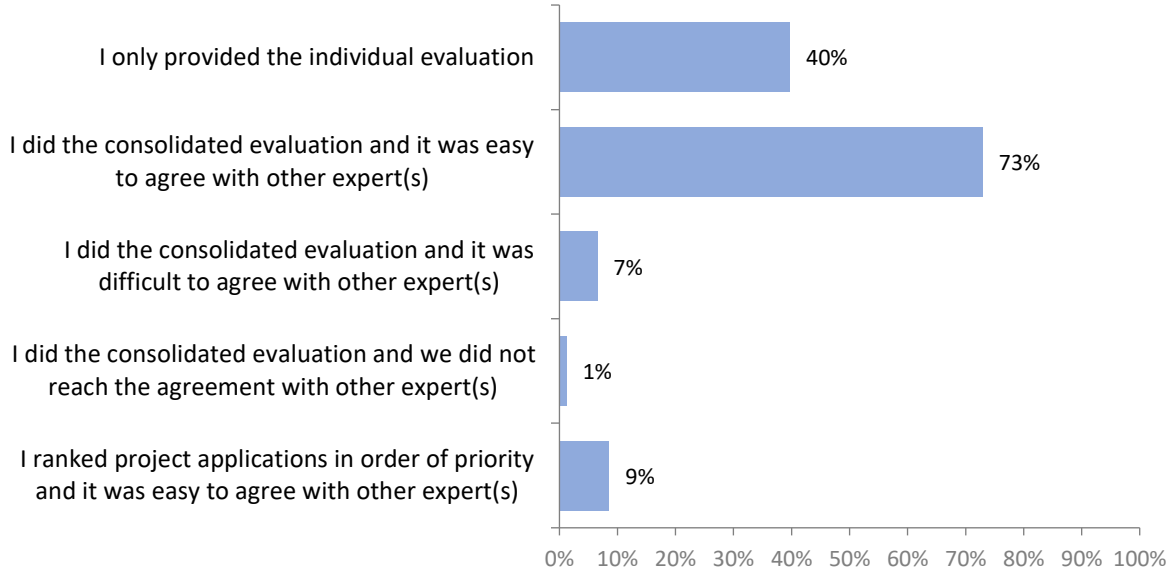

Figure 6. Expert experience in preparing consolidated expert evaluation

Question 10 "Based on your experience in attracting foreign scientific experts to the evaluation of research projects, please list examples of good practice from other countries, which the responsible institutions of Latvia could adopt as good practice**"** invited respondents to share their experiences and insights on engaging foreign scientific experts in research project evaluations. Specifically, experts were asked to provide examples of good practices from other countries that could be adopted by Latvian institutions. The responses offer valuable suggestions and highlight practical approaches used internationally to improve the quality, transparency, and effectiveness of expert involvement in evaluation processes. The analysis below summarizes key themes and recommendations identified across the responses. The question received 122 comments.

In their responses experts addressed several topics, including examples of good practices, the evaluation process and tools, as well as the support provided to experts.

Regarding good practices, experts shared feedback on their experiences with the Latvian Council of Science, highlighted examples from other countries, and emphasized the need to align with European standards.

Thirty-one experts reflected on their cooperation with the Latvian Council of Science. They described the Latvian evaluation system as professional, efficient, and transparent, noting that the procedures are smooth, well-managed, and aligned with EU practices, thereby ensuring fairness:

> "*In all honesty, I can think of good examples from my experience with Latvia that I could transfer to other countries but not the other way around. I think your systems is excellent and quite efficient. I wouldn't change anything in the procedure*."

Twenty-five experts also highlighted countries with notable project evaluation systems, including Poland, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Switzerland, the UK, Singapore, and the Czech Republic. They cited the following institutions as examples of good practice: TÜBİTAK

(Turkey), Croatian Science Foundation, UEFISCDI (Romania), European Research Executive Agency (REA), UKRI (UK), Luxembourg National Research Foundation, FCT (Portugal), ARRS (Slovenia), NCN (Poland), Swiss National Science Foundation, Czech Science Foundation, DFG (Germany), NWO (Netherlands), VR (Sweden), NIH (USA), Italian Ministry of Health, La Caixa Foundation (Spain), and the European Commission:

> "*I can recommend the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) and the Croatian Science Foundation as examples of good practice*."

> "*The UEFISCDI platform, from my country Romania, is more efficient compared to that of the Latvian Science Council and I obviously recommend that of the European Research Executive Agency (REA) by the European Commission*."

On the other hand, one expert mentioned:

> "*Overall, the evaluation procedure in Latvia is much better than in Serbia, Poland, and Romania*"

Two experts also emphasized the importance of adopting European standards, including the consideration of DORA (San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment) principles, and the implementation of CoARA (Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment) guidelines:

> "*If not done yet, adopt guidelines for research assessment as provided by the Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA) https://coara.eu/*."

It is noteworthy that the Latvian Council of Science is already a member of CoARA[1] and takes its guidelines into account when organizing the evaluation of project proposals.
Regarding the evaluation process and tools, experts discussed the evaluation methodology, the functionality of the digital evaluation platform, and reimbursement-related issues.
Regarding methodology of evaluation, 15 experts suggested involving multiple reviewers (at least two or three), organizing expert panel discussions before the final report is prepared, appointing a quality control observer to ensure evaluation standards, and allowing applicants to respond to reviewers' comments.

> *"(1) The use of a rapporteur is an important step in the evaluation process and should be retained. (2) Allowing the applicants a right to reply to the evaluators comments is another important aspect. These replies would then be considered part of the final evaluation process at the panel or interview stage. (3) Resubmission of proposals is utilised by several grant awarding bodies if there is an opportunity to do so. These can allow less experienced candidates a second opportunity to deliver a proposal that is considered fundable based on the feedback from the reviewers. (4) The need to ensure that the assessment criteria are reflected in the template for submission and the assessment sheets for the reviewers*."

LCS explains that each project proposal is currently evaluated by at least two experts. For more complex State Research Programme projects, three or more experts are involved in the evaluation process. Project panels are organized when a State Research Programme receives more than one proposal or when multiple proposals in the Fundamental and Applied Research Programmes receive the same number of points and need to be ranked. Currently, the Cabinet regulations governing these programmes do not mandate the organization of panel discussions in all cases of project proposal

[1] The Latvian Council of Science, & Kokorevics, A. (2025). The CoARA action plan of the Latvian Council of Science for the continuous improvement of research evaluation. Zenodo. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15172473

evaluations. However, the idea of introducing panel discussions more broadly in the evaluation process is a topic of ongoing discussion within the Latvian research community.
Four experts suggested the need to provide clear guidelines for new evaluators, offer training or educational resources on evaluation procedures, and organize preliminary briefings on both the evaluation process and the use of the online platform:

> "*In my opinion, it would be useful to arrange a preliminary briefing to present the overall evaluation process and how to use the evaluation website*."

LCS usually provides experts, especially newly engaged ones, with guidelines and video materials on how to use the system. However, it is understandable that these materials may be somewhat outdated, and improvements in this area are necessary.
One expert suggested that LCS could inform evaluators about final project decisions:

> "*It would be interesting to hear which proposals were finally funded*"

LCS clarifies, that as soon as the decision on funding is reached, the list of funded projects is published on the LCS webpage.
Eight experts commented on the use of the digital evaluation platform, suggesting that more efficient online systems for evaluation and document submission are needed:

> "*I'm overall happy with the process and approach such as the individual and consolidated reports which is not very common. But I think the online system could be simplified*."

The Latvian Council of Science currently uses two different platforms—one for the State Research Programmes and the Fundamental and Applied Research Programmes, and another for Postdoctoral Research Projects. However, for smaller international projects, no digital platform is available, and evaluations are conducted via email. The LCS acknowledges that this situation is not ideal and is actively seeking ways to improve it by identifying a professional and suitable platform for the evaluation process.
Sixteen experts commented on reimbursement issues, highlighting the need to increase remuneration to attract top experts, expedite payment processing, and differentiate compensation based on roles (e.g., rapporteur vs. expert):

> "*I have multi-year experience as an expert reviewer and I was positively impressed by the professional tools and approach of the Latvian Council of Science. As a suggestion, I would make it clearer when someone is asked to be Rapporteur that he/she also should work on the Evaluation as well. Also, I would better distinguish the reimbursement to take into account that it covers different tasks, i.e. (1) preparing for the role (reading documents, get familiar with the Call, learn the online tools), (2) Evaluation, and (3) Rapporteur*."

The Latvian Council of Science notes that expert reimbursement is a complex issue governed by an internal methodology based on the principles of the European Commission's expert remuneration system. This methodology considers three key components: the complexity of the project, the evaluation stage (proposal, mid-term, or final), and the expert's role—such as expert, rapporteur, panel participant, or panel chair. Consequently, reimbursement varies depending on the combination of these factors. In some cases, an expert may be invited to evaluate multiple projects, serving as a rapporteur for some and as a regular expert for others. To streamline the process, LCS aims to consolidate all expert fees into a single agreement.
Two experts expressed dissatisfaction with tax deductions from their expert fees, and two others commented on time constraints. A more detailed analysis of these and similar comments is provided

under **Question 8**: "Please rate your experience with the cooperation process with the Latvian Council of Science."

Overall, the Latvian Council of Science has received valuable feedback from experts, providing important insights on how to enhance the project evaluation process. Suggestions have highlighted the need to improve digital platforms, streamline administrative procedures, offer clearer guidelines and training for evaluators, and ensure a more transparent and equitable remuneration system. These insights will be carefully considered in future improvements to foster a more efficient, fair, and expert-friendly evaluation environment.

Questions 11 to 20 of the survey focused on experts' attitudes toward t**he use of artificial intelligence (AI) in scientific research.** This section explored current practices, levels of trust in AI tools, frequency and purpose of AI use, referencing habits, and expert opinions on the ethical and regulatory aspects of integrating AI into research activities and project evaluation processes. The responses provide valuable insights into how AI is currently used, perceived, and governed within the international research community.

Responses to **Question 11** "Do you agree with the following statements?" reveal a cautious but generally open attitude among respondents toward AI technologies, including tools like ChatGPT. Nearly half of the respondents (49%) expressed at least partial trust in AI, with a significant portion (38%) expressing partial disagreement. This suggests a cautious optimism, with room for trust-building through increased transparency and reliability of AI systems. Trust specifically in tools like ChatGPT is slightly lower, with only 42% partly or fully agreeing. The higher share of full disagreement (16%) compared to general AI indicates more scepticism about generative AI tools, possibly due to concerns over accuracy, bias, or transparency. The statement about permissibility of AI Use in Scientific Work received the highest level of agreement, with 62% of respondents believing that AI tools can be used in scientific contexts. This indicates a greater openness to integrating AI into research workflows, provided that ethical and methodological standards are met.

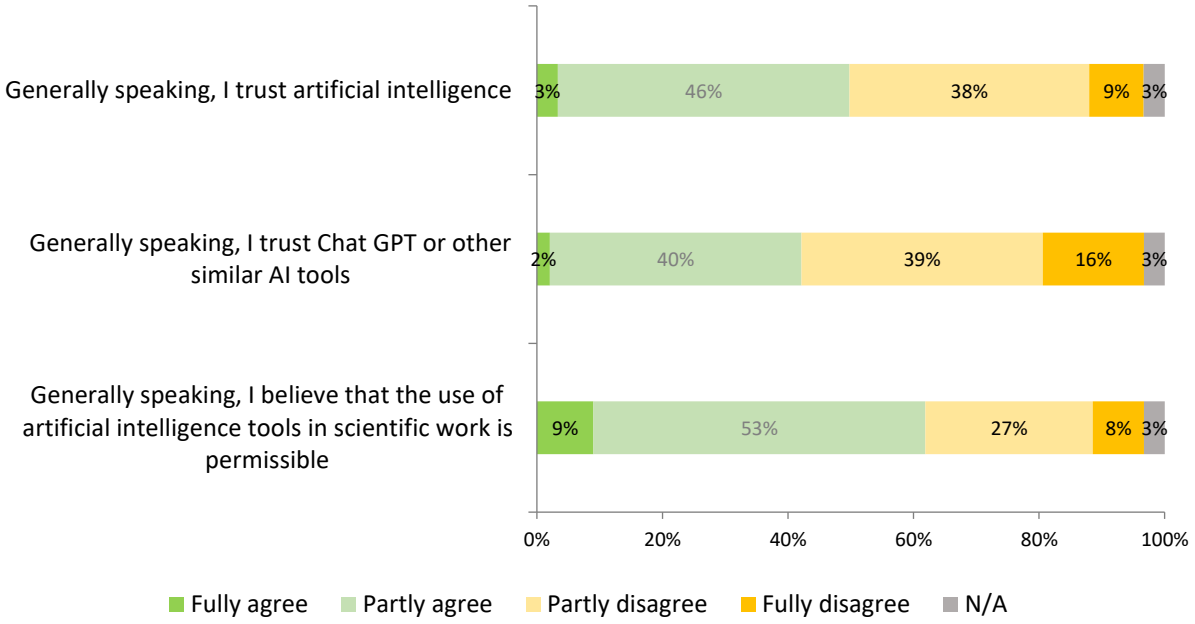

Figure 7. Experts' attitude regarding artificial intelligence

The results to the **Question 12** "Do you use artificial intelligence tools in your research activities?" how that 43% of respondents currently use AI tools in their research, while a majority (57%) do not. This

suggests that although AI is gaining traction within the research community, more than half of the experts have not yet integrated such tools into their scientific workflows.

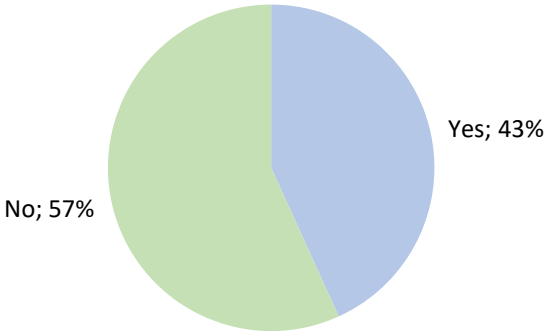

Figure 8. Experts' use artificial intelligence tools in their research activities

The responses to **Question 13** "Have ChatGPT or other artificial intelligence tools made your job easier or harder?" provide insight into how AI tools are perceived in terms of their practical utility. The vast majority of respondents (95%) found that AI tools—such as ChatGPT—helped ease their workload to some extent, with over three-quarters indicating a moderate improvement and nearly one-fifth noting a significant positive impact. Only a small portion (5%) indicated that AI tools made their work more difficult.

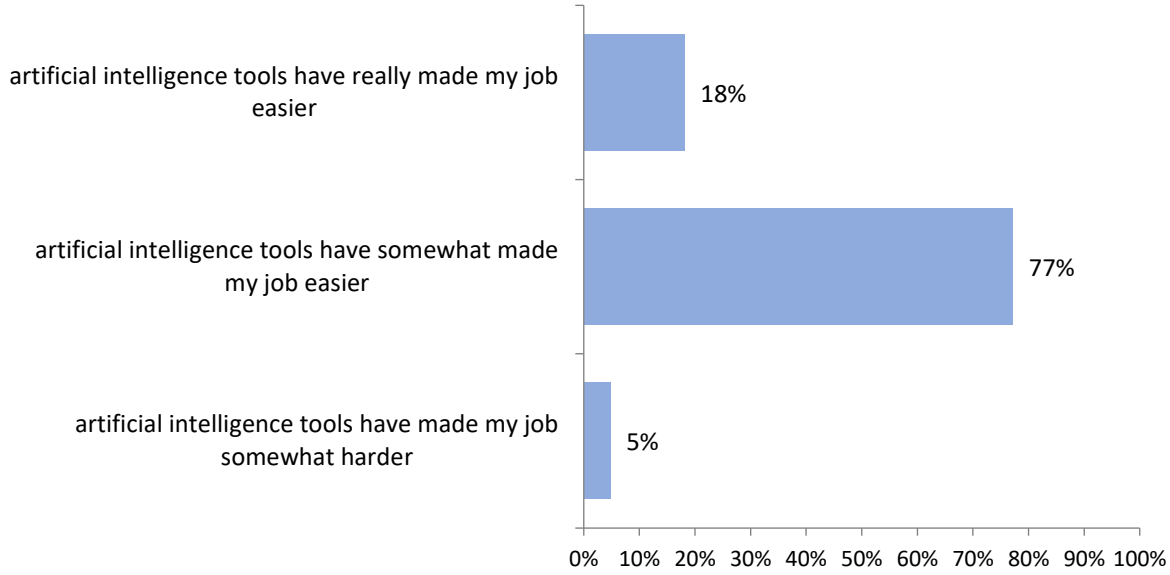

Figure 9. Experts' opinion on the impact of artificial intelligence on their work

This question received 47 comments. Only those experts, who admitted that they use AI in their research activities were directed to reply to this question.
Ten experts directly admitted that AI tools have made their jobs easier — for example, one stated:

"Using AI-based text correction programs such as DeepL makes my work easier."

In contrast, four experts stated that using AI has made their jobs more difficult:

> "*I have not benefitted much and it is becoming more tedious to check references as e.g. ChatGPT makes them up. Also, AI-generated manuscripts in review and publications are a problem*."

The majority of experts indicated that they use AI as a complementary tool to support various research-related tasks, including language refinement, proofreading, summarization, and the automation of repetitive processes. In particular, non-native English speakers benefit from AI-driven enhancements to clarity and readability in scientific writing, thereby improving the overall effectiveness of scholarly communication. Notably, twenty-one experts reported using AI specifically for proofreading:

> "*I use AI to check the text of my papers. It turns out to be a useful tool, providing suggestions that make my papers more readable and engaging.*"

Additionally, experts reported using AI for literature searches (3 experts), data analysis (3 experts), and code development (2 experts), all of which contribute to increased research efficiency:

> "*I use AI tools in two well-defined fields: (1) comparative literature analysis using scite.ai, and (2) writing Python code snippets for my data analysis tasks*."

Two experts also mentioned that AI is useful in teaching activities:

> "*generating teaching materials, exam questions, summarising reading*."

Nevertheless, experts expressed concerns regarding AI's potential to distort intended messages, generate inaccurate references, and compromise originality in academic work. Some experts highlighted that AI tools:

> "*They do not always provide the expected feedback*"

and that:

> "*Great care is needed to check everything*"

as AI-generated sources may be incorrect or non-existent.
Additionally, experts acknowledged the ethical implications of AI use in assessing project proposals, stating that AI has been:

> "*a hindrance in terms of evaluating submissions*"

and that:

> "*AI-generated manuscripts in review and publications are a problem*."

Experts emphasized the need for cautious and responsible use of these technologies, advocating for need of regulations:

> "*use of these tools should be regulated by the funding agencies*."

Overall, in the experts' view, AI is a valuable tool in teaching, data analysis, and administrative tasks. However, it cannot substitute for expert judgment and rigorous validation processes, which remain essential in academic and scientific endeavours. As one expert concludes:

"AI is excellent for checking writing and asking questions. However, the replies from ChatGPT must not be taken as fact. It is best to prepare one's own work and check it but not create work de novo."

In **Question 14** "Which artificial intelligence tools do you use for your research activities?" respondents were asked to indicate how often they use various AI tools. The results highlighted the prominence of specific platforms in academic workflows. **ChatGPT** and **Google Docs AI** are the most widely used, with a significant proportion of respondents indicating they use these tools either *often* or *sometimes*. Other tools such as **Perplexity**, **Claude AI**, **Scite**, and **Connected Papers** are used occasionally, while more specialized platforms like **Ideogram**, **Runway**, and **PikaLaba** show limited adoption. The responses reveal a general trend: while a few tools are integrated regularly into researchers' activities, the majority are still only sporadically used or remain unfamiliar to most users.

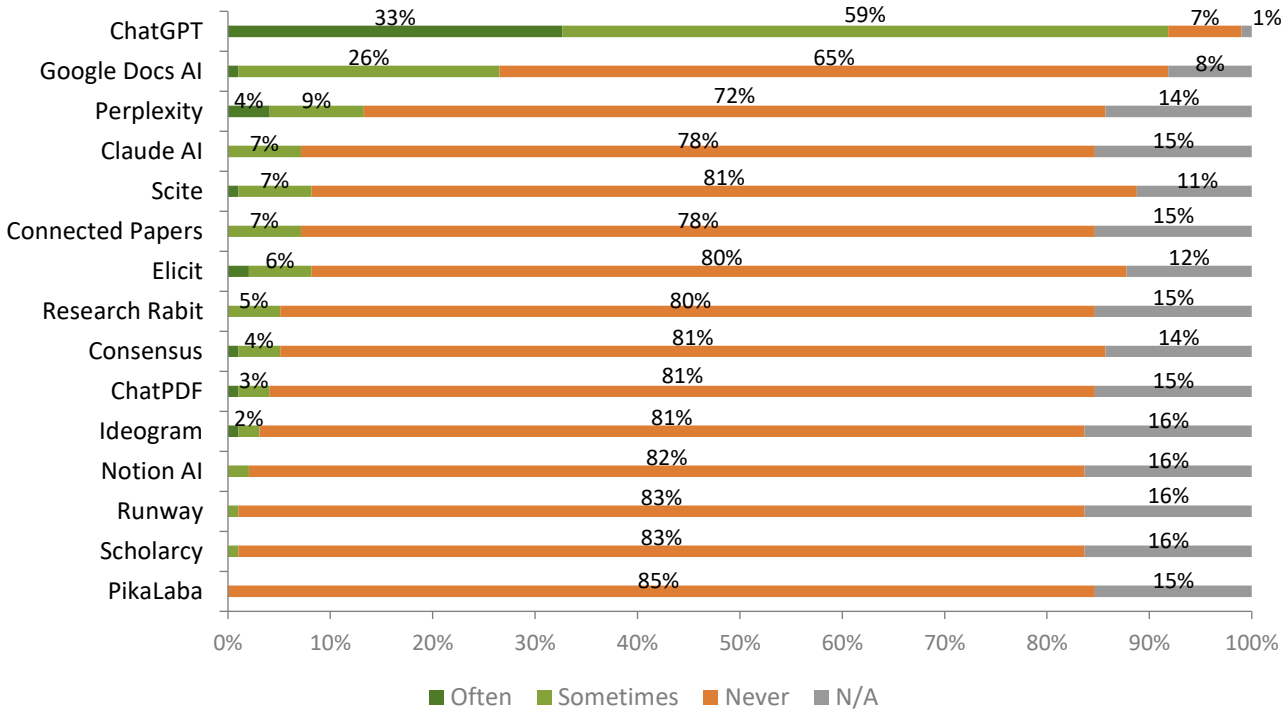

Figure 10. AI tools used in research activities

Answers to the **Question 15** "For what purpose do you use artificial intelligence tools in your research activities?" provide insights into how researchers utilize AI tools across different stages and aspects of the research process. The data suggests that while AI is becoming an integrated tool in **language-related and editorial aspects** of research—such as proofreading and writing letters—its use in **content creation, data analysis, and idea generation** remains limited.

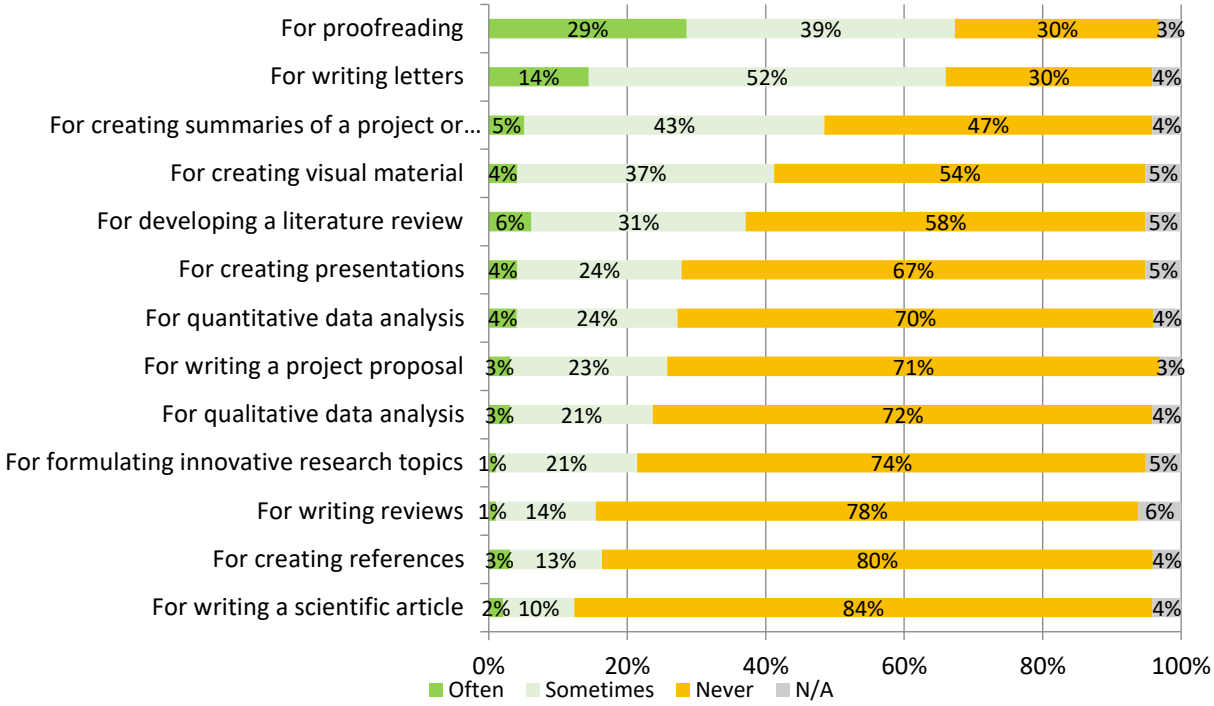

Figure 11. Purpose of AI usage in research activities

The question received 10 comments. Experts reported using AI for a range of research-related activities, including debugging programming code, identifying new research topics, optimizing literature reviews, and, notably, proofreading—particularly for grammar and clarity. However, they expressed scepticism regarding the reliability of AI tools in scientific contexts, citing frequent errors and inaccuracies. According to the experts, AI cannot yet be trusted to perform autonomous research tasks, and many prefer using more established or domain-specific tools for conducting literature reviews:

> *"I use AI for proof reading mainly. AI makes a lot of mistakes in research and I do not trust it at all. Maybe it improves in the future. However, for now, I avoid using it for research."*

Experts mentioned that, depending on the task, they use a variety of AI tools, including DALLE, Bing Copilot, Google NoteBookLM, Canva, Chat GPT. One expert emphasized the importance of responsible AI integration by sharing that he teaches his postgraduate students to use AI as a supportive companion in their research—enhancing, rather than compromising, the quality and integrity of their work.

Data from the responses to **Question 16** "Do you provide a reference if using AI tools in your scientific work" reveals a **divided approach** to referencing AI tools in scientific research:

- **A significant proportion (39%) of researchers consistently provide a reference** when AI tools are used. This suggests a growing awareness of academic transparency and ethical citation practices in relation to emerging technologies;
- **27% report citing AI tools only sometimes**, which may indicate uncertainty about when referencing is required or a lack of consistent institutional or journal guidelines;
- **34% never provide a reference**, meaning that over one-third of researchers either consider AI assistance too minor to cite or are unaware of the importance of acknowledging such tools. This could also reflect a perception of AI as a general utility (like spellcheckers or grammar tools) rather than a contributor warranting attribution.

The results demonstrate **inconsistent practices** around referencing AI tools in scientific work, reflecting both the novelty of these technologies and the absence of universally accepted norms. As AI continues to integrate into research workflows, clear guidelines and best practices will be essential to ensure responsible and transparent use.

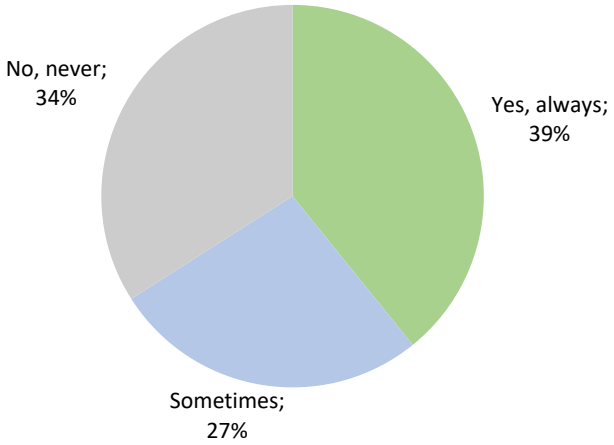

Figure 12. Experts' practices regarding citation of AI tools in scientific work.

This question received 18 comments. Experts offered insights into their reasoning for whether or not they provide references when using AI tools. The five experts who reported that they do provide references explained that they cite **all programs used**, particularly when:

- it is **explicitly required** by a journal or institution,
- the **information originates directly from an AI tool**, or
- the AI tool was used to create **images or presentation materials**.

> *"For example, if I use an image created by AI (usually with DALLE), I add the reference that it has been made with that programme in the presentations with my students."*

Seven experts admitted that they use AI as a proofreading tool and thus it is not necessary to make a reference:

> "*According to publishers' guidelines, there is no need to disclose the use of artificial intelligence if it involves text-checking and correction programs*."

One expert expressed strong skepticism about the need to provide references for AI tools, questioning whether their use truly warrants citation in scientific work:

> *"So far it has not been relevant. Any text has been so reworked and re-written before it gets to publication that there is little left of the original contribution."*

Five experts reported using AI for various purposes—such as searching for articles or supporting tasks that, in their view, do not require formal referencing:

> *"Haven't got to the point of publishing something that requires referencing an AI. If I got to that I would certainly do".*

Question 17 "In your opinion, for what purposes is the use of artificial intelligence tools acceptable in scientific work?" aimed to gather respondents' opinions on the appropriateness of using AI tools

across various scientific tasks. The data indicates that **researchers are most comfortable using AI in supportive or peripheral roles**, particularly in tasks that improve readability, enhance visuals, or streamline communication. In contrast, the **core content creation tasks of science—such as writing articles, reviews, and proposals—are seen as requiring human expertise and integrity**, with AI viewed as inappropriate or even potentially harmful in these areas. This reflects a nuanced view: while AI is welcomed for increasing efficiency and reducing manual workload, it is **not yet trusted to generate or shape scientific knowledge independently**.

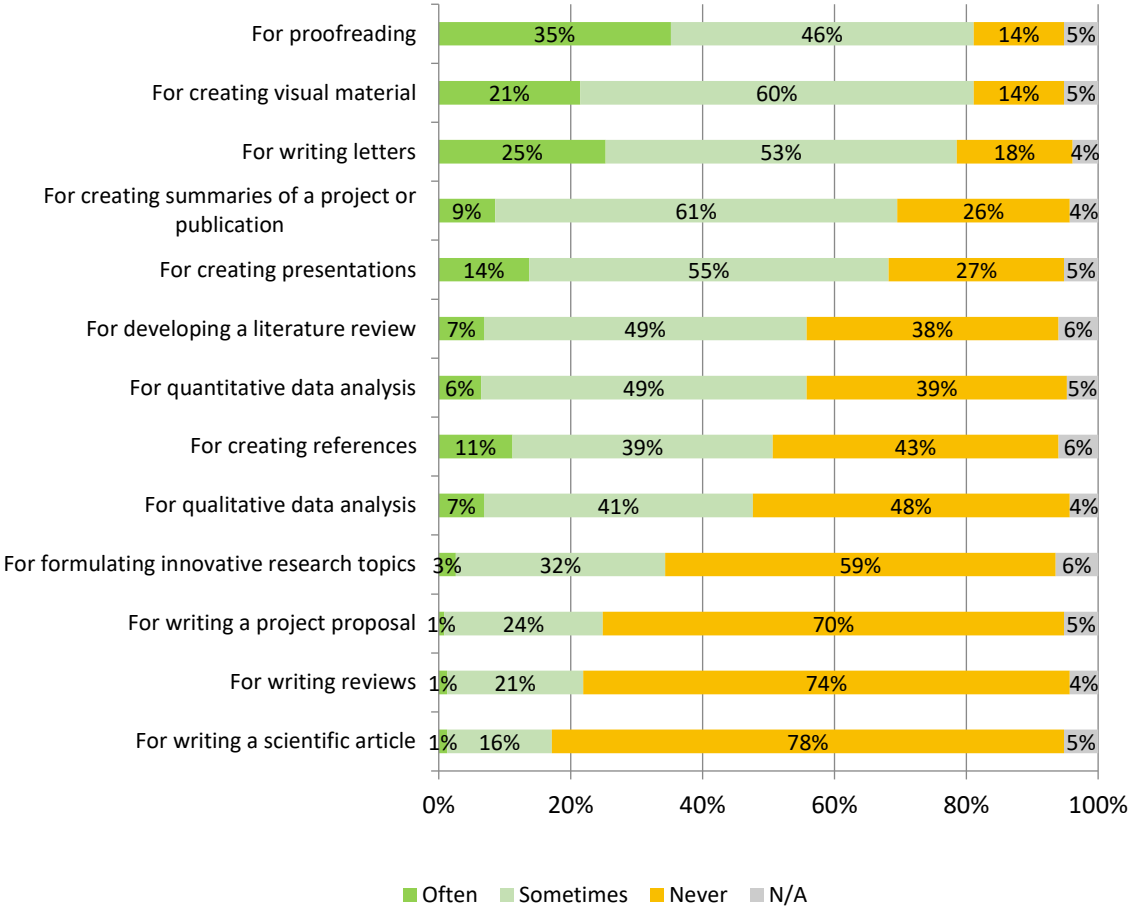

Figure 13. Perceived acceptability of AI use across different scientific tasks.

This question received 11 comments. The majority of experts perceive AI as a valuable tool for drafting and refining text, as well as for compiling large volumes of literature on a given subject. However, they do not view AI as a primary component of research writing. The experts emphasize the necessity of human oversight in all AI-driven activities, noting that content errors are common in AI-generated texts.

Additionally, they advocate for clear regulations and educational initiatives to guide researchers in the responsible and ethical use of AI within the academic community:

> *"As AI is revolutionising research internationally, we should not penalise it, but we should regulate it and guide and educate researchers in its use. I believe that AI is good if it is used to accompany research as it enhances it if utilised in this way."*

Data collected from the responses to **Question 18** "Is the use of AI regulated in the institution you represent?" illustrates respondents' awareness of AI regulations within their institutions. Only 33% of respondents confirmed that AI use is regulated at their institution, while a larger proportion (44%) indicated that no such regulations are in place. Additionally, 24% were unsure whether any AI-related policies exist. These results suggest a significant gap in institutional governance and communication regarding AI use in research environments.

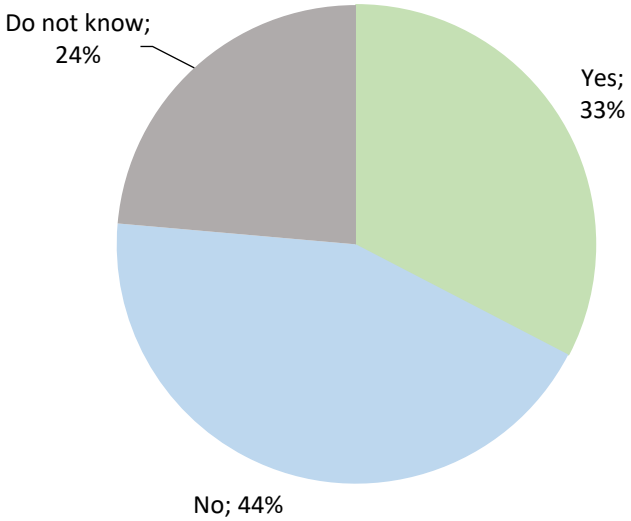

Figure 14. Awareness of Institutional AI Regulations

Responses to **Question 19** "Do you think that the Latvian Council of Science should regulate the use of AI in writing project proposals or midterm or final reports?" reveal **a strong consensus** among respondents regarding the need for national-level regulation of AI in research documentation. A clear majority—83% of respondents—believe that the **Latvian Council of Science should regulate** the use of AI in drafting project proposals and progress or final reports. Only 17% opposed the idea. These results indicate broad support for the development of clear and formalized guidelines to ensure responsible and transparent AI use in research-related submissions.

This finding aligns with earlier responses:

- In **Question 16**, participants showed a divided approach to referencing AI in scientific work, with only 39% always citing AI tools, highlighting the need for clearer citation standards.
- In **Question 18**, only 33% of respondents confirmed the existence of institutional AI regulations, while 44% reported none, and 24% were unsure—further emphasizing the regulatory gap at the institutional level.

Together, these findings underscore a widespread call for **clear, centralized guidance** on the responsible use of AI in scientific and administrative aspects of research.

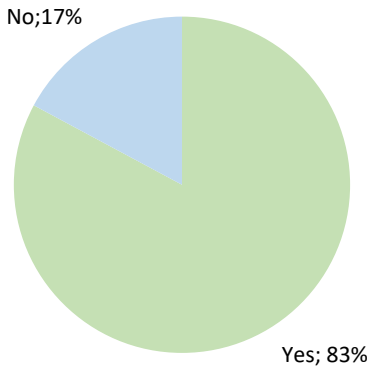

Figure 15. Support for the LCS Regulation of AI Use in Research Documentation

This question received 78 comments. Expert opinions ranged from strict prohibition to conditional acceptance of AI in research writing, highlighting key concerns related to ethics, transparency, and security. Overall, expert opinions on regulation ranged from advocating for clear guidelines to suggesting that the use of AI in scientific writing should be strictly prohibited. Thus, while three experts felt that formal rules are not necessary, fifteen experts clearly stated that the Latvian Council of Science should develop regulations regarding the use of AI in research:

> "*The use of AI in writing project proposals should be strictly defined, i.e., which activities with AI are permissible, and which are not*".

At the same time, five experts noted that guidelines explaining how AI use is permitted would be helpful. Fifteen experts suggested that the use of AI in project proposal writing should be either discouraged or outright forbidden. Two of these experts referred to policies from other institutions—such as the Research Executive Agency (REA) of the European Commission—which prohibit the use of AI in evaluation processes:

> "*I think AI should not be extensively used to produce pseudo-original material*."

Twelve experts noted that it would be difficult to monitor or verify the use of AI tools in project proposal writing, as there are currently no reliable tools available to detect such usage:

> "*But to my best knowledge, there are no tools to recognize with a 100% probability AI-generated / edited text. Therefore, the regulation will be difficult to realize*."

Fourteen experts said that the usage of AI tools in proposal writing should be referenced:

> "*At least the applicant needs to clearly state the use of AI tools in the writing/development of proposal or in the reporting*."

Nine experts stated that AI can be used as an aid for improving language or fastening some steps of the overall procedure. Four experts agreed that the final responsibility should always be with the authors of the project. But four experts raised ethical and breach of confidentiality issues:

> "*The main issue is to feed the AI program with confidential information. Any new plans, designs, ideas, especially those with IP potential, and also personal information, will be used by the AI program to train its algorithm, which means somebody can access that info if prompting the AI properly to get info on that research topic*."

One expert suggested that, in the end, the process might evolve into AI tools communicating with each other—one generating the project proposals and another evaluating them. Meanwhile, other experts emphasized that the quality of a proposal ultimately depends on its content and scientific merit, not on whether AI was used in its preparation:

> "*Even if a project proposal was written with the use of AI, it would be easy to evaluate if it is robust or if it is of bad quality*."

Ultimately, one expert emphasized that:

> *"project proposals should be written by scientists,"*

underscoring the importance of human authorship and responsibility in the research funding process.

Taking into account the rapid development of AI use in research activities, LCS included some clauses regarding AI in the "Regulations for the Open Tender for 2025 Fundamental and Applied Research Projects":

> "20. (…) *If the artificial intelligence has been used to create the content of the project proposal, the applicant shall be obliged to state it in Part B "Project Description", Paragraph 1 "Scientific Excellence" of the project proposal, including description of what AI tools were used to create the content of the project proposal and to what scope, and in what context it was used.*
>
> *The project applicant as a research organisation shall be responsible for the use of AI generated content use in preparation of the project proposal, including set research questions, developed methodology, content structuring, as well as results interpretation and evaluation.*
>
> *The project applicant shall be obliged to ensure credibility of the scientific research and statements and take responsibility for the originality of the project description content and truthfulness of facts.*
>
> *When using AI solutions, the project applicant shall be responsible for:*
>
> *- non-disclosure of personal data, sensitive and/or confidential information to AI systems of the third parties,*
>
> *- non-existence of prejudices and stereotypes and/or insulting information in the content created by AI,*
>
> *- trustworthiness of the content created by AI*."

Overall, expert opinions illustrate a broad range of views, from strict prohibition to conditional acceptance of AI in research writing, highlighting key concerns around ethics, transparency, and security. Thus, LCS stands by ethical principles and confidentiality in research activities as well as to the notion that the projects applicants are responsible for their own project proposals.

Data obtained from the responses to **Question 20** "In your opinion, should the Latvian Council of Science regulate the use of AI in the scientific evaluation process of projects?" indicates strong support among respondents for institutional oversight of AI use in project evaluations. A significant 77% believe that the **Latvian Council of Science should regulate the use of AI in the scientific evaluation process**, while only 23% disagree. This reflects a prevailing concern about maintaining fairness, transparency, and accountability in evaluation practices as AI becomes more integrated into research systems.

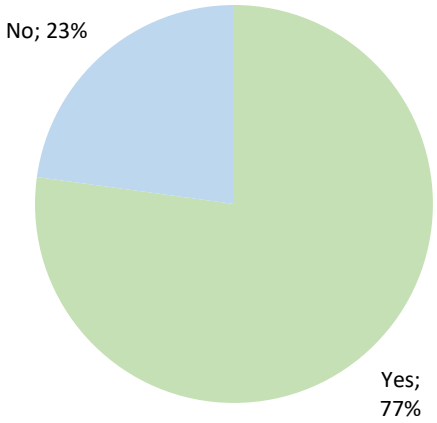

Figure 16. Support for Regulating AI Use in Scientific Project Evaluations

This question received 59 comments. In discussing the use of AI in the scientific evaluation process, experts highlighted several key issues, including the need for regulation and clear guidelines, as well as concerns related to confidentiality and responsibility.
Regarding regulations, expert opinions were divided: four experts believed that no rules are necessary, eleven stated that the use of AI in evaluation should be prohibited, and thirteen emphasized the need for clear regulations. Additionally, two experts suggested that regulatory efforts should begin at the project proposal writing stage:

> "*I think it should regulate it; but more importantly, it should first establish guidelines for recommendations on the use of AI in research, and that all researchers applying for projects, and evaluators that review them, should be informed.*"

Seven experts were not certain about the need for regulations:

> "*Again, difficult to give a definitive answer. I do not yet know how the integrity of the review process would be affected by such AI regulations ...it would be useful to first understand how and to what extent it is currently being used or abused."*

Three experts suggested that any use of AI in evaluation process should be disclosed, while six experts expressed the wish that some guidelines regarding AI use are developed:

> "*In my opinion, the Latvian Council of Science should regulate the use of AI in the scientific evaluation process of projects to ensure fairness, transparency, and integrity and also to establish clear guidelines on its appropriate use."*

Three experts admitted that AI may be used for extracting data from application forms like CVs, budget or for proofreading:

> "*Allow only the proofreading by AI (because in my case is very usefull correcting my grammatic etc errors)."*

Five experts expressed concerns about confidentiality issues related to the use of AI in the scientific evaluation process:

> "*The Latvian Council, and other organizations, must ensure project confidentiality. This confidentiality cannot be ensured at the present time by using open AI*."

Six experts emphasized that **project evaluations should be conducted by humans.** One expert explained the rationale behind this stance, stating:

> "*It is crucial avoiding project acceptance/rejections due to an incomplete or erroneous interpretation by AI of the info provided by PI/researchers. Sometimes projects are not perfectly written but the idea is valid and we, as reviewers, overcome the styling limitations looking at the concepts*."

This concern reflects **a broader, ongoing debate about the use of AI in high-stakes decision-making across various sectors, including judicial and legal proceedings, medicine, and public administration.** In these fields, critics have raised similar issues—questioning whether AI systems can fully grasp **context, nuance**, or **ethical implications** in complex cases. The worry is that over-reliance on automated systems could lead to decisions that lack human judgment, empathy, or accountability. In the context of research evaluation, as in these other domains, many experts argue that AI should serve as a **supportive tool rather than a decision-maker**, with humans retaining ultimate responsibility.
Two experts emphasized that it is the human evaluator who ultimately bears responsibility for the assessment process. They stressed that, regardless of whether AI tools are used for support, the final judgment and accountability must rest with the expert reviewer:

> "*I think it is important that reviews lead to funding decision and it is important that the responsibility sits with the reviewer*."

These topics reflect a broad spectrum of perspectives and considerations surrounding the integration of AI into the scientific evaluation process, highlighting both its potential benefits and the complex challenges it presents. Taking into account the rapid usage of generative AI in various research activities, LCS has decided to include in the contract with experts the following paragraphs:

> "*2.12 The Expert shall be responsible for the use of content of artificial intelligence (hereinafter – Artificial Intelligence) used in the preparation of the Evaluation, and ensures that the Evaluation comply with the European Commission Living guidelines on the responsible use of generative AI in research.*
>
> *2.13. The Expert shall undertake to ensure the reliability of the Evaluation. If the Expert uses Artificial Intelligence tools in the preparation of the Evaluation, the Expert guarantees that the author of the decisions made as a result of their use is the Expert.*
>
> *2.14. The Expert shall provide information on the use of Generative Artificial Intelligence tools, the purposes of using Generative Artificial Intelligence tools, as well as the algorithms used in the evaluation process, at the request of the Council.*
>
> *2.15. When using Generative Artificial Intelligence tools, the Expert shall ensure the protection and privacy of the personal data used and the confidentiality of the content included in the research proposal. The Expert shall ensure that personal data containing, sensitive and/or confidential information is not provided to third-party's Generative Artificial Intelligence tools, as well as ensure the absence of information containing prejudices and stereotypes in the content created by Generative Artificial Intelligence*."

Conclusions and recommendations

The survey of foreign experts' opinions regarding their cooperation with Latvian Council of Science (LCS) was conducted from February 3rd to March 3rd, 2025. The survey was developed by the Research Expertise Unit of the LCS, in collaboration with the Program and Project Analytics Unit.

The questionnaire consisted of three demographic indicators, seven statistical questions, three experience evaluation (Likert scale) block of questions and seven open-ended questions. The survey link was sent via email to **428** foreign experts. In total, **262 completed questionnaires** were received.

The findings of this survey provide a comprehensive overview of the experiences, expectations, and perspectives of foreign experts involved in the Latvian Council of Science's project evaluation process. The conclusions outlined below synthesize key insights drawn from both quantitative data and qualitative feedback. They highlight the strengths of the current system, identify areas requiring improvement, and reflect expert opinions on the evolving role of artificial intelligence in research.

Main findings:

- **overall** experts **report a positive experience** with the Latvian Council of Science, with **communication** and **professionalism** being key strengths. Administrative support is generally adequate, though digital tool usability presents an area for improvement;
- technical difficulties and user **interface issues with the project evaluation platform** should be addressed, including language accessibility and two-factor authentication;
- potential to **expand expert engagement** through internal databases and applications was noted. While LCS currently **maintains expert registers**, building user-facing tools for expert registration could further streamline participation;
- AI tools are **moderately integrated** into research activities, with the most common uses being proofreading and summarization. Despite perceived utility, many **experts remain cautious** about AI-generated content in core scientific writing and evaluations;
- the majority of respondents support national **regulation of AI use** in both proposal preparation and evaluation. There is a strong demand for **clear guidelines** to ensure ethical, transparent, and secure integration of AI in research processes.

Recommendations:

- upgrade and unify evaluation platforms with better international usability;
- develop and publish clear guidelines on AI use in research proposals and evaluations;
- provide more training materials and onboarding for new experts, including multilingual support;
- continue emphasizing human oversight in scientific evaluations to safeguard academic integrity.

These conclusions serve as a foundation for future enhancements aimed at strengthening the quality, fairness, and transparency of scientific project evaluation in Latvia. Overall survey offers valuable insights that will guide LCS in refining its procedures, embracing responsible AI integration, and enhancing the international expert evaluation experience.

Latvian Council of Science (LCS) survey on the scientific evaluation of the research projects under the supervision of Latvian Council of Science

Dear Expert,

Thank you for agreeing to participate in this survey. The aim of the survey is to collect the opinions of the Experts invited by Latvian Council of Science on their experiences with the scientific evaluation process of research project proposals and midterm and final reports in order to improve this process.
Latvian Council of Science hereby informs that the information provided in the questionnaire will be used for the purposes of Latvian Council of Science only and the data collected will be used in an aggregated form and the respondent's anonymity will be guaranteed.

Thank you for your cooperation and your time!

1. Your gender:
☐ 1 – Female
☐ 2 – Male

2. Please indicate your age:

☐ 1 – up to 30 years of age
☐ 2 – from 31 to 40 years of age
☐ 3 – from 41 to 50 years of age
☐ 4 – from 51 to 60 years of age
☐ 5 – from 61 to 70 years of age
☐ 6 – more than 71 years of age

3. What country do you represent?
_____

4. Please indicate the group of scientific branches in which you have provided scientific evaluation of project proposals during this (previous?) calendar year:
(*Please mark all the options that apply*)

☐ 1 – Sciences
☐ 2 – Engineering and Technologies
☐ 3 – Medicine and Health Sciences
☐ 4 – Agriculture, Forest and Veterinary Sciences
☐ 5 – Social sciences
☐ 6 – Humanities and Arts

5. Please indicate the programs for which you have provided scientific evaluation of project proposals or mid-term and final scientific reports during the previous calendar year:
(*Please mark all the options that apply*)

☐ 1 – Fundamental and Applied Research Projects
☐ 2 –State Research Programme
☐ 3 – Latvian – Lithuanian – Taiwan cooperation projects
☐ 4 – PostDoc programms
☐ 5 – Latvian – Ukrainian cooperation projects
☐ 6 – Other _____-

6. Please indicate which type of scientific evaluation of projects you have carried out previous calendar year:
(*Please mark all the options that apply*)

☐ 1 – evaluation of a project proposal
☐ 2 – mid-term scientific report
☐ 3 –final scientific report

7. Please indicate for how many projects you have carried out a scientific evaluation for previous calendar year.
(*Please indicate the number of evaluated projects. If you do not remember the exact number, please indicate the approximate number)*

_____

8. Please rate the cooperation process with the Latvian Council of Science
(*Please choose one option for each statement*).

	Fully agree 1	Partly agree 2	Partly disagree 3	Fully disagree 4
8.1.1. The communication with the representative of the Latvian Council of Science during the scientific evaluation process was professional	☐	☐	☐	☐
8.2.1. The conclusion of the contract for the expertise was simple	☐	☐	☐	☐
8.3.1. The time allotted for the assessment was quite sufficient	☐	☐	☐	☐
8.4.1. Acceptance and transfer of the evaluation results was simple	☐	☐	☐	☐
8.5.1. Working with the project evaluation information system was easy	☐	☐	☐	☐
8.6.1. The remuneration received for the evaluation work invested was adequate	☐	☐	☐	☐

8.6.2. Please provide your comment:

_____

9. Please describe your experience in preparing a consolidated expert opinion.
(*Please mark all the options that apply*)

☐ 1 – I only provided the individual evaluation.
☐ 2 – I did the consolidated evaluation and it was easy to agree with other expert(s)
☐ 3 – I did the consolidated evaluation and it was difficult to agree with other expert(s)
☐ 4 – I did the consolidated evaluation and we did not reach the agreement with other expert(s)
☐ 5 – I ranked project applications in order of priority and it was easy to agree with other expert(s)
☐ 6 – I ranked project applications in order of priority and it was difficult to agree with other expert(s)

10. Based on your experience in attracting foreign scientific experts in the evaluation of research projects, please list examples of good practice from other countries, which the responsible institutions of Latvia could adopt as good practice.

_____

Section on artificial intelligence

11. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Fully agree 1	Partly agree 2	Partly disagree 3	Fully disagree 4	N/A 5
11.1. Generally speaking, I trust artificial intelligence	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
11.2 Generally speaking, I trust Chat GPT or another similar AI tool	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
11.3 Generally speaking, I believe that the use of artificial intelligence tools in scientific work is permissible	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

12. Do you use artificial intelligence tools in your research activities?

☐ Yes
☐ No

13.1. Has ChatGPT or other artificial intelligence tools made your job easier or harder?

☐ artificial intelligence tools have really made my job easier
☐ artificial intelligence tools have somewhat made my job easier
☐ artificial intelligence tools have made my job somewhat harder
☐ artificial intelligence tools have really made my job difficult
13.2. Please provide your comment _____

14. Which artificial intelligence tools do you use for your research activities?

	Often	Sometimes	Never	N/A

	1	2	3	4
14.1. ChatGPT	☐	☐	☐	☐
14.2 Perplexity	☐	☐	☐	☐
14.3 Ideogram	☐	☐	☐	☐
14.4 Runway	☐	☐	☐	☐
14.5 PikaLaba	☐	☐	☐	☐
14.6 Notion AI	☐	☐	☐	☐
14.7 Google Docs AI	☐	☐	☐	☐
14.8 Claude AI	☐	☐	☐	☐
14.9 Elicit	☐	☐	☐	☐
14.10 Scite	☐	☐	☐	☐
14.11 Research Rabit	☐	☐	☐	☐
14.12 Scholarcy	☐	☐	☐	☐
14.13 Consensus	☐	☐	☐	☐
14.14 ChatPDF	☐	☐	☐	☐
14.15 Connected Papers	☐	☐	☐	☐
14.16 Other _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

15. For what purpose do you use artificial intelligence tools?

	Often 1	Sometimes 2	Never 3	N/A 4
15.1. For writing letters	☐	☐	☐	☐
15.2 For developing a literatur review	☐	☐	☐	☐
15.3 For checking and improving grammar	☐	☐	☐	☐
15.4 For creating summaries of a project or publication	☐	☐	☐	☐
15.5 For creating references	☐	☐	☐	☐
15.6 For qualitative data analysis	☐	☐	☐	☐
15.7 For quantitative data analysis	☐	☐	☐	☐
15.8 For writing reviews	☐	☐	☐	☐

	Often 1	Sometimes 2	Never 3	N/A 4
15.9 For writing a scientific article	☐	☐	☐	☐
15.10 For writing a project proposa	☐	☐	☐	☐
15.11 For creating presentations	☐	☐	☐	☐
15.12 For creating visual material	☐	☐	☐	☐
15.13 For formulating innovative research topics	☐	☐	☐	☐
20.14 Other _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

16.1 Do you provide a reference to the use of AI tools if you use it in scientific work?

☐ Yes, always

☐ Sometimes,

☐ No, never

26.2 Please provide your comment: _____

17. In your opinion, for what purpose is the use of artificial intelligence tools acceptable in scientific work?

	Always acceptable 1	Sometimes acceptable 2	Never acceptable 3	N/A 4
17.1. For writing letters	☐	☐	☐	☐
17.2 For developing a literatu review	☐	☐	☐	☐
17.3 For checking and improving grammar	☐	☐	☐	☐
17.4 For creating summaries of a project or publication	☐	☐	☐	☐
17.5 For creating references	☐	☐	☐	☐
17.6 For qualitative data analysis	☐	☐	☐	☐
17.7 For quantitative data analysis	☐	☐	☐	☐
17.8 For writing reviews	☐	☐	☐	☐
17.9 For writing a scientific article	☐	☐	☐	☐

	Always acceptable 1	Sometimes acceptable 2	Never acceptable 3	N/A 4
17.10 For writing a project propos	☐	☐	☐	☐
17.11 For creating presentations	☐	☐	☐	☐
17.12 For creating visual material	☐	☐	☐	☐
17.13 For formulating innovative research topics	☐	☐	☐	☐
17.14 Other _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

18. Is the use of AI regulated in the institution you represent?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Do not know

19.1.Do you think that Latvian Council of Science should regulate the use of AI in **project writing**?

☐ Yes

☐ No

19.2 Please provide your comment: _____

20. In your opinion, should Latvian Council of Science regulate the use of AI in the **scientific evaluation process of the project**?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Please provide your comment: _____

Thank you for your input!