



# **EU-INDIA COOPERATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION AS AN ENABLER OF THE ASEM SUSTAINABLE CONNECTIVITY**

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# STRUCTURE OF THE PRESENTATION

- Conceptual considerations
- EU-India cooperation in higher education and research
- Riga: An ASEM educational diplomacy hub







# CONCEPTUAL CONSIDERATIONS



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# **DIPLOMACY STUDIES**

- EU structural diplomacy
- People-to-people diplomacy
- Science diplomacy
- Educational diplomacy (higher education)





**EU-INDIA  
COOPERATION  
IN HIGHER  
EDUCATION  
AND RESEARCH**



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# STUDENT MOBILITY GAP

“Europe has a great deal to offer in the field of higher education and scientific research, yet **the great majority of Asian students studying abroad tend to go to North America or Australasia as a first priority. Equally, the number of European academics or students with links to Asia remains very small, while European Studies remains an underdeveloped field in most Asian countries**”.

Europe and Asia: A Strategic Framework for Enhanced Partnerships (2001) pp. 19-20

“[...] **Asian students clearly prefer to go to Australia or the USA. Intellectual bonds are fading between Asia and Europe.** It is time to revitalise them and effective public diplomacy campaigns can certainly help.”

Tommy Koh, Ambassador-at-Large,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore

ASEF Public Diplomacy Handbook: How to Win Hearts and Minds (2016) (eds. Stetter, R., Sunkyoung, L.), p. 86



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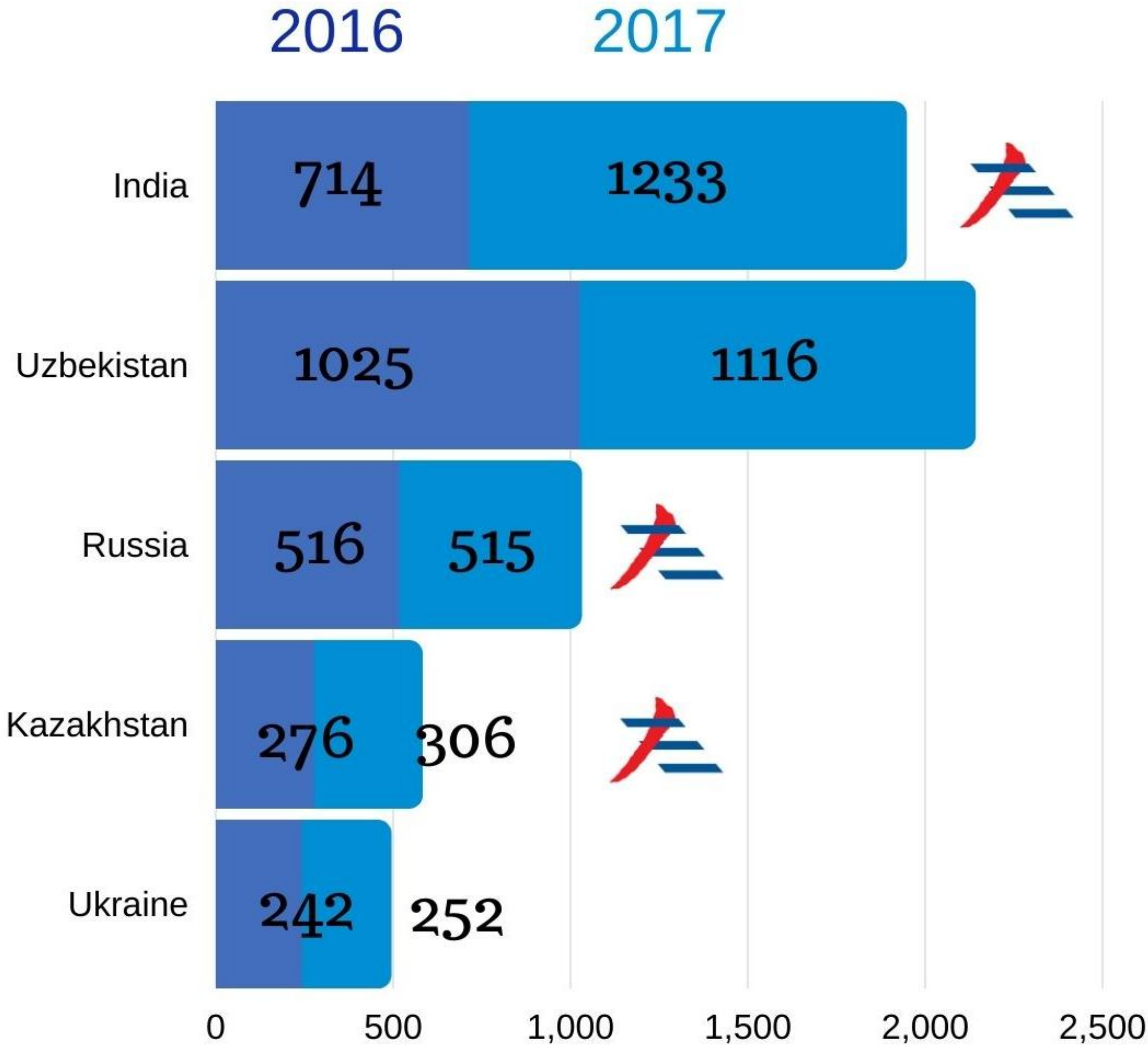
# **RIGA: AN ASEM EDUCATIONAL DIPLOMACY HUB**



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# STUDENTS IN LATVIA



most widely represented third countries



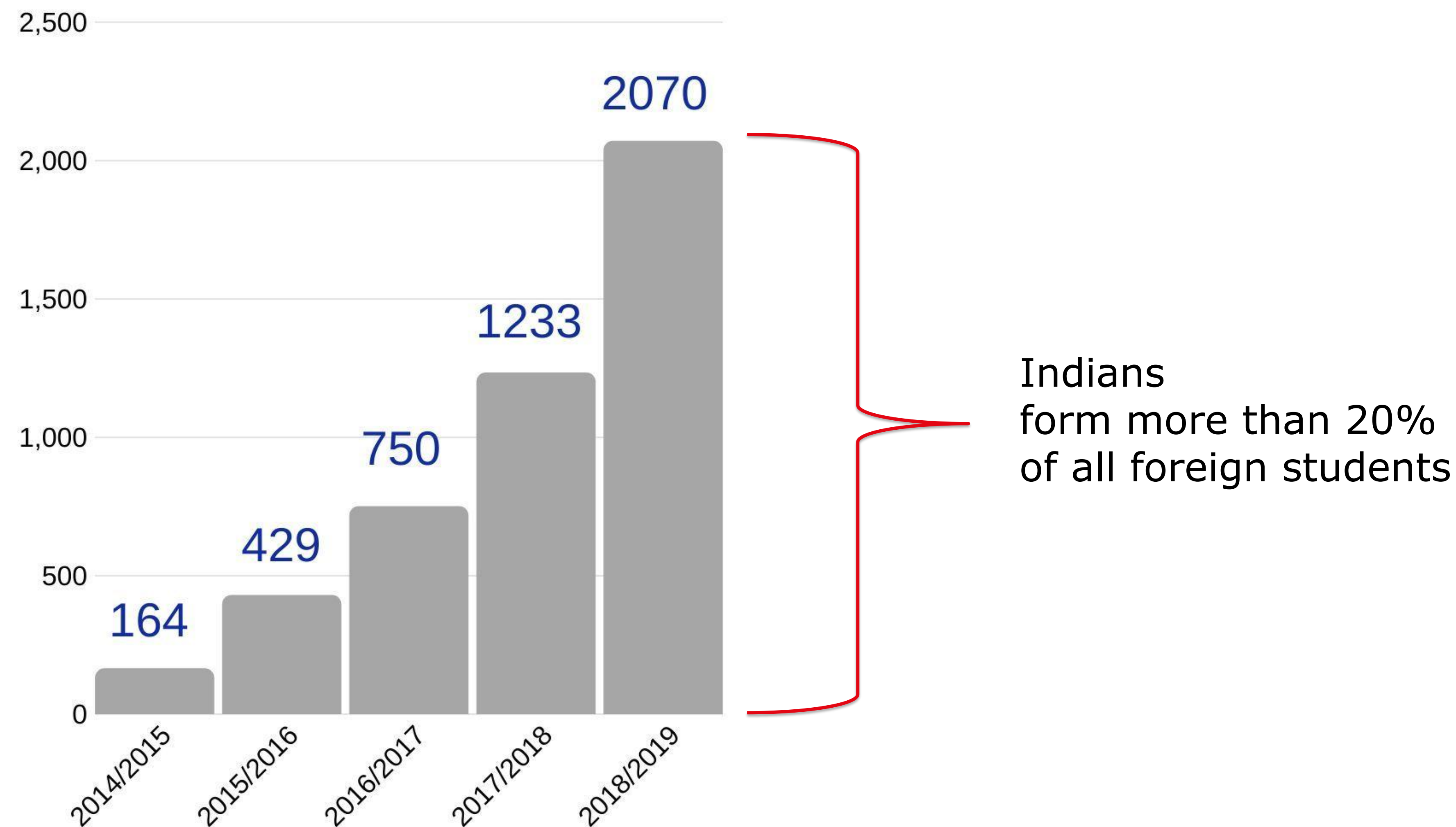
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**studyinlatvia** 🎓 International students from Azerbaijan 🇦🇿, China 🇨🇳, Colombia 🇨🇴, India 🇮🇳, Pakistan 🇵🇰, Russia 🇷🇺 and Vietnam 🇻🇳, who are studying at Riga Technical University, captured during the process of producing a 360° guided virtual tour of the RTU Ķīpsala campus. 🤖

Repost from @rtuinternational.

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# INDIAN STUDENTS IN LATVIA





# ASEM PARTNER COUNTRIES & RIGA



Beyond the 5th ASEM Education Ministers' Meeting (ASEM ME5) held on 27-28 April 2015 in Riga:

Is there an implicit spirit of the ASEM Education Process?





# CONCLUSIONS



- There are plenty of fascinating dynamics and multiple people-to-people encounters taking place far away from the discussion rooms of ASEM working groups, high-level meetings and ASEM or ASEF labelled activities.
- Online encounters grow in importance as facilitators of meetings and consultations among individuals residing in ASEM partner countries (and elsewhere). Joint training events offer shared familiarity with certain concepts and terminology that spans beyond the ASEM agreed language.
- Post-ASEM ME5: Riga is a good example that the implicit spirit of ASEM lives on thanks to the circulation of talent. Further exploration of how ASEM might benefit from this favourable intellectual environment would be one of the suggestions for the way forward.





THANK YOU



Kemerli National Park. Photo by [Jordan Sanchez](#) on [Unsplash](#).

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