наследия Беларуси необходимо объединение усилий государства и его правоохранительных органов, граждан и институтов гражданского общества.

Заключение. Система правовой защиты культурного (историко-культурного) наследия должна быть построена на основе требований национальной безопасности посредством единого структурирования их объектов охраны в виде завершенного и функционально-эффективного правового института правоохранительной деятельности. Ведь национальные интересы в социальной сфере заключаются в обеспечении защищенности и сохранении объектов культурного наследия, памятников, объектов нематериального культурного наследия от внутренних и внешних, существующих и потенциальных угроз. Новые подходы требуют определения культурного (историко-культурного) наследия, культурных ценностей в качестве непосредственного объекта национальной безопасности. Потенциальная возможность (опасность) нанесения ущерба (вреда, урона) национальному историческому и культурному наследию Беларуси, культурным ценностям предопределяет необходимость выделения историко-культурного наследия в качестве непосредственного *объекта национальной безопасности.* Предложенный подход позволяет по-новому определить задачи, решаемые субъектами правоохранительной деятельности: предлагаем к компетенции Министерства внутренних дел Республики Беларусь, Государственного пограничного комитета Республики Беларусь, Комитета государственной безопасности Республики Беларусь, Государственного таможенного комитета Республики Беларусь, Министерства по чрезвычайным ситуациям Республики Беларусь отнести также осуществление защиты историко-культурного наследия.

Конечно же, в результате потребуется корректировка законодательных актов, определяющих задачи, статус и компетенцию указанных субъектов правоохранительной деятельности, но такие изменения оправдываются целевой установкой — обеспечением культурной безопасности государства.

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INNOVATION AND SMART SPECIALISATION STRATEGY PRIORITIES IN THE BALTIC STATES

Introduction. It is important to comprehend the process of emergence of innovations and the term innovation in order to be aware of the role of innovation in national economic development and resource use. According to the Innovation Union, innovation is an ability of individuals, companies and entire nations to continuously create their desired future (Inovāciju Savienība, 2007). The trend is as follows: the more developed a country that uses policy instruments in promoting innovation is, the more the country succeeds in introducing the innovations, which results in economic growth. The research aim of the paper is to assess the innovation performance of the Baltic States among European Union Member States. To achieve the aim, the following two specific research tasks were set: 1) to compare the EU Member States and group them by innovation performance and gross domestic product (hereinafter — GDP) per capita; 2) to assess the priorities of the Baltic States set in their Smart Specialisation Strategies. The research employed a number of methods, including data grouping and a survey.

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Main part. The European Innovation Scoreboard report published in 2016 asserts that in terms of innovation performance and performance level, the European Union has caught up to Japan and the USA. Sweden has been the innovation leader in the EU for several consecutive years, while Latvia was the fastest-growing innovator among the EU Member States in 2015. A number of innovation researchers, however, believe that the European innovation system does not demonstrate sufficient growth rates. They stress the low interest of entrepreneurs and investors, particularly in the new

EU Member States, including in the Baltic States, in the State and its institutions. As pointed out by Lithuanian scientists, entrepreneurs and the entire society have to be allowed to think "beyond the boundaries" (Paliokaite A., et al., 2015) [1].

A number of definitions refer to the close link between innovation and financial resources necessary for development. Innovation is a term that encompasses all the activities to be done in order to develop, produce and sell a new good or service. Innovation involves all the on-going processes in the society, beginning with education, scientific research, intellectual property protection, production management, market research through to sales. The World Bank stresses that innovation and research are individual processes, and not always an innovation emerges in the research process — it emerges in the entrepreneurship sector that brings it into the society and depends on the responsiveness of the society (Innovation policies, 2015) [2].

A study commissioned by the European Commission "Flash Eurobarometer: Innobarometer 2016 — EU business innovation trends" especially stressed not only the role of scientific institutions in innovation development but also the need to attract entrepreneur capital for research (Inovācijas rādītāju..., 2016) [3]. The present research conducted a survey of entrepreneurs questioned about innovations they had introduced; their replies are summarised in table 1.

T a b l e 1 — Innovations introduced by enterprises in the Baltic States in the period 2013—2016 (as a percentage of the total respondents) broken down by kind

Country	New or significantly enhanced				
	goods	services	organisational techniques	marketing strategies	processes
Latvia	31	39	28	28	35
Lithuania	31	36	28	21	31
Estonia	20	29	12	21	24
EU average	40	40	34	33	30

Source: authors' construction based on the Innobarometer 2016 survey.

In the period 2013—2016, Latvia was the innovation leader. It is important that mostly new or significantly enhanced goods or services were introduced in Latvia, and not only the enterprises themselves can benefit from that in the future but also an economic multiplier effect in the territory where the enterprises are located could be caused. Nevertheless, it has to be noted that the innovation performance of the Baltic States is still considerably lower than the EU average. At the same time, any survey results have to be critically and cautiously viewed because the replies given in the surveys range from great optimism to total pessimism.

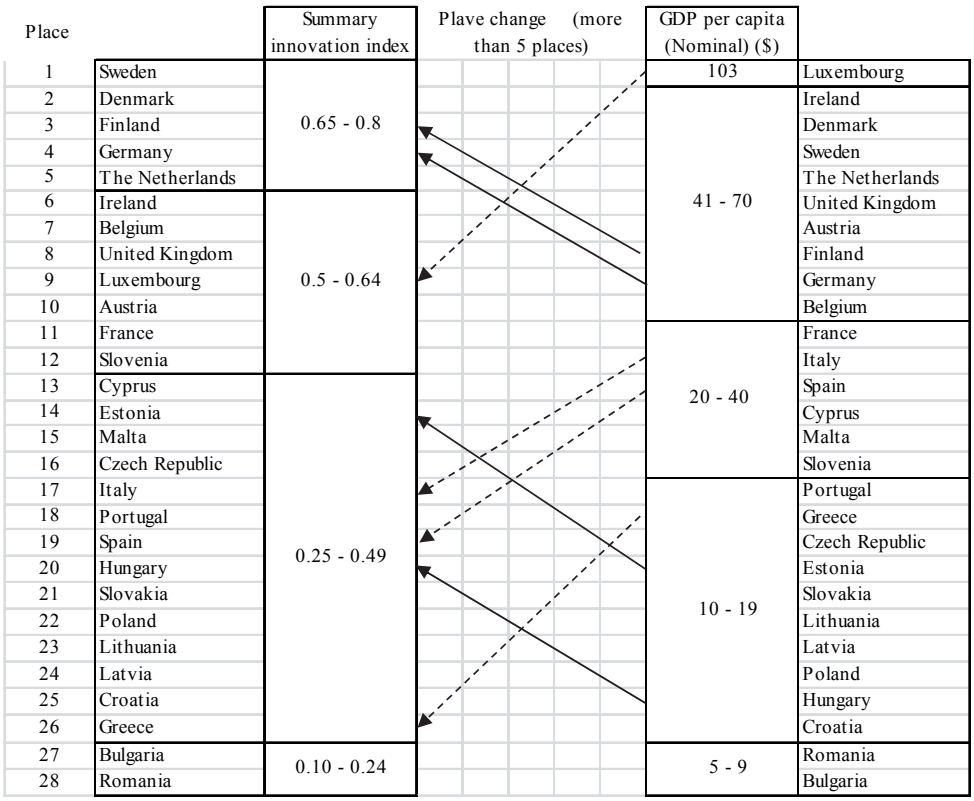
The innovation performance level in a country may not be evaluated one-sidedly — only from the perspective of entrepreneurs, and the whole system has to be taken into consideration. Diverse methodologies have been applied and various indicators have been used in the evaluations of national innovation systems given in the scientific literature. The present research used Innovation Union Scoreboard indicators that were divided into three main types of indicators: enablers, firm activities and outputs. The main types of indicators included the following indicators: human resources; open, excellent and attractive research systems; finance and support; firm investments; linkages and entrepreneurship; intellectual assets; innovators; and economic effects. The authors divided the EU Member States into several groups based on two indicators: the summary innovation index and GDP per capita in 2015 (see figure 1). The rankings of the EU Member States rated based on their GDP per capita and summary innovation index values were quite similar; the places of some Member States were the same or differed by a few notches. There could be distinguished two different Member State groups:

Group 1: Luxembourg, Italy, Spain and Greece — the Member States that took a higher place if ranked based on GDP per capita than if ranked based on the summary innovation index (their rankings differed by five and more places);

Group 2: Finland, Germany, Estonia and Hungary — the Member States that had a lower place if ranked based on GDP per capita than if ranked based on the summary innovation index.

Among the Baltic States, Lithuania and Latvia were those Member States whose places differed insignificantly if ranked based on GDP per capita and the summary innovation index (by only one place). Estonia belonged to Group 2, which indicated its great efforts made in the area of innovation; despite its limited resources, the innovation, compared with the other national needs, was a priority in Estonia.

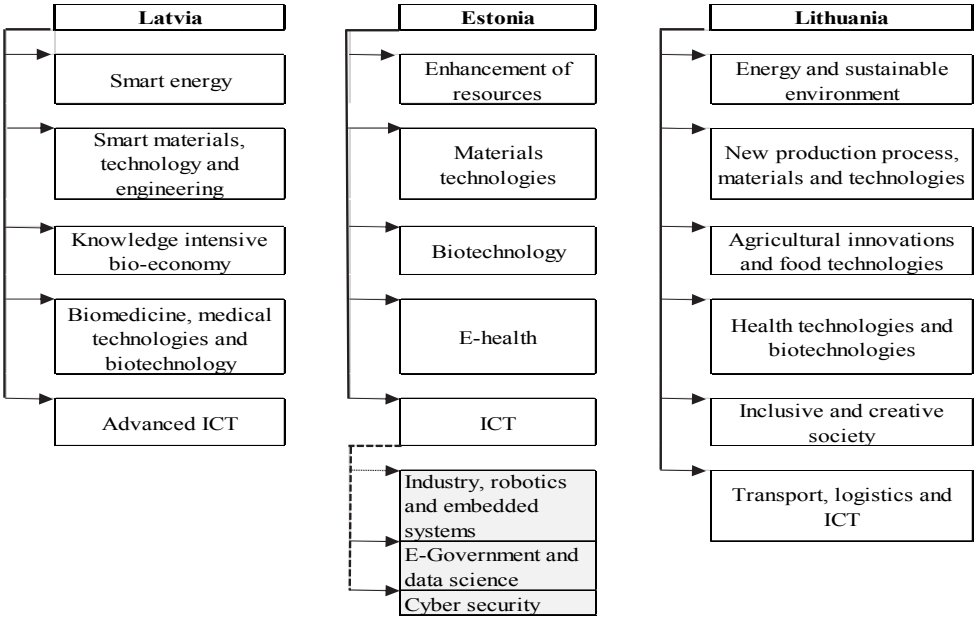
In 2009, the EU Member States began working on policy documents — Smart Specialisation Strategies — that would contribute to innovation development. The term smart mainly refers to broad knowledge, well-developed thinking, ample experience, wisdom, ideas and deductions. In economic research studies, this term has been examined by Hollands R., Wolfram M., Rusu M and others. In the Latvian language, the concepts "prudent specialisation" or "intelligent specialisation" are also used along with "smart specialisation"; the following abbreviations are also used: S3 (Smart Specialisation Strategy) or RIS 3 (Research and Innovation Strategies) (Hollands R., 2008, Wolfram M., 2012, Rusu M., 2013, Sandu S., 2012) [4—6]. The Smart Specialisation Strategies specify specialisations with higher potential in the



Note: summary innovation index: innovation performance rated on a scale from 0 to 1.0; GDP per capita in thousand USD.

Figure 1 — Comparison of the rankings of the EU Member States
by innovation performance and GDP per capita in 2015

national economies in order to mobilise resources for the specialisations. The purpose of a smart strategy is to transfer innovations from theory, the research process and the idea level to a tangible outcome, i.e. to make the innovations understandable to producers and to introduce them in production or bring them in use. In their Smart Specialisation Strategies, every Member State defines the industries and areas that would contribute to its innovation development and smart development. In the Baltic States, the innovation potential is seen in similar industries and areas that are shown in figure 2, with some insignificant specific features.



Source: authors' construction based on the Smart specialisation platform Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, 2017 [8; 9]

Figure 2 — Smart strategy priorities in the Baltic States

Information and communication technology (ICT) as well as a specialisation related to smart materials and technologies and domestic resources and their exploitation are referred to as a priority for the nearest decades in all the Baltic States. There are differences in the exploitation of resources, as Latvia intends to develop a knowledge-intensive bioeconomy in relation to the future management of its natural resources. In Lithuania, the innovation potential is seen in food product innovations and agriculture, while Estonia intends to enhance the use of its natural resources in general and to raise the efficiency of their use. The term bioeconomy refers to the part of the national economy that is based on the use of bioresources to produce food and feed, energy, goods and services. The bioeconomy encompasses both primary production and the processing of primary products to produce food, feed, energy and other goods as well as bioresource-intensive services (Lenerts A., Strikis V., 2013) [7].

In the Smart Specialisation Strategies of all the Baltic States, their priorities also relate to health; in Estonia, a greater focus is placed on e-health, the development of a single system in healthcare and the service of patients, while in Lithuania and Latvia — on medical technologies and biomedicine.

Conclusions. 1. The innovation leaders in the EU are the Scandinavian Member States: Sweden, Denmark and Finland, which have the highest summary innovation index values. At the same time, the mentioned Member States have a high GDP per capita, which indicates that they have sufficient financial resources to be allocated for innovation development. A positive fact is that a group of EU Member States — Finland, Germany, Estonia and Hungary — had a higher place if ranked based on the summary innovation index than if ranked based on GDP per capita, which indicates their efforts made to work on their innovation support policies.

2. The current innovation performance level of the Baltic States is rated differently in various sources of information; however, in general, one can admit that the level in Estonia is slightly higher, even though entrepreneurs gave the highest rating to Latvia. The Baltic States have designed also government support strategies — smart specialisation strategies, — which set national priority industries and areas. A number of them are similar, yet there are some differences. Latvia considers the use of its natural resources in a complex way, which is strongly associated with the circular economy. Lithuania prioritises its transport and logistics as well as stresses the role of a creative society in national development. Estonia explicitly stresses its ICT sector, with a special focus being placed on e-government, cyber security and robotics.

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