**Money Smart Month in Estonia**

**Estonian Banking Association (EBA) has organized a Money Smart Month in Estonian high schools almost ten years. The event has taken place every year in March when thousands of high school students all over the Estonia can participate in lectures at their own school.**

Lecturers are mostly bank employees, educated practitioners who leave their everyday job for one or more days and go to schools to give lectures and discuss money matters with youngsters. One lecture lasts usually 1.5 hours and topics cover different money matters: planning one's finances, setting goals, budgeting, saving, investing etc. Schools can pre-order specific lectures as well (for example insurance, pension etc).

All the lecture presentations are prepared by the financial literacy committee of EBA. This way uniform lectures are guaranteed in all participating schools and lecturers don’t have to prepare the lecture from the scratch – this saves a lot of time.

In 2019 over 100 lecturers, 70 schools and 2224 students participated in Money Smart Month. In 2018 about 126 lectures were held in 84 schools. This means that about half of Estonian high schools usually participate in Money Smart Month every year as the total number of high schools in Estonia was 164 in 2018 (this number includes schools with pupils aged 7–19 and so called “pure” high schools or state gymnasiums for pupils aged 16–19).

Money Smart Month has got a lot of attention in media which helps to spread the word about the importance of financial literacy.

In recent years Estonian Banking Association has been a coordinator of an European Money Quiz as well. Quiz is organized all over the Europe to improve financial literacy among 13–15 year old pupils. European Money Quiz takes place in March.

*Estonian Banking Association (EBA) has currently 10 member banks who represent approximately 98% of Estonian banking sector's assets. EBA is continuously promoting financial literacy among Estonian people. Money Smart Month is one of the actions to promote financial literacy. Money Smart Month is organized in cooperation with Estonian Insurance Association, Ministry of Finance, Financial Supervision Authority and Nasdaq Tallinn. In recent years Baltic Financial Advisors Association and FinanceEstonia had participated as well.*