This year I attended the largest and most important European meteorological conference - the 12th European Meteorological Society (EMS) Annual Meeting and the 9th European Conference on Applied Climatology (ECAC), which took place from the 10th to the 14th of September in Łódź, Poland. My attendance would not have been possible without the support of the European Meteorological Society so I would like to thank the Committee for kindly providing me with the Young Scientist Travel Award and giving me the possibility to be aware of the latest studies and findings in climatological and meteorological studies and also to share the results of my studies by participating in the sessions AS17 Atmospheric hazards (Poster ‘Trends in the frequency of extreme and hazardous weather events in Latvia’) and MC1 Climate monitoring, data rescue, management, quality and homogenization (Poster ‘The estimation of cloudiness and Solar surface irradiance in Latvia by using satellite data’).

As I am now on the first year of my doctoral studies, the participation in this conference was very useful to me as it provided me with new ideas and knowledge on the latest and most important fields and aspects of climatological and meteorological research, methods and available data in the fields connected with the topic of my PhD thesis – Climate system stability in Latvia. In addition to enjoying presentations related to the field of study of my interest, it was also very interesting to attend other sessions, during which I learned new things on several different topics.

The possibility to meet new people, enjoy fruitful discussions with more experienced scientists, have an objective feedback on my own work and make plans for collaboration has also been a door-opening experience for me. I think that such a fundamental experience is very important and encouraging for the young and unexperienced scientists. And I was also impressed by the very good organization of
the event, so I would like to congratulate the organising committee for their excellent work.

Once again, I am very thankful to the European Meteorological Society for providing me with the possibility to attend the conference!

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