

## Country Information Guide



### Latvia

**A guide to information sources on the Republic of Latvia, with hyperlinks to information within European Sources Online and on external websites**

#### Contents

Information sources in the ESO database .....	2
General information .....	2
Agricultural information .....	2
Competition policy information .....	2
Culture and language information .....	2
Defence and security information .....	3
Economic information.....	3
Education information .....	3
Employment information .....	4
Energy information .....	4
Environmental information.....	4
European policies and relations with the European Union .....	4
Geographic information and maps .....	5
Health information .....	5
Human rights information .....	5
Intellectual property information .....	6
Investment information.....	6
Justice and home affairs information .....	6
Living and working information.....	6
Media information.....	7
Political information (including Elections) .....	7
Public management information .....	7
R&D information.....	7
Regional and local information .....	8
Social information.....	8
Statistical information .....	8
Tourism information.....	8
Transport information .....	8
Weather information .....	9

To navigate around this Information Guide click on the 'Bookmarks' icon on the left

## Information sources in the ESO database

- [Latvia – External / Internal / Regions](#)

## General information

- Latvia: [Government portal](#)
  - Latvia: [Latvian Institute](#)
- European Union: European Countries: [Latvia](#)
- United Nations: Data: Country Profiles: [Latvia](#)
- Wikipedia: [Latvia](#)
- United Kingdom: Foreign & Commonwealth Office: [Latvia](#)
- United States: CIA World Factbook: [Latvia](#)
- United States: Department of State: [Latvia](#)
- BBC News: Country Profile: [Latvia](#)
- Encyclopaedia Britannica: World data: [Latvia](#)
- The Guardian: World news: [Latvia](#)
- Google: Search for websites on [Latvia](#)
- SearchEnginesoftheWorld: European Search Engines, Directories and Lists: [Latvia](#)
- UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies Library: Internet resources on [Latvia](#)

## Agricultural information

- Latvia: [Ministry of Agriculture](#) (Zemkopības ministrija)
- European Commission: Agriculture and Rural Development: Rural development 2014-2020: Country files: [Latvia](#)
- European Commission: Agriculture and Rural Development: Rural development 2014-2020: Country files: [Latvia](#)
- European Network for Rural Development (ENRD): [Country Information](#) [click on map to select country]
- AgroWeb Network: Central and Eastern Europe: [Latvia](#)
- FAO: Country profile and Mapping information system: [Latvia](#)
- OECD: Agriculture and Fisheries: [Latvia](#)
- Organic Europe: Organic farming in European countries: [Latvia](#)

## Competition policy information

- Latvia: [Latvian Competition Council](#) (Konkurences Padome)
- CUTS International: Competition Regimes in the World: [Latvia](#)

## Culture and language information

- Latvia: [Ministry of Culture](#) (Kultūras ministre)
- Latvia: Ministry of Culture: [Intitutions](#)
- European Commission: Languages: Information: [Regional and Minority Language Products](#)
- European Commission: Programmes: Creative Europe: Tools: Creative Europe Desks: [Latvia](#)
- Council of Europe/ERICarts: Cultural Policies and Trends in Europe: [Latvia](#)
- UNESCO: World Heritage Sites: [Latvia](#)
- SIL International: Ethnologue: [Languages of the World](#)
- University of the Highlands and the Islands: [European Minority Languages](#)

## Defence and security information

- Latvia: [Ministry of Defence](#) (Aizsardzības ministrija)
  - [Latvian Geospatial Information Agency](#) (Latvijas Ģeotelpiskās informācijas aģentūra)
  - [State Centre for Defence Military Objects and Procurement](#) (Valsts aizsardzības militāro objektu un iepirkumu centrs)
  - [CERT.LV - The Information Technology Security Incident Response Institution of the Republic of Latvia](#) (CERT.LV - Informācijas tehnoloģiju drošības incidentu novēršanas institūcijas - mājas lapā!)
- Latvia: [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#) (Ārlietu ministrija)
- NATO: Relations with [Latvia](#)

## Economic information

- ESO: Latvia: [Economic situation](#)
- Latvia: [Ministry of Finance](#) (Finanšu ministrija)
- Latvia: [Ministry of Economics](#) (Ekonomikas ministrija)
- Latvia: [Bank of Latvia](#) (Latvijas Banka)
- European Commission: Europe 2020: Europe 2020 in your country: [Latvia](#)
- European Commission: DG Economic and Financial Affairs:
  - Economies of the Member States: [Latvia](#)
  - [Stability and Convergence Programmes](#) [select year and country]
- European Commission: DG Regional Policy: Measuring performance: Country Fact Sheets: [Latvia](#)
- European Commission: DG Taxation and Customs Union: [Taxes in Europe Database](#) [select country]
- European Bank for Reconstruction and Development: EBRD in [Latvia](#)
- International Monetary Fund: [Latvia](#) and the IMF
- OECD: Countries: [Latvia](#)
- OECD: Economic Surveys: [Latvia](#) (2015)
- UNCTAD/WTO: International Trade Centre: [Latvia](#)
- WTO: [Latvia](#) and the WTO
- United States: Commercial Service: Doing Business in [Latvia](#)

## Education information

- Latvia: [Ministry of Education and Science](#) (Izglītības un zinātnes ministrija)
- Latvia: State Education Development Agency: Study in Latvia: [Higher education in Latvia](#)
- Council of Europe/European Union: Youth Partnership: Knowledge / EKCYP: Countries: [Background information on youth policy](#) [select country]
- European Commission: Education & training: Study in Europe: [European Higher Education](#) [select country]
- European Commission: Programmes: Erasmus+: Tools: [National-agencies](#) [select country]
- Eurydice: Eurypedia - The European Encyclopedia on National Education Systems: [Latvia](#)
- European Union: Your Europe: Citizens: [Education](#) [select topic then country]
- Council of Europe/UNESCO/European Commission: ENIC-NARIC – Gateway to Recognition of Academic and Professional Qualifications: [Latvia](#)
- OECD: Education: [Latvia](#)
- UNESCO: Institute for Statistics: [Country and Regional Profiles](#) [select country]
- World Bank: World DataBank: [Education Statistics - All Indicators](#) [select country, series and time]
- EuroEducation: European Education Directory: Education System in [Country](#)
- Wikipedia: [Education in Latvia](#)

## Employment information

- Latvia: [Ministry of Welfare](#) (Labklājības ministrija) [in Latvian]
  - [State Employment Agency](#) (Nodarbinātības valsts aģentūra)
  - State Employment Agency: [European Employment Services](#)
- European Commission: Europe 2020: Europe 2020 in your country: [Latvia](#)
- European Commission: EURES: Living & Working: [Latvia](#)
- Eurofound: Home: Observatories: European Observatory of Working Life - EurWORK: [Industrial relations country profiles](#) [select country]
- European Trade Union Institution: Worker Participation: National Industrial Relations: [Latvia](#)
- Federation of European Employers: Industrial Relations across Europe: [Latvia](#)
- OECD: Employment: [Latvia](#)
- International Labour Organization: NATLEX: [Latvia](#)

## Energy information

- Latvia: [Ministry of Economics](#) (Ekonomikas ministrija)
- European Commission: DG Energy:
  - [Statistics by country](#)
  - [Energy Statistical Pocketbook](#) [select year and country]
  - [National Renewable Energy Action Plans](#) [select country]
- European Commission: ManagEnergy: [Latvia](#)
- International Energy Agency:
  - Countries: [Latvia](#)
  - Statistics and Balances: [Latvia](#)
- United States: Energy Information Administration: [Latvia](#)
- Austria: Austrian Energy Agency: enerCEE.net: [Latvia](#)

## Environmental information

- Latvia: [Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development](#) (Vides aizsardzības un reģionālās attīstības ministrija)
- Latvia: [Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre](#)
- European Commission: DG Environment: LIFE Programme: [Latvia](#)
- European Environment Agency:
  - EIONET - European Environment Information and Observation Network: [Latvia](#)
  - SERIS - State of the Environment Reporting Information System: [Latvia](#)
- European Environment Agency: EPANET - European Network of the Heads of Environment Protection Agencies: [Latvia](#)
- European Environmental Bureau: Members: [Latvia](#)
- FAO: Country Profiles: [Latvia](#)
- OECD: Environment: [Latvia](#)
- Friends of the Earth International: [Latvia](#)
- Greenpeace International: [European Union](#)
- Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe: [REC Latvia](#)

## European policies and relations with the European Union

- Latvia: Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Ārlietu ministrija): Policies: [Latvia and the European Union](#)
- Latvia: [Bank of Latvia](#) (Latvijas Banka)
  - [Latvia and the Euro](#)
  - [SEPA: Single Euro Payments Area](#)
- Latvia: [Permanent Representation to the European Union](#)
- European Union: Member Countries: [Latvia](#)

- European Union: Europe Direct Information Network: [Latvia](#)
- European Commission: Representation in [Latvia](#) [in Latvian]
- European Commission: Enterprise Europe Network: [Latvia](#)
- European Commission: DG Economic and Financial Affairs:
  - Economies of the Member States: [Latvia](#)
  - [Latvia](#) and the Euro
- European Commission: DG Regional Policy: [Latvia](#)
- European Commission: DG Agriculture and Rural Development: Rural Development Policy 2014-2020: [Latvia](#)
- Council of the European Union: [Latvian presidency of the Council of the European Union](#)
- European Parliament: [EP Information Offices](#) [click on map to select country]
- European Investment Bank: Finance Contracts Signed in [Latvia](#)
- European Union: DG Press and Communication: [Latvia](#)
- Council of Europe: Member States: [Latvia](#)
- OSCE: [Permanent Mission of the Republic of Latvia to the OSCE](#)

## Geographic information and maps

- European Union: Europe Maps: [Latvia](#)
- FAO: Forestry Country Information: Maps: [Latvia](#)
- Lonely Planet: Map of [Latvia](#)
- Maps of the World: [Latvia](#)
- University of Texas: Perry-Castañeda Library: Map Collection: [Latvia](#)

## Health information

- Latvia: [Ministry of Health](#) (Veselības ministrija)
- European Union: Your Europe: Citizens: Health: National contacts in [Latvia](#)
- European Commission: DG Health and Food Safety: [Latvia](#)
- European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA):
  - Country Overview: [Latvia](#)
  - Drug treatment profiles: [Latvia](#)
  - Country Legal Profiles: [Latvia](#)
  - National Drug Strategies: [Latvia](#)
- World Health Organization:
  - Countries: [Latvia](#)
  - Regional Office for Europe: [Latvia](#)
  - European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies: [Latvia](#)

## Human rights information

- Latvia: [Latvian Centre for Human Rights](#)
- Council of Europe:
  - European Social Charter: [National Reports](#) [Select Country]
  - European Committee for the Prevention of Torture: State documents and visits: [Latvia](#)
- European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI): Report on [Latvia](#)
- European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission): Documents on [Latvia](#)
- European Committee for the Prevention of Torture: States: [Latvia](#)
- European Court of Human Rights:
  - Country Profiles: [Latvia](#)
  - [Country Fact Sheets 1959-2010](#) [select country]
  - [Violation by Article and by State 1959-2014](#)
  - [Statistics on Judgments by State 1959-2010](#)

- United Nations:
  - Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights: OHCHR in [Latvia](#)
  - UNHCR – The UN Refugee Agency: Country Information: [Latvia](#)
- United States: Department of State:
  - Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: [Latvia](#) (2013)
  - Reports on International Religious Freedom: [Latvia](#) (2013)
- Amnesty International: [Latvia](#)
- Human Rights Watch: Human Rights in [Latvia](#)
- Reporters Without Borders: Freedom of Information in [Latvia](#)
- Wikipedia: [Human rights in Latvia](#)

## Intellectual property information

- Latvia: [Patent Office of the Republic of Latvia](#) (Latvijas Republikas Patentu valde)
- Latiss Neo Agency: [Latvia](#)
- World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO): Member States: [Latvia](#)
- European Patent Office: Patent Information Centre: [Latvia](#)

## Investment information

- Latvia: [Investment and Development Agency of Latvia](#) (LIAA)
- OECD: Investment: [Latvia](#)
- OECD: Industry and Entrepreneurship: [Latvia](#)
- World Bank: Countries and Economies: [Latvia](#)
- United Kingdom: UK Trade & Investment: Country Profile: [Latvia](#)
- United States Commercial Service: Doing Business in [Latvia](#)

## Justice and home affairs information

- Latvia: [Ministry of Interior](#) (Iekšlietu ministrija)
- Latvia: [Ministry of Justice](#) (Tieslietu ministrija)
- Latvia: [Supreme Court](#) (Augstākā tiesa)
- European Commission: DG Justice: Data Protection: National Policy Documents (select country)
- Council of Europe:
  - European Commission for Democracy through Law: Documents on [Latvia](#)
  - Group of States against Corruption (GRECO): [Evaluation and Compliance Reports](#) [select country]
- OECD: Bribery and Corruption: [Country](#)
- United States: Law Library of Congress: Law online: [Latvia](#)
- International Constitutional Law: Constitutional Documents: [Latvia](#)
- University of Bern: International Constitutional Law: Countries: [Latvia](#)
- EUDO Observatory on Citizenship: Citizenship laws and policy: [Latvia](#)

## Living and working information

- Latvia: [Ministry of the Interior](#) (Iekšlietu ministrija)
- Latvia: [Ministry of Welfare](#) (Labklājības ministrija)
- European Commission: DG Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion: EURES – The European Job Mobility Portal: Living & Working in [Latvia](#)
- European Commission: DG Press and Communication: [Your Europe](#) [select topic]
- Eurofound - European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions: [Latvia](#)
  - European Observatory of Working Life (EURWORK): [Latvia](#)
- United Kingdom: Foreign & Commonwealth Office: Foreign Travel Advice: [Latvia](#)
- United States: State Department: Bureau of European & Eurasian Affairs: Country Reports: [Latvia](#)

## Media information

- Latvia: [National Broadcasting Council](#) (Nacionālā elektronisko plašsaziņas līdzekļu padome)
- European Broadcasting Union: [Active Members](#) (select country)
- European Newspaper Publishers Association: [ENPA Members](#) [select country]
- ABYZ News Links: Europe Newspapers and News Media: [Latvia](#)
- Guardian News & Media Ltd: World News Guide: [Latvia](#)
- Newslink: European Newspapers: [Latvia](#)
- Online Newspapers: [Latvia](#)
- Radiomap: Radio Stations in [Latvia](#)

## Political information (including Elections)

- ESO: Latvia: [Political situation](#)
- Latvia: [Government Portal](#)
  - [Constitution](#)
  - [Government system](#)
  - [Ministries](#)
- Latvia: [Parliament](#) (Latvijas Republikas Saeima)
- Latvia: [President](#) (Latvijas Valsts prezidenta)
- Latvia: [Prime Minister](#)
- Latvia: [Central Elections Commission](#)
- OECD: Public governance: [Latvia](#)
- International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES): Election Guide: [Latvia](#)
- NCCR Democracy:
  - [Democracy Barometer](#) [click on map to select country]
  - [EU Profiler](#) [select country]
- Parties and Elections in Europe: Countries: [Latvia](#)
- United States: Library of Congress: Law Online: Nations: [Latvia](#)
- Wikipedia: Politics of [Latvia](#)
- Wikipedia: Elections in [Latvia](#)

## Public management information

- Latvia: [Ministry of Welfare](#) (Labklājības ministrija)
- European Commission: Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations (ISA): Joinup:
  - Communities: National Interoperability Framework Observatory (Nifo): [eGovernment Factsheets](#) (select country)
- European Public Sector Information Platform (ePSI): [Country Reports 2006-2009](#) [select country]
- OECD: Public Governance: [Latvia](#)

## R&D information

- Latvia: [Ministry of Education and Science](#) (Izglītības un zinātnes ministrija)
- European Commission: Community Research and Development Information Service (CORDIS): National R&D Information Service: [Latvia](#)
- European Commission: DG Research & Innovation:
  - [European Research 2004-2009](#) [click on map to select country]
  - [European Research Area 2013](#) [click on map to select country]
- European Commission: Innovation Union:
  - [Innovation Union Competitiveness Report 2013](#) [select country]
  - [Research and Innovation performance in Country 2013](#) [select country]
- OECD: Green growth and Sustainable development: [Latvia](#)



## Regional and local information

- Latvia: [Ministry for Environmental Protection and Regional Development](#) (VARAM)
- Latvia: [Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments](#) (LALRG)
- European Commission: Eurostat: [Eurostat Regional Yearbook 2014](#)
- Committee of the Regions: Europe in my Region: [Latvia](#)
- Council of Europe: Congress of Local and Regional Authorities: National Delegations: [Latvia](#)
- OECD: Regional rural and urban development: [Latvia](#)
- Regions:
  - [Riga Planning Region](#)
  - [Kurzeme Planning Region](#)
  - [Latgale Region](#)
  - EU 2020 Project: [Zemgale Planning Region](#)
  - [Vidzeme Planning Region](#)

## Social information

- Latvia: [Ministry of Welfare](#) (Labklājības ministrija)
- European Commission: DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion: Your Social Security Rights in [Latvia](#) [in Latvian]
- European Commission: MISSOC Secretariat: [Organisation of Social Protection](#) [select country and year]
- European Commission: MISSOC Secretariat: [Social Protection of the Self-Employed](#) [select country and year]
- Council of Europe: European Social Charter: Country Factsheets: [Latvia](#)
- OECD: Social and Welfare Issues: [Latvia](#)
- UNICEF: Information by Country: [Latvia](#)
- United States: Social Security Administration:
  - Research, Statistics & Policy Analysis: [Latvia](#)
  - Social Security Programs Throughout the World: [Country](#) (year)

## Statistical information

- Latvia: [Bank of Latvia](#) (Latvijas Banka)
- Latvia: [National Statistical Institute](#)
- Eurostat: [Country Profiles](#) [select country]
- UNESCO: Institute for Statistics: Country and Regional Profiles: [Latvia](#)
- United Nations: Statistics Division: Country Profiles: [Latvia](#)
- World Bank: Data: Countries and Economies: [Latvia](#)
- NationMaster: Nations of the World: Statistics on [Latvia](#)

## Tourism information

- Latvia: [Official Latvian Tourism Portal](#)
- Guardian Newspaper Ltd.: Guardian Unlimited Travel: [Latvia](#)
- The Telegraph: [Latvia](#)
- Lonely Planet: [Latvia](#)
- Rough Guides: [Latvia](#)
- Tripadvisor.co.uk: [Latvia](#)

## Transport information

- Latvia: [Ministry of Transport](#) (Satiksmes ministrija)
- Latvia: Flag Carrier Airline: [airBaltic](#)
- Latvia: National Railway: [Latvijas dzelzceļš](#) [in Latvian]



- European Commission: DG Mobility & Transport:
  - [EU Transport in Figures: Statistical Pocketbook 2014](#)
  - [Road Safety: How is your country doing?](#) (select year)
- Wikipedia: [Transport in Latvia](#)

### Weather information

- Latvia: Latvian [Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre](#) (Latvijas Vides, ģeoloģijas un meteoroloģijas centrs)
- BBC Weather Centre: Climate Guide and Five Day Weather Forecast: [Latvia](#)
- World Meteorological Organization: World Weather Information Service: [Latvia](#)

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