OECD INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION OUTLOOK

Country Report for Latvia

Analysis of Migration Trends, Labour Market Integration, and Policy Developments

2025–2026

LATVIA

OECD Expert group on migration

Report 2026

Riga

30 September 2026

Prepared by the correspondent to OECD's reporting system on migration:

Ilze Siliņa-Osmane

Senior Desk Officer,

Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs

European Affairs and International Cooperation Division

emn@pmlp.gov.lv

Summary

Between 2024 and 2025 the population of Latvia decreased by 15 469 reaching 1,845,096[1,2]. Official statistics from Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia indicated that outflows (15 117) and inflows (13 826) indicates a negative rate of net migration of -1,291 in 2025.[3] Latvian nationals accounted for 49% of total inflows and 55% of total outflows.[4] The non-Latvian population numbered 222 578 at the beginning of 2026, equivalent to 12% of the total population.[5] 159 742 non-citizens of Latvia, mainly longstanding residents from other parts of the former Soviet Union, comprised 71,76% of the non-Latvian and 8,65% of the total population.[6] 29 462 Russian nationals were the largest group of non-Latvian residents and it has decreased compared with the beginning of 2025 (31,059).[7]

The stock of persons holding valid residence permits has decreased reaching 127 809 in 2025 (131 709 in 2024). Of these, 45 204 persons held permanent residence permits (45 731 in 2024) and 82 605 held temporary residence permits (further - TRP) (85 978 in 2024). In 2025, 65,64% of permanent residence permits holders were Russian nationals. Among the holders of TRP, the proportion of Russian nationals was 10,87%. EU/EFTA nationals accounted for 17,54 % of TRP holders and 12,43 % of permanent residence permit holders.[8]

In 2025, number of persons who received permanent residence permits decreased to 189 (310 in 2024). 15 739 received TRP, which is 0,43 % less than in previous year. In 2025, the number of initial TRP issued to investors and their families increased by 38,26 % - 206 (149 in 2024)[9]. Labour migrants comprised 45,75% of all issued initial TRP (4151 permits in 2025)[10].

In comparison to 2024, the number of persons admitted to Latvian citizenship through naturalization has increased - 724 (in 2024 – 694).[11] As in 2024, the largest share of persons who have acquired citizenship is made up of Latvian non-citizens – 434. Among those who have acquired Latvian citizenship, 280 are third-country nationals.

Compared with 2024, the number of asylum seekers in 2025 increased 1.6 times reaching 1,288 (801 in 2024), and the predominant countries of their origin changed, with most asylum seekers arriving from Somalia – 238 (33 in 2024), Afghanistan – 142 (149 in 2024), Ethiopia – 114 (fewer than five in 2024), Morocco – 89 (10 in 2024), Tajikistan – 84 (163 in 2024), Sudan – 78 (fewer than five in 2024), Algeria – 73 (fewer than five in 2024), Egypt – 67 (0 in 2024), Eritrea – 56 (0 in 2024).[12]

[1] Source: https://data.stat.gov.lv/pxweb/en/OSP_PUB/START__POP__IR__IRS/IRS010/table/tableViewLayout1/
[2] In 2025, CSB changed the method for producing population estimates. Since 2012, a logistic regression model was used, but going forward, the Sol-Logit model will be applied. The methods are similar, with the main difference being that the logistic regression model is a supervised model trained on data from the Population and Housing Census 2011, whereas the Sol-Logit model is unsupervised model and does not require training data.
To ensure comparability, the data for 2023 and 2024 have also been recalculated using the new method. The population estimate published on 2 June was revised on 2 October 2025, and the usually resident population now includes foreign students.
[3] Source: https://data.stat.gov.lv/pxweb/en/OSP_PUB/START__POP__IB__IBE/IBE060/
In 2025, CSB changed the method for producing population estimates. Since 2012, a logistic regression model was used, but going forward, the Sol-Logit model will be applied. The methods are similar, with the main difference being that the logistic regression model is a supervised model trained on data from the Population and Housing Census 2011, whereas the Sol-Logit model is unsupervised model and does not require training data.
To ensure comparability, the data for 2023 and 2024 have also been recalculated using the new method.
[4] Source: https://data.stat.gov.lv/pxweb/en/OSP_PUB/START__POP__IB__IBE/IBE060/table/tableViewLayout1/
[5] Source: https://data.stat.gov.lv/pxweb/lv/OSP_PUB/START__POP__IR__IRV/IRV040/table/tableViewLayout1/
[6] Source: https://data.stat.gov.lv/pxweb/lv/OSP_PUB/START__POP__IR__IRV/IRV040/table/tableViewLayout1/
[7] Source: https://data.stat.gov.lv/pxweb/lv/OSP_PUB/START__POP__IR__IRV/IRV040/table/tableViewLayout1/
[8] Data source: OCMA. https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/uzturesanas-atlaujas
[9] Data source: OCMA. https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/uzturesanas-atlaujas
[10] Source: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/MIGR_RESFIRST__custom_7427087/default/table?lang=en
[11] Data source: OCMA.
[12] Data source: OCMA.

On 2 October 2025, the Saeima adopted amendments to the Immigration Law[13], which set out that residence permits shall not be issued to third-country nationals if they have been convicted for criminal offences carrying a criminal penalty under the Latvian law.

On 6 May 2025, Cabinet Regulation No. 277 "Procedures for Ensuring the Provision of Priority Public Services to Merchants"[14] was adopted: it sets out the sectors, as well as the requirements and criteria for companies that have the right to invite such third-country nationals to work in Latvia, whose employment-related documents are accepted and examined, decisions are taken, and documents are issued within the shortened time limits laid down by the Cabinet. The Regulation sets out that the third-country nationals invited by recipients of priority services may enjoy faster access to visa applications at representation offices abroad, as well as to documents certifying the right of residence (residence permit eID cards) within a shortened time limit – within three working days (instead of 10 working days).

Specific information on the reception and integration of Ukrainian refugees

Pursuant to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians[15], as of 5 March 2025 every Ukrainian civilian residing in the Republic of Latvia that has been granted the temporary protection status is required to hold a valid residence permit.

On 3 December 2025, Amendments to the Law on Support for Ukrainian Civilians[16]. were adopted. The state support for Ukrainian civilians in Latvia is reduced by approximately 40% (from the EUR 65 million planned for 2025 to just under EUR 40 million).

[13] Law "Amendments to the Immigration Law". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 198, 14.10.2025. – [entered into force on 28.10.2025]
[14] Cabinet Regulation No. 277 of 6 May 2025 "Procedure for Ensuring the Provision of Priority Public Services to Merchants". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 91, 14.05.2025. – [entered into force on 15.05.2025]
[15] Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians. - *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 45A, 04.03.2022. – [entered into force on 05.03.2022]
[16] Law on Amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians. – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 244, 18.12.2025. – [entered into force on 01.01.2026]

Contents

Summary 2
Contents 4
General Overview of Demographic Situation 5
Major Developments in Migration and Integration Policy 6
Asylum and International Protection 6
Reception of applicants for international protection 7
Minors and other vulnerable groups 11
Non-discrimination 12
Migration 13
Foreign student policy 20
Integration of Migrants and their Children 22
Specific information on the reception and integration of Ukrainian refugees 28
Naturalisation 39
Return migration 39
International Migration in the Public Debate 41
Trends in work, investor residence permits, irregular migration 44
Work Permits 44
Investor residence permits 45
Irregular Migration 47
Forced and Voluntary Return 49
Statistics 51
Main legal acts and further information 56

General Overview of Demographic Situation[17]

According to the data of the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs (further - OCMA), on 1 January, 2026, there were 1 991 448[18] inhabitants in Latvia in total; 1 694 930 of them had Latvian citizenship, 167 340 were non-citizens: 40 109 were citizens of the Russian Federation, 6 659- citizens of Ukraine, 6 145- citizens of India, 5 091- citizens of Uzbekistan, 4 798 - citizens of Lithuania, 4 204 - citizens of Belarus, 2 516 - citizens of Germany, 1 460- citizens of the United Kingdom and 1 235 citizens of Israel.[19] The data of the OCMA suggests that on January 1, 2026, there were 109 303 third-country nationals living in Latvia (5,92% of the population); 69 634 of them had a TRP and 39 674 – a permanent residence permit. 69 888 residence permits were issued in 2025 which is for 11,7 % less than in 2025 (79 152 permits). The number of issued first-time permanent residence permits decreased during the previous years (2025 - 189; 2024 - 310). [20]

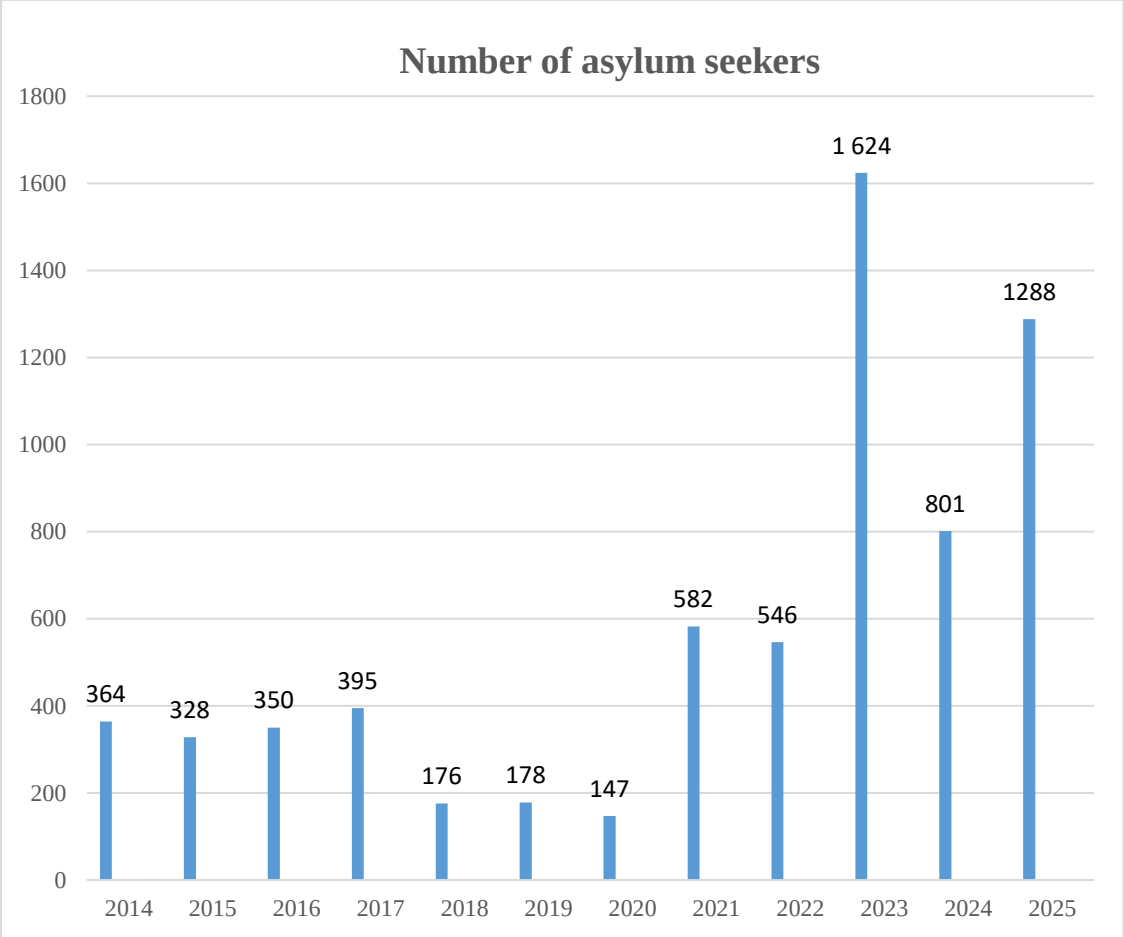
From 1 January, 2026 until 30 June, 2026 735 new applications of asylum were received, 26 persons received a refugee status and 53 persons – subsidiary protection status.[21]

[17] Analysis provided in this report covers the time period **from January 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026**
[18]The breakdown by nationality - Available: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/media/11046/download?attachment
[19]The breakdown by nationality - Available: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/fizisko-personu-registra-statistika-2026-gada
[20] http://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/sakums/statistika/uzturesanas-atlaujas.html.
[21] Data source: OCMA. Data on June 30, 2026.

Major Developments in Migration and Integration Policy

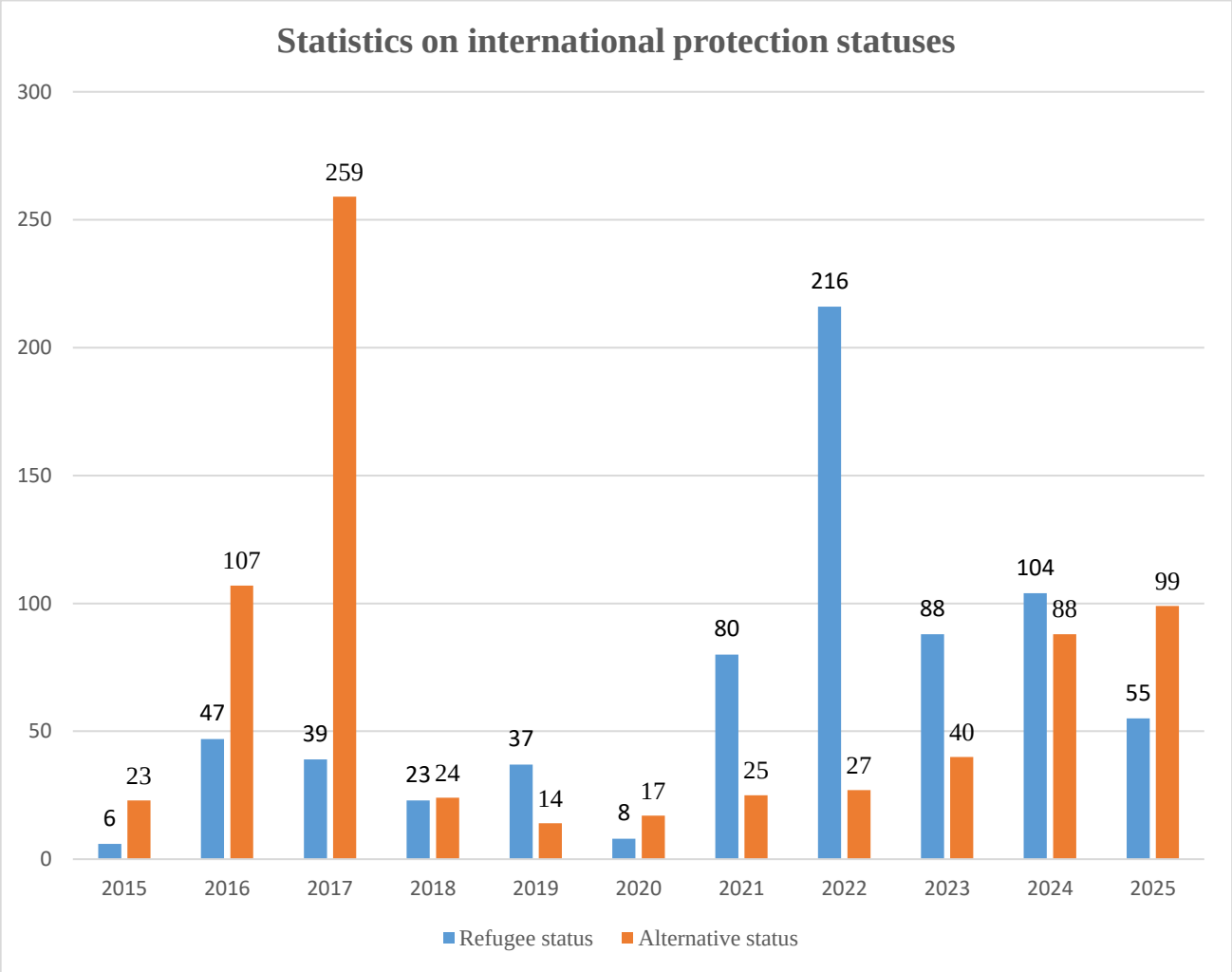
Policy Changes

Asylum and International Protection



Compared with 2024, the number of asylum seekers in 2025 increased 1.6 times reaching 1 288 (801 in 2024), and the predominant countries of their origin changed, with most asylum seekers arriving from Somalia – 238 (33 in 2024), Afghanistan – 142 (149 in 2024), Ethiopia – 114 (fewer than five in 2024), Morocco – 89 (10 in 2024), Tajikistan – 84 (163 in 2024), Sudan – 78 (fewer than five in 2024), Algeria – 73 (fewer than five in 2024), Egypt – 67 (0 in 2024), Eritrea – 56 (0 in 2024).[22]

[22]Data source: OCMA.



In 2025, 154 persons received international protection in Latvia. Refugee status was granted to 55 persons, alternative status to 99 persons.

109 asylum seekers were transferred to Latvia in 2025 in the framework of the Dublin mechanism.[23]

96 asylum seekers have been transferred to Latvia under the Dublin mechanism until June 30, 2026.[24]

Reception of applicants for international protection

At the beginning of 2025, the Human Rights Centre launched the project "Provision of legal aid to asylum seekers and individuals with international protection and capacity-building measures in Latvia", which includes several activities aimed at protecting the rights of asylum seekers, individuals with a refugee status, individuals with an alternative status, individuals with a temporary protection status and stateless persons. The project is funded by the UNHCR.[25]

In the framework of the project, two events were organised:

[23] Data source: OCMA
[24] Data source: OCMA
[25] Provision of legal aid to asylum seekers and individuals with international protection and capacity-building measures in Latvia. – Available on: https://cilvektiesibas.org.lv/lv/projects/juridiskas-palidzibas-sniegsana-patveruma-mekletaj-689/

- On 17 December 2025, a webinar for legal aid providers took place, it focussed on current issues that are related to the European Union Pact on Migration and Asylum. The webinar was attended by 49 participants. During the event, the following topics were examined:

- the background information on the development of the new framework;
- a comparison of the current law with the new law;
- the new pre-entry stage, which includes screening and the border procedure;
- new developments affecting the asylum procedure.[26]

- On 14 November 2025, the annual seminar for legal aid providers on asylum law, organised by the Latvian Centre for Human Rights, took place. A total of 25 participants attended the seminar, including 18 legal aid providers and 2 representatives of the Court Administration. In the first part of the seminar, an overview was provided on the current developments and trends in protecting the asylum rights in Lithuania and Estonia that allowed the participants to compare the situation in the Baltic States. In the second part of the seminar, discussions were held on the specific aspects of evidence in cases that involved more vulnerable asylum seekers. [27]

In October 2025, the Information Centre of the Ministry of the Interior, in cooperation with the State Border Guard (further – SBG) and the OCMA, started to implement the Border Management and Visa Policy Financial Support Instrument (Pact on Migration and Asylum) 2021 –2027 framework period project No. IC/MPP/RPVP/2025/1 "Modernisation of the technological platform of the Biometric Data Processing System and procurement of EURODAC equipment". The project aimes to adapt the technological platform of the Biometric Data Processing System (further - BDAS) to the requirements arising from the changes and innovations in the new Eurodac Regulation (EU) 2024/1358. The project aims to adapt the technological platform of the Biometric Data Processing System to the requirements arising from the changes and innovations in the new Eurodac Regulation (EU) 2024/1358.

Project activities:

Adaptation of the BDAS technological platform to the requirements of the Eurodac Regulation: adaptation and supplementation of the BDAS technological platform;

- security tests;
- training.

Improvement of the central access point solution for Eurodac.
Procurement and integration of end-user equipment:

- procurement of end devices;
- integration of end devices.

Expected outputs of the project:

- adaptation and supplementation of the BDAS with the functionality necessary for the operation of the information system, and the CT tests have been completed;

- security testing of the BDAS solution has been carried out;

[26]A webinar on the European Union Pact on Migration and Asylum took place. – Available on: https://cilvektiesibas.org.lv/lv/news/notika-vebinars-par-eiropas-savienibas-migracijas--707/
[27] A seminar for legal aid providers on asylum law took place. - Available on: https://cilvektiesibas.org.lv/lv/news/notika-seminars-juridiskas-palidzibas-sniedzejiem--706/

- training videos have been prepared, and system users have been trained;
- the CPP solution has been supplemented by including a possibility to create Eurodac data requests;
- end devices have been purchased;
- equipment integration has been completed.[28]

The project is still being implemented.

On December 22, 2025, the Council of the European Union approved, by a written procedure, a decision establishing the first solidarity reserve for 2026, which forms part of the process of implementing the solidarity mechanism of the EU Migration and Asylum Pact. The solidarity mechanism requires the involvement of EU Member States in the joint management of the migration situation by providing support to those EU countries that face higher migration pressure. In addition to the Council of the European Union decision establishing the first solidarity reserve, a separate declaration was added at the request of Latvia, setting out Latvia's situation, the security context, and the limitations of the national capacity. The declaration confirms Latvia's position and provides a justification for applying the exception.

Latvia plans to make its contribution to the solidarity mechanism by choosing the third type of solidarity contribution – alternative support measures or other forms of support that reduce the migration burden in the main countries of arrival, for example by providing expert knowledge or technical support. Latvia will not participate in the relocation of persons.[29]

At the beginning of 2026, the OCMA launched a significant European Union project, "Implementation of Migration and Asylum Pact procedures in the area of asylum"; it aims to improve the infrastructure and process management of the national asylum system. The project is being implemented in cooperation with the Digital Centre of the Ministry of the Interior and the SBG.[30]

The main objective of the project is to ensure full compliance of the Latvian asylum procedures with the requirements of the new Migration and Asylum Pact, which requires a more effective and more uniform approach throughout the European Union. To achieve this, the Asylum Seekers Register and the related information systems will be modernised, thereby creating a technological basis for faster processing of data and more accurate recording of processes. In addition to these technological improvements, the project includes extensive methodological work that involves the development of specific manuals and information materials incorporating all latest provisions of international legal acts.

A significant part of the project is devoted to strengthening the human resource capacity by organising an extensive training for both the OCMA staff and the employees of other involved institutions. A particular focus will be placed on crisis management skills and action algorithms in cases when a mass influx of asylum seekers occurs. Such preventive preparedness measures will ensure the ability of the public administration to maintain stability and

[28] European Union Financial Support Instrument for Border Management and Visa Policy (Migration and Asylum Pact) 2021–2027 project No. IC/MPP/RPVP/2025/1 "Modernisation of the technological platform of the biometric data processing system and procurement of EURODAC equipment". – Available on: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/projekts/es-finansiala-atbalsta-instrumenta-robezu-parvaldibai-un-vizu-politikai-migracijas-un-patveruma-pakts-2021-2027gadam-projekts-nr-icmpprpvp20251-biometrijas-datu-apstrades-sistemas-tehnologiskas-platformas-modernizacija-un-eurodac-iekartu-iegade

[29] The Council of the European Union approves the initial agreement on the solidarity mechanism of the Migration and Asylum Pact in writing; Latvia abstains from the vote. – Available on: https://www.iem.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/es-padome-rakstiski-apstiprina-sakotnejo-vienosanos-par-migracijas-un-patveruma-pakta-solidaritates-mehanismu-latvija-balsojuma-atturas

[30] Implementation of Migration and Asylum Pact procedures in the area of asylum. – Available on: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/projekts/migracijas-un-patveruma-pakta-proceduru-ieviesana-patveruma-joma

effectiveness even during periods of higher workload and atypical situations, while protecting both the interests of society and the fundamental rights of individuals.[31]

At the beginning of 2026, the OCMA launched the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund 2021 –2027 programme project No. PMLP/PMIF/2025/1 "Support measures for receiving and accommodation persons in need of international protection in Latvia (Phase 2)". It aims to improve reception and accommodation standards for persons in need of international and temporary protection in Latvia.

The main activities of the project are:

- Support measures for persons in need of international or temporary protection (including material, medical and psychological assistance);
- Procurement of equipment and vehicles for asylum seeker accommodation centres (hereinafter, the ASAC);
- Training for employees on issues related to the reception and accommodation of asylum seekers;
- Ensuring the operation of the ASAC in Liepna;
- Strengthening the capacity of the OCMA by hiring additional staff for the accommodation of asylum seekers and the asylum procedure.

The target groups of the project are: asylum seekers; Ukrainian civilians who, when crossing Latvia in transit, need to receive short-term accommodation and minimum material assistance; OCMA employees who conduct the asylum procedure and provide accommodation to asylum seekers.[32]

In the beginning of June 2026, new brochures on the asylum procedure in Latvia are published in the OCMA webpage. The procedures described and the information provided in these brochures apply only to asylum seekers who have applied for asylum in Latvia since June 12, 2026.

EUAA has developed the main sections of this brochure, and the EUAA has authorized its reproduction and adaptation only by EU Member States.

The brochures are intended to provide information to adults, accompanied minors, and unaccompanied minors.

The brochures contain information on the most important aspects of the Migration and Asylum Pact. They explain the Asylum and Migration Management Regulation, what EURODAC is, various asylum procedure scenarios, and the rights and obligations of asylum seekers regarding reception.[33]

The construction of a temporary accommodation center for detained foreigners will continue in the village of Raudas, Šēdere parish, Augšdaugava municipality. Last fall, the local government agreed to transfer the former school building to the Ministry of the Interior. The first construction works began in March 2026. Currently, the adjacent territory has been

[31] The Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs will modernise the asylum system in accordance with the new standards of the European Union. – Available on: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/pilsonibas-un-migracijas-lietu-parvalde-modernizes-patveruma-sistemu-atbilstosi-eiropas-savienibas-jaunajiem-standartiem

[32] Support measures for receiving and accommodating persons in need of international protection in Latvia (Phase 2). – Available on: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/projekts/atbalsta-pasakumi-personu-kuram-nepieciesama-starptautiska-aizsardziba-uznemsanai-un-izmitinasanai-latvija-2posms

[33] Brochures on the asylum procedure in Latvia as of June 12, 2026. – Available at: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/en/brochures-asylum-procedure-latvia-june-12-2026

partially improved, as well as the interior spaces have been prepared – windows and doors have been replaced, and engineering communications have been restored. It is hoped that the center could start operating by the end of 2026.

The planned capacity is currently 106 foreigners. The school's territory covers more than eight hectares in total. Currently, funding is being invested in the renovation of the building and the adaptation of the premises to all necessary requirements. Taking into account the conditions of the Migration Pact and the requirements set for Latvia, based on the available funding, it is also planned in the future that a multifunctional center with a capacity for accommodating up to 300 foreigners will be built on this 8.3 hectare territory.
The total cost of the project is 4.3 million euros, of which 3.2 million *euro* are covered by European Union funds.[34]

Minors and other vulnerable groups

In 2025, 170 unaccompanied minors were identified in Latvia, and all of them applied for asylum in Latvia. The majority were Somali nationals – 135.[35]

On April 15, 2025, Cabinet Regulation No. 352 "Regulations on the Sample Official Statistics Form in the Area of Operation of the Orphan's and Custody Court and the Procedures for Completing and Submitting the Form"[36] of June 20, 2017 was amended by including the following sections:

- "the number of asylum seekers who, by a decision of the Orphan's and Custody Court, have been accommodated in an asylum seeker accommodation centre";
- "the number of asylum seekers who, by a decision by the Border Guard or a court, are residing in the accommodation centre for detained foreign nationals".

The inclusion of these sections will ensure more accurate data collection and make it possible to receive complete information on the placement of all unaccompanied children in Latvia.

In July 2025, the Ombudsman's Office addressed Prime Minister Evika Siliņa, calling on the government to assess, as soon as possible, how the expenses of local governments incurred in meeting the needs of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers will be reimbursed. The problem lies in the fact that the workload of some orphan's and custody courts has increased significantly, but there is still no clarity as to whether and when the state will allocate additional funding. Ropaži Municipality is currently facing a particular burden. *This problem has remained unresolved for a long time; thus, we call on the Human Rights and Public Affairs Committee of the Saeima to exercise parliamentary oversight to find a solution without any delay.*[37]

In November 2026, the Ministry of the Interior submitted an informative report for the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers "On the impact of measures to ensure the protection of the rights and interests of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers on municipal budgets"[38], which

[34] The accommodation center for detained foreigners in Rauda, Augšdaugava region, will be ready by the end of the year. - Available at: https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/zinas/latvija/03.07.2026-aiztureto-arzemnieku-izmitinasanas-centrs-augsdaugavas-novada-rauda-bus-gatavs-lidz-gada-beigam.a653774/?utm_campaign=rss&utm_medium=links&utm_source=rss
[35] Source: OCMA.
[36] Cabinet Regulation No. 217 "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 352 of 20 June 2017 "Regulations on the Sample Official Statistics Form in the Area of Operation of the Orphan's and Custody Court and the Procedures for Completing and Submitting the Form"" of 8 April 2025. – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 74, 15.04.2025. – [entered into force on 16.04.2025]
[37] Expenses of local governments incurred in meeting the needs of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers must be reimbursed without any delay. – Available on: https://www.tiesibsargs.lv/news/bez-kavesanas-jakompense-pasvaldibu-izdevumi/
[38] Informative report "On the impact of measures to ensure the protection of the rights and interests of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers on municipal budgets". – Available on: https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/meetings/cabinet_ministers/47e44dd2-3576-4640-ae69-5ea79e9436c2

stipulated that the solution proposed in the protocol decision expanded the ability of local governments to receive compensation as it set out a compensation for the expenses incurred not only in providing support to refugees and persons with alternative status, but also in ensuring the protection of the rights and interests of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers from January 1, 2024 onwards. The protocol decision stipulated that the actual expenses incurred by local governments should be compensated from the state budget programme "Funds for Unforeseen Events" until unaccompanied minor asylum seekers reached the age of 24.[39]

Non-discrimination

In spring 2025, the Ombudsman of Latvia published the study "On the state of discrimination in Latvia". It aimed to carry out qualitative research and analysis of the state of discrimination in Latvia. The study was developed by *SIA "AC Konsultācijas"* in cooperation with experts from the Prevention of Discrimination Division of the Ombudsman's Office.

The following tasks were set in order to achieve the objective of the study:

- To analyse the discrimination criteria laid down in the law;
- To analyse statistical data on various vulnerable groups of persons exposed to the risk of discrimination in Latvia;
- To assess the practice of the Ombudsman's Office in the area of discrimination prevention during the period from 2021 until July 2024;
- To analyse studies already conducted in Latvia in the area of discrimination;
- To examine the results of the media study conducted by Latvian Information Agency LETA and to compile the main conclusions on the state of discrimination;
- To examine information on EU equality indices, including Latvia's position in relation to other EU Member States;
- To conduct a survey of discrimination experts using the Delphi method;
- To prepare conclusions on the state of discrimination in Latvia and to develop recommendations for the necessary improvements in the are.[40]

According to the experts involved in the study, clarifying the concept of indirect discrimination is more important than introducing new discrimination criteria into the legal framework, as it will ensure uniform application of the rules, and strengthen the capacity and coordinating role of the Ombudsman's Office. Experts indicated that the issue of age discrimination in various areas should be brought to the fore, especially discrimination against older persons in employment; discrimination in physical and digital accessibility of people with various types of disabilities; as well as discrimination in healthcare based on the social origin and status of patients.[41]

The authors of the study prepared recommendations to bring discrimination to the fore and to examining these issues, to promote the public understanding of discrimination, and to reduce the manifestations of discrimination.[42]

---

[39] Minutes No. 49 of the Cabinet meeting of 25 November 2025. – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 231, 01.12.2025.
[40] State of discrimination in Latvia. – Available on: https://www.tiesibsargs.lv/resource/diskriminacijas-situacija-latvija/
[41] Study "State of discrimination in Latvia". – Available on: https://m.juristavards.lv/biblioteka/286984-petijums-diskriminacijas-situacija-latvija/
[42] On the state of discrimination in Latvia. – Available on: https://www.tiesibsargs.lv/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/diskriminacijas_situacija_latvija.pdf

As of the July–August 2025 issue, the Ministry of Welfare[43] regularly publishes a news digest "(NON-)Discrimination Bulletin" on the developments and events that are related to the discrimination and its reduction, and to building of an equal and inclusive society.

Information on respective achievements, decisions and studies can be found in the "(NON-)Discrimination Bulletin" on the Ministry of Welfare's website in the section "Horizontal principle "Equality, inclusion, non-discrimination, and respect for fundamental rights""[44] under "News and updates"[45].

Migration

The total number of first-time residence permits issued in 2025 increased by 58% compared to the previous year – 14 301 residence permits were issued[46] (9 024 in 2024). 5 994[47] first-time temporary residence permits were issued to Ukrainian civilians who received temporary protection in Latvia.

In 2025 and 2026, changes were made to Latvia's migration policy and the legal framework. In order to strengthen the national security, reduce dishonest practices in student migration, transpose the European Union law and to promote the integration of third-country nationals, several important amendments to the Immigration Law have been adopted, and the respective Cabinet Regulations have also been supplemented. These legal acts establish stricter requirements for both third-country nationals and their inviters: legal entities and natural persons. The objective of the amendments is to ensure more effective supervision of migration processes, reduce the risks of malicious conduct and strengthen the reputation of Latvia as a lawful and secure state.

On March 25, 2025, Cabinet Regulation No. 197 "Regulations Regarding Emergency Travel Document" was adopted[48], laying down the specimen and the content of the temporary travel document, the procedure and conditions for its issuance, as well as its validity periods. The Cabinet Regulation aims to transpose the provisions of Directive (EU) 2019/997 establishing an EU Emergency Travel Document and repealing Decision 96/409/CFSP, and Commission Delegated Directive (EU) 2024/1986 of May 6, 2024 amending Council Directive (EU) 2019/997 as regards the machine-readable zone of the EU Emergency Travel Document[49] laying down rules on the content and form of the temporary travel document, the issuance procedure, conditions, periods of validity, the amount of the state fee, the payment procedure, and the exemptions and reductions of the state fee for the issuance of temporary travel documents.

Pursuant to Paragraph 13 of Cabinet Regulation No. 141 "Procedures for the Recognition of Foreigners' Travel Documents"[50] of March 4, 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs adopted Decision No. 1690 on the non-recognition in the Republic of Latvia of non-biometric passports of citizens of the Russian Federation. As of July 15, 2025, Latvia discontinued issuing visas in non-biometric passports, as well as ceased accepting residence

[43] In cooperation with the Ministry of Justice and during the 2021–2027 EU funds planning period, the Ministry of Welfare is responsible for coordinating the horizontal principle "Equality, inclusion, non-discrimination, and respect for fundamental rights" – this principle must be upheld at all stages of the planning, implementation, evaluation, and monitoring of EU funds.
[44] Horizontal principle "Equality, inclusion, non-discrimination, and respect for the fundamental rights". – Available on: https://www.lm.gov.lv/lv/horizontalais-princips-vienlidziba-ieklausana-nediskriminacija-un-pamattiesibu-ieverosana
[45] News and updates. – Available on: https://www.lm.gov.lv/lv/zinas-un-jaunumi-0
[46] Data source: OCMA. Initial data on residence permits collected by *Eurostat* – to be adjusted at a later date.
[47] Data source: OCMA.
[48] Cabinet Regulation No. 197 of March 25, 2025 "Regulations Regarding Emergency Travel Document". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 63, 31.03.2025. – [entered into force on 09.12.2025]
[49] Pursuant to Council Directive (EU) 2019/997 of 18 June 2019 establishing the EU Emergency Travel Document and repealing Decision 96/409/CFSP, Article 19(1), and Article 2(1) of Commission Delegated Directive (EU) 2024/1986 of 6 May 2024 amending Council Directive (EU) 2019/997 as regards the machine-readable zone of the EU Emergency Travel Document.
[50] Cabinet Regulation No. 141 of 4 March 2021 "Procedures for the Recognition of Travel Documents of Foreigners". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 46. – 08.03.2021. – [entered into force on 09.03.2021]

permit applications from Russian citizens who do not possess a biometric passport.[51] Russia issues biometric and non-biometric passports. Passports without biometric data issued by Russia do not comply with the recommendations of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and pose various security risks. Passports without biometric data do not contain electronic data media; thus, it is not possible to compare the personal data of passport holders with the data in the chip, and these passports are easy to forge. The decision aims to prevent the said security risks.

On March 18, 2025, the Cabinet approved Regulation No. 176 "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 157 of March 8, 2022 "Regulations Regarding the Extent of the Knowledge of the Official Language and the Procedures for Examining the Proficiency in the Official Language""[52], which establishes the procedures for testing the proficiency of the official language for citizens of the Russian Federation who, in order to receive the status of a long-term resident of the European Union, must demonstrate that their state language proficiency matches at least A2 level.

On October 2, 2025, the Saeima adopted amendments to the Immigration Law[53], which set out that residence permits shall not be issued to third-country nationals if they have been convicted for criminal offences carrying a criminal penalty under the Latvian law. The amendments aim to develop an accountability-based immigration policy, reducing threats to the internal and external security and sovereignty of the Latvian state, as well as the aggression and the influence exerted by the Russian Federation and its allies. The new regulation applies to all third-country nationals. In its 2024 public report, the State Security Service indicated that the most frequent reason for initiating criminal proceedings in 2024 was the so-called hate speech in support of the Russian aggression and interests. This is also one of the most frequent reasons for initiating criminal proceedings in the previous years. The largest number of foreign nationals criminally convicted in Latvia are citizens of the Russian Federation. In 2022, there were 92 persons; in 2023, 74 persons; in 2024, 59 persons. The report claims that some of those acting as mouthpieces for the interests of the Russian Federation are foreign nationals holding residence permits.[54]

On March 26, 2026, the Saeima adopted an amendment to the Immigration Law[55], which lays down additional circumstances that may serve as grounds for the cancellation of temporary residence permits, thereby strengthening the national security, law-abiding conduct of foreign nationals, and social cohesion. The amendments stipulate that a temporary residence permit of a foreign national shall be cancelled if, within one calendar year, that individual has committed three administrative offences against public order, public administration, road traffic rules, or the protection of children's rights.[56]

On May 6, 2026, Amendments to the Immigration Law were adopted[57], transposing Directive (EU) 2024/1233 of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 24, 2024 on a single application procedure for a single permit for third-country nationals to reside and work

[51] Latvia will henceforth no longer recognise non-biometric passports of citizens of the Russian Federation. – Available on: https://www.mfa.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/latvija-turpmak-neatzis-krievijas-federacijas-pilsona-pases-bez-biometrijas-datiem
[52] Cabinet Regulation No. 176 of 18 March 2025 "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 157 of 8 March 2022 "Regulations Regarding the Extent of the Knowledge of the Official Language and the Procedures for Examining the Proficiency in the Official Language"". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 57, 21.03.2025. – [entered into force on 22.03.2025]
[53] Law "Amendments to the Immigration Law". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 198, 14.10.2025. – [entered into force on 28.10.2025]
[54] Annotation to the draft law "Amendments to the Immigration Law". – Available on: https://titania.saeima.lv/LIVS14/SaeimaLIVS14.nsf/0/E100E8B09965485CC2258C7C001DD55F?OpenDocument
[55] Law "Amendment to the Immigration Law". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 72, 15.04.2026. – [entered into force on 29.04.2026]
[56] Annotation to the draft law "Amendment to the Immigration Law". – Available on: https://titania.saeima.lv/LIVS14/SaeimaLIVS14.nsf/0/1B61F336839C2D39C2258D2C004D9821?OpenDocument
[57] Law "Amendments to the Immigration Law". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 85, 06.05.2026. – [entered into force on 20.05.2026.]

in the territory of a Member State and on a common set of rights for third-country workers legally residing in a Member State[58]. In addition, it is envisaged to:

- delete Section 23, Paragraph one, Clause 31 of the Immigration Law, which allows to receive a temporary residence permit if a foreign national purchases zero-interest government securities designated for a special purpose at the nominal value of EUR 250 000 and pays EUR 38 000 into the state budget pursuant to the regulatory enactments governing the issue of government securities;
- conclude a delegation agreement with an external service provider for the acceptance of documents required for applying for a residence permit and for verifying the authenticity of documents attached to an application for a long-stay visa or a residence permit;
- establish a procedure for remedying deficiencies in the documents required for applying for a residence permit, setting a 14-day time limit for the person concerned; this deadline may be extended at the request of the applicant or his or her sponsor. If the deficiencies are not remedied, the OCMA would take a decision refusing the issuance or registration of the residence permit;
- stipulate that documents required for requesting a residence permit may be submitted to the OCMA only by persons who are lawfully residing in the Republic of Latvia, excluding from this category persons who have received a departure order, but wish to submit documents to apply for a residence permit during the period, when they are permitted to remain in the country pending departure. The 90-day restriction on submitting documents for a minor child born in Latvia has been abolished, as receiving a child's travel document often takes longer. The restriction preventing individuals who have received a residence permit for studies from submitting documents to apply for a residence permit on another ground has been abolished. To supplement Section 32, Paragraph three of the Immigration Law with a provision allowing the Head of the OCMA to permit a person, for important personal reasons, to submit documents to apply for a residence permit to the OCMA;
- a third-country national (including a national of Belarus and Russia) has the right to request a temporary residence permit for a period of up to five years if guardianship or trusteeship has been established for him or her or he is a guardian or trustee of a Latvian national or non-citizen of Latvia. The parent of a minor Latvian national or non-citizen of Latvia has the right to request a temporary residence permit if the minor Latvian national or non-citizen of Latvia does not have another guardian in the Republic of Latvia who exercises daily actual guardianship, or if he or she is able to prove regular personal relations and direct contact with the minor Latvian national or non-citizen of Latvia;
- third-country national residing in the Republic of Latvia in connection with education or studies are not entitled to request a permanent residence permit during the validity period of this residence permit;
- set out in Section 35 of the Immigration Law that a temporary residence permit shall not be annulled if a third-country national has received a temporary residence permit for the purposes of employment and the total period of unemployment during the validity of the temporary residence permit does not

[58] Directive (EU) 2024/1233 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 April 2024 on a single application procedure for a single permit for third-country nationals to reside and work in the territory of a Member State and on a common set of rights for third-country workers legally residing in a Member State (recast). – PE/93/2023/REV/1 Official Journal L, 2024/1233, 30.4.2024.

exceed three months or, if the third-country national has resided in the Republic of Latvia for more than two years with a temporary residence permit issued for the purposes of the employment and the total period of unemployment during the validity of the temporary residence permit does not exceed six months, and the third-country national has notified the OCMA of the termination of the employment relationship. If the foreign national has been employed under especially exploitative working conditions, the periods of unemployment may be extended by three months.[59]

On November 27, 2025, the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia adopted a statement "On the establishment of the Saeima Parliamentary Inquiry Commission on problems in the national and European Union level immigration regulation and the work of executive institutions, which cause mass entry and residence of third-country nationals in the Republic of Latvia" (hereinafter – the Saeima Statement). Based on the Saeima Statement, a parliamentary inquiry commission "On problems in the national and European Union level immigration regulation and the work of executive institutions, which cause mass entry and residence of third-country nationals in the Republic of Latvia" (hereinafter – the Inquiry Commission) was established, setting a six-month term for its operation.

In June, 2026 a Final report of the Parliamentary Inquiry Commission "Report of the Parliamentary Inquiry Commission on Problems in National and European Union Level Immigration Regulation and the Work of Executive Bodies, Which Cause Mass Entry and Residence of Third-Country Citizens in the Republic of Latvia" was approved by Saeima. The Commission of Inquiry found that forgery of documents related to entry and residence is one of the significant violations that requires scrupulous work of the responsible authorities. Improvements are needed – starting from active monitoring of offers to forge Latvian documents, improving mechanisms for preventing and controlling corruption risks, to strengthening the responsibility of employers and educational institutions – are essential to ensure the transparency and legality of migration processes. It is necessary to strengthen the responsibility of employers and educational institutions in attracting immigrants, providing for much higher penalties for dishonest entrepreneurs or officials. It is necessary to consider the possibility of concluding legal assistance agreements, including those that provide only the Latvian side with the right to receive legal assistance with those countries from which the greatest migration flows and risks of document forgery come.

On September 15, 2026 new Immigration Law[60] came into force, which aim is to ensure the implementation of an immigration policy consistent with the interests of the Latvian state by determining the procedures for the entry, residence, implementation of early integration measures, transit, exit and detention of third-country nationals, as well as the procedures for the expulsion of third-country nationals from the Republic of Latvia. The law was developed to implement the first option of the "Conceptual Report on Immigration Policy" approved on February 15, 2018. The law combines the previously valid Immigration Law and the Law "On the Status of a Permanent Resident of the European Union in the Republic of Latvia", as well as excludes from it the norms that apply to the entry and residence of citizens of the Member States of the European Union, the countries of the European Economic Area and the Swiss Confederation and their family members in the Republic of Latvia, including these conditions in a separate draft law.[61]

[59] Annotation to the draft law "Amendments to the Immigration Law". – Available on: https://titania.saeima.lv/LIVS14/SaeimaLIVS14.nsf/0/755EA9F769245E90C2258D61004D726B?OpenDocument
[60] Immigration Law. - Latvijas Vēstnesis No 167, 01.09.2026. – [entered into force on 15.09.2026.]
[61] Draft law "Immigration Law" annotation. – available at: https://titania.saeima.lv/LIVS13/saeimalivs13.nsf/0/C1B6E344F2D5B5D3C22587670047E254?OpenDocument#B

In February 2026, the OCMA developed a convenient and functional electronic tool (hereinafter, the e-tool) for third-country nationals lawfully residing in the territory of the Republic of Latvia. This e-tool will make it possible to quickly and conveniently receive information on the process of applying for and receiving a short-stay Schengen visa and a national long-stay visa.

The visa e-tool is available on the OCMA website www.pmlp.gov.lv in the section "Visas, invitations and sponsorships" – "Receiving a visa at the Office"[62]. It is available both in Latvian and English: https://vizucelvedis.pmlp.gov.lv/.[63]It serves as a single point of detailed information on applying for a Schengen short-stay visa and a national long-stay visa, the process for submitting the necessary documents, payment conditions and receipt of the visa, as well as on the amount of the state fee and the payment procedure.

In autumn 2025, the large-scale pilot project APTITUDE was launched[64] (Advanced Project for Trusted Identity Technologies and Unified Digital Ecosystem), which will help in creating a unified, secure, and user-friendly digital identity ecosystem for all European residents. APTITUDE aims to prepare solutions for the introduction of the European Digital Identity Wallet (EDIM) by the end of 2026, ensuring that residents are able to manage their digital identity securely and conveniently throughout the European Union.

Digital identity will become a reliable everyday assistant to residents, simplifying and accelerating various processes. It will replace some physical documents, ensuring full control over personal data pursuant to the General Data Protection Regulation and the highest privacy standards.

The pilot project will focus on four key areas in which the EDIM will provide practical and readily usable benefits:

- Digital travel credentials – identity verification and passport data for travelling.
- Tickets and check-in – digital boarding passes, hotel check-in and the public transport.
- Vehicle registration – digital ownership and lease certificates.
- Payments and banking services – secure customer identification and digital payments.

APTITUDE will carry out extensive functional testing to assess the usability, interoperability and scalability across the EU, while promoting standardisation and strengthening cooperation between the public and private sectors. This initiative is a significant step towards the full-scale implementation of EDIM, which will strengthen trust in the digital environment and make everyday life easier for millions of residents across Europe.

APTITUDE builds on the experience of previous pilot projects (NOBID, DC4EU, POTENTIAL, EWC), expanding on it and ensuring a smooth transition to the implementation of EDIM. The pilot project brings together 117 public and private sector partners from 12 European countries[65]. [66]

[62] The development of the visa e-tool was financed under the project "Use and Development of the National Visa Information System (NVIS)" in the framework of the 2021–2027 programme of the Financial Support Instrument for Border Management and Visa Policy.

[63] The Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs has developed a digital guide on the visa application process. – Available on: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/pilsonibas-un-migracijas-lietu-parvalde-izstradajusi-digitalu-celvedi-vizu-sanemsanas-procesam

[64] Lead partner – the Ministry of Finance; Latvian partners: the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs, the Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional Development, the State Digital Development Agency, JSC "SEB banka".

[65] France – the project coordinator, Czechia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, and Hungary.

[66] The APTITUDE project – a step closer to a secure and convenient digital identity across Europe. – Available on: https://www.varam.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/aptitude-projekts-solis-tuvak-drosai-un-ertai-digitalajai-identitatei-visa-eiropa

Economic migration

On May 6, 2025, Cabinet Regulation No. 277 "Procedures for Ensuring the Provision of Priority Public Services to Merchants"[67] was adopted: it sets out the sectors, as well as the requirements and criteria for companies that have the right to invite such third-country nationals to work in Latvia, whose employment-related documents are accepted and examined, decisions are taken, and documents are issued within the shortened time limits laid down by the Cabinet. The Regulation sets out that the third-country nationals invited by recipients of priority services may enjoy faster access to visa applications at representation offices abroad, as well as to documents certifying the right of residence (residence permit eID cards) within a shortened time limit – within three working days (instead of 10 working days). The Regulations were drafted to promote exports and attract investments, as well as to ensure a business environment that is conducive to the development of the defence industry, including by attracting foreign labour to meet the needs of the Latvian economy and labour market, by reducing the administrative burden and accelerating administrative coordination processes for economic operators significant to the national economy.[68]

However, on 22 October 2025, during a meeting of the Human Capital Development Council on the employment of third-country nationals in Latvia, both the Ministry of Economics and representatives of several invited associations emphasised that Cabinet Regulation No. 277 should be revised by introducing stricter criteria for including companies that are considered significant to the national economy in the "green corridor" list.

On 24 February 2026, the Cabinet approved Regulation No. 84 "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 277 of 6 May 2025 "Procedure for Ensuring the Provision of Priority Public Services to Merchants""[69], aiming to address the shortcomings identified in the practical application of the regulation following the entry into force of Cabinet Regulation No. 277 of 6 May 2025. In addition, the amendments to the regulation were developed to promote investment, foster the development of exportable and high value-added projects, support the growth of priority sectors and the defence industry, as well as to ensure compliance with the obligations laid down in Regulations (EU) 2024/1252[70] and (EU) 2024/1735[71] of the European Parliament.[72]

Henceforth, merchants whose export volume reaches EUR 10 million (instead of EUR 5 million previously) will be able to qualify for the "green corridor" advantages. As a result, the list of "green corridor" merchants will decrease from 586 to approximately 259 companies, ensuring that the benefits are granted only to merchants making the greatest

[67] Cabinet Regulation No. 277 of 6 May 2025 "Procedure for Ensuring the Provision of Priority Public Services to Merchants". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 91, 14.05.2025. – [entered into force on 15.05.2025]
[68] Annotation to the draft legal act "Procedure for Ensuring the Provision of Priority Public Services to Merchants". – Available on: https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/annotation/45da77ff-1fe1-496d-b8b9-1dd853762c96
[69] Cabinet Regulation No. 84 of 24 February 2026 "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 277 of 6 May 2025 "Procedure for Ensuring the Provision of Priority Public Services to Merchants"". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 40, 26.02.2026. – [entered into force on 27.02.2026]
[70] Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 establishing a framework for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials and amending Regulations (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1724 and (EU) 2019/1020 (Text with EEA relevance), PE/78/2023/REV/1. – Official Journal L, 2024/1252, 3.5.2024.
[71] Regulation (EU) 2024/1735 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 on establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe's net-zero technology manufacturing ecosystem and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1724 (Text with EEA relevance), PE/45/2024/REV/1. – Official Journal L, 2024/1735, 28.6.2024.
[72] Annotation to the draft legal act "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 277 of 6 May 2025 "Procedure for Ensuring the Provision of Priority Public Services to Merchants"". – Available on: https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/annotation/12519ea4-6cbe-4639-b9df-150ed657a5f0

contribution to the national economy. The OCMA's time limit for examining the documents of third-country nationals has been reduced from 30 to 10 working days. [73]

On July 7, 2026, Cabinet Regulation No. 388 "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 564 of June 21, 2010 "Regulations Regarding Residence Permits""[74] was approved, adopting the EU regulatory act and making certain clarifications, the necessity of which arises from the regulatory acts in the field of migration.

The amendments provide for the possibility for an employee to start employment with another employer without receiving a new temporary residence permit, but by issuing a call to the employer, upon approval of which the conditions of the expected employment are checked.

If a third-country national is a holder of an European Union Blue Card who has resided in Latvia for at least 12 months or the change of employer takes place during a period of unemployment, then the third-country national may start employment with the new employer immediately after submitting the call application, while if a third-country national is not employed on the basis of an European Union Blue Card, he may start employment after the call is approved or, if the application review period is extended, after 30 days after submitting the call application.

In accordance with Article 11(4) of Directive 2024/1233[75], the amendments include a provision stating that in cases where the period of unemployment allowed to an employee ends while the application for a call-up by a new employer is being examined, the employee has the right to continue to reside in Latvia until he is granted the right to employment with the new employer. Such regulation is necessary so that in cases where the unemployment situation has been eliminated within the period specified in legal acts, and the start of new employment requires only the completion of the administrative procedure (approval of the call-up), the employee does not have to leave Latvia.[76]

EMN Latvia national report for the study "Sustainable labour market integration of third-country nationals: skills matching policies and instruments"77

More than a half of the European companies consider the shortage of skills to be an urgent problem whose resolution cannot be postponed, as companies cannot find workers with the appropriate qualifications and skills to fill vacancies. It is expected that the shortage of workers with appropriate skills will become even more acute in the future; thus, the question "How can the skills of migrants already living and working in the European Union be used effectively?" is becoming ever more pressing.

This issue has not been a national policy priority in Latvia, although it has been discussed more extensively since the arrival of Ukrainian civilians. As a result, a relatively large number of third-country nationals entered the labour market over a certain period. However, according to experts, the causes of skills mismatch for all types of migrants in Latvia are

[73] The range of beneficiaries of the "green corridor" benefits has been narrowed: twice the export volume will be required. – Available on: https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/zinas/ekonomika/24.02.2026-sasaurina-zala-koridora-prieksrocibu-sanemeju-loku-vajadzes-divreiz-lielaku-eksporta-apjomu.a636154/

[74] Cabinet Regulation No. 388 of July 7, 2026 "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 564 of June 21, 2010 "Regulations Regarding Residence Permits"". - *Latvijas Vēstnesis* No129, 09.07.2026. – [came into force on 10.07.2026]

[75] Directive (EU) 2024/1233 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 April 2024 on a single application procedure for a single permit for third-country nationals to reside and work in the territory of a Member State and on a common set of rights for third-country workers legally residing in a Member State (recast). - PE/93/2023/REV/1 *Official Journal L, 2024/1233, 30.4.2024.*

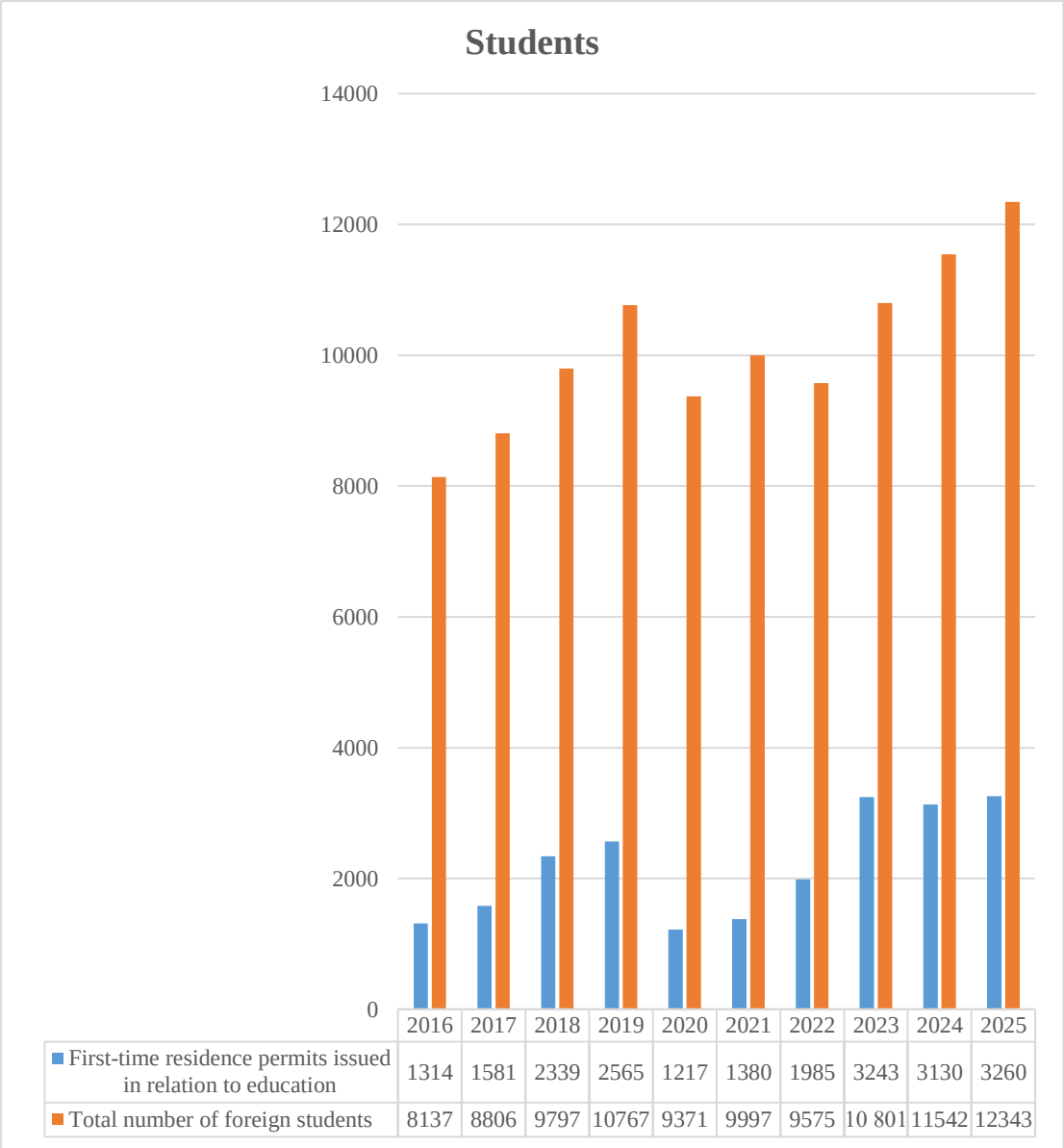
[76] Annotation of the draft legal act "Amendments to the Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers of June 21, 2010 No. 564 " Regulations Regarding Residence Permits "". – Available at: https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/annotation/302aae89-d762-415e-85e2-e4d12c5e0f0c

[77] EMN national report for the study "Sustainable labour market integration of third-country nationals: skills matching policies and instruments. –Available on: https://www.emn.lv/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/EMN-study-Fostering-labour-market-integration_common-template_LV_final.pdf

essentially the same: the main ones are the lack of official language skills, limited access to information about the labour market, employers' concerns and the related need to practically assess the migrants' ability to work in the local environment, as well as the complexity and length of procedures for the recognition of qualifications received abroad. After the collection of expert opinions, it was reported that the greatest difficulties continue to be the Latvian language learning, the procedure for the recognition of professional qualifications, and mismatches between employers' requirements and migrants' practical skills and readiness. At the same time, good practice examples were also highlighted, such as the Latvian language courses available to migrants and measures implemented by the State Employment Agency to promote employment and cooperation with employers.

Foreign student policy

In 2025, initial 3260 TRP were issued to foreign students, 4% more than in 2024 (3130).[78]



	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
First-time residence permits issued in relation to education	1314	1581	2339	2565	1217	1380	1985	3243	3130	3260
Total number of foreign students	8137	8806	9797	10767	9371	9997	9575	10 801	11542	12343

[78] Data source: OCMA

The largest proportion of students were from India (42%) and Uzbekistan (15%), 4% were from EU/EFTA countries.[79]

At the meeting of the parliamentary inquiry committee on March 3, 2026, representatives of higher education institutions were heard on third-country students studying there. During the meeting and in the context of assessing the immigration framework, representatives of higher education institutions promised to attract more students from the European countries and the member states of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), rather than students from third countries.[80]

Data on status changes shows that in 2025 the total number of immigration status from education increased (641 in 2025, 479 in 2024)[81]. The most status changes were from education to employment reasons.

The Baltic International Centre for Economic Policy Studies conducted an extensive study on the lives and educational experiences of foreign students and graduates in Latvia "Integration of International Students and Employment Opportunities in Latvia"[82]. The study identified the main factors that influenced their decision to remain in Latvia after completing their studies or to move to another country. The results included specific recommendations to higher education institutions, employers and policymakers to promote the integration and long-term retention of international students in Latvia.
The study concluded that the integration barriers faced by third-country graduates in Latvia's labour market are structural and systemic, driven by policy fragmentation and the lack of a uniform approach. Latvia needs to change its approach from passive education export to targeted attraction of foreign talents. The higher education offer must become an instrument of the country's economic transformation, focusing on attracting students to study programmes that are in line with Latvia's strategic priorities and smart specialisation areas.[83]

On September 15, 2026, new Immigration Law[84] entered into force, granting the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs the authority to ban a natural or legal person from inviting third-country nationals for up to three years if 30 percent or more of the students invited by a higher education institution in the previous calendar year were refused a long-term visa (excluding institutions with fewer than 10 visa applications per year). The new Immigration Law also introduces a significant restriction for foreign students. Going forward, family members of foreign nationals—who are not citizens of NATO member states and are residing in Latvia as full-time students in first- or second-cycle higher education programs—are not eligible for a temporary residence permit. This specific restriction does not apply to doctoral (third-cycle) students.

[79] Source: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/statistika-uzturesanas-atlaujas-2025-gads
[80] Higher education institutions promise to reduce the share of students from third countries. – Available on: https://leta.lv/home/important/227CF7CC-7478-4102-AAD7-DB86C86AB5CB/
[81] Source: Eurostat
[82]"Integration of International Students and Employment Opportunities in Latvia". – Available on: https://biceps.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/treso_valstu_studentu_nodarbinatiba_2025.pdf
[83] Summary of the study "Integration of International Students and Employment Opportunities in Latvia". – Available on: https://biceps.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/applv_petijuma_parskats.pdf
[84] Immigration Law. - Latvijas Vēstnesis No 167, 01.09.2026. – [entered into force on 15.09.2026.]

Integration of Migrants and their Children

The Ministry of Culture is responsible for the integration policy in Latvia. The Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Welfare, the Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional Development, the Ministry of the Interior, the Societu Integration Fund (further – SIF), and non-governmental organisations are also involved in the implementation of this policy.

In the framework of the "One-Stop Agency" (further - OSA), the content of integration support measures was improved and expanded by introducing structured educational support modules that complement the range of individual consultations and other services provided by the OSA. The changes were implemented at the level of the content, methodology and targeting of the measures, by adapting the support to various target groups (including applicants for international protection) and by relying on individual socio-economic inclusion plans. No changes to regulatory acts or integration policy that are in the remit of the SIF were planned or made at this stage.

The SIF and the OSA act as policy implementers, ensuring the practical implementation of measures approved at national level. What concerns the inclusion of third-country nationals, no separate amendments to regulatory acts were made in 2025; however, in the framework of the implementation of integration measures, informational and advisory support was made available on employment conditions, opportunities for starting a business and the related legal framework in Latvia.

Educational support modules for migrants have been developed and implemented: the basic module, the international protection module, the family module, the study module, and others. The content of the modules includes information on the social and cultural environment of Latvia, rights, regulatory framework, employment, education, and socio-economic support, at the same time promoting intercultural competence, independence in everyday situations, and a sense of belonging to Latvia. Educational support modules were implemented in 7 groups in different regions of Latvia (4 in Riga, 2 in Jelgava, 1 in Liepāja). In addition to the educational content, the groups also provided psychological support, which stimulated consistent participant engagement throughout the year.[85]

In addition, in 2025 a programme was developed and 16 seminars on intercultural communication and cooperation were carried out for external cooperation partners, covering 35 organisations and more than 200 participants from municipal and state institutions (including social services, educational institutions, libraries, municipal police, higher education institutions, and Riga Airport). The seminars aimed to strengthen specialists' ability to navigate resources effectively, refer clients to the OSA in a timely manner, and to reduce the administrative burden.

In 2025, the OSA continued to provide individual support to third-country nationals (consultations, legal support, translation, and psychological support), as well as to coordinate cooperation between institutions to ensure timely and targeted availability of integration services. The first-phase branches of the OSA are located in Riga, Liepāja, Jelgava, Daugavpils, and Valmiera, providing timely and targeted advisory and practical support to newcomers, including oral and written translations, legal aid, and consultations with a psychologist and psychotherapist to ensure more successful socio-economic inclusion in Latvia. The clients of the OSA are third-country nationals and beneficiaries of international protection who are legally residing in Latvia. The task of the OSA is to promote the inclusion of these newcomers in the society and its cohesive development by employing a unified approach to integration issues. To

[85] Source: Ministry of Culture.

achieve this objective, the OSA staff cooperate with representatives of state and municipal institutions, non-governmental organisations, higher education institutions, and the business sector. In 2025, the OSA provided individual consultations to 8,662 clients. Most frequently, clients sought information on migration issues (32%), employment (11%), social services and support (8%), everyday matters (16%), healthcare (3%), housing (4%), and education (8%). Other questions accounted for 1%, while the specialised services provided by the OSA – legal aid, psychologists' consultations and Latvian language learning – accounted for 17% of all consultations provided.

Translation services continued to be essential in the integration process – interpretation was provided to 951 clients, written translation to 689 clients, while 86 clients received legal consultations. Demand for psychological support and the Latvian language learning continued to grow, confirming the importance of these services in the everyday life and in the integration process. In addition to individual activities, the OSA organised information days and seminars, where clients learned about living in Latvia, as well as community meetings that promoted mutual understanding between local residents and newcomers. Digital accessibility was also improved by providing remote consultations, which were particularly important in the regions.[86]

As of 1 January 2026, the SIF OSA continues its operations in Latvia as a national-level support centre that provides coordinated, timely and individualised assistance to third-country nationals and the beneficiaries of international protection. The agency aims to facilitate the first steps in Latvia by providing practical, legal, psychological, and informational support in one place to promote successful inclusion in the Latvian society. The project will be implemented over the next 4 years and last until the end of 2029.[87]

On 25 September 2025, the latest report of the Migrant Integration Policy Index (MIPEX), which analyses immigrant integration policy in the countries of the European Union (EU), was published. MIPEX is an internationally recognised tool developed by the Migration Policy Group (MPG) in cooperation with the Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB). By relying on comprehensive indicators, it measures immigrant integration policy in eight main areas: the labour market, education, family reunification, permanent residence rights, access to citizenship, political participation, anti-discrimination, and healthcare. The latest study covers 27 EU Member States over the period from 2020 to the beginning of 2024.

Latvia's performance in the MIPEX[88] index was rated at 36 out of 100 points that classified the country's integration policy as “rather unfavourable”. The score is below the EU average in all eight areas analysed. Particularly low scores were recorded in:

- Education (26/100), demonstrating the lack of systematic and organised support for the inclusion of immigrant children in the education system.
- Labour market mobility (33/100), demonstrating the lack of targeted measures to promote the inclusion of newcomers in the labour market according to their qualifications.

The report concluded that support measures in several areas had been implemented on a campaign basis rather than systematically. Since 2020, Latvia's overall score has not significantly changed.[89]

[86] The contribution of the One-Stop Agency in supporting newcomers in 2025. – Available on: https://livelatvia.lv/lv/vienas-pieturas-agenturas-ieguldijums-jaunpienaceju-atbalsta-2025-gada/
[87] The One-Stop Agency for newcomers in Latvia continues its operations. – Available on: https://www.sif.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/latvija-darbu-turpina-vienas-pieturas-agentura-jaunpienacejiem-latvija
[88] https://mipex.eu/latvia
[89] Migrant Integration Index: 2025 data. – Available on: https://providus.lv/raksti/migrantu-integracijas-indekss-2025-gada-dati/

In the project “Migrant Reception in Situations of Uncertainty: Governance and Local-Level Inclusion”,[90] a roadmap for the establishment and operation of the Urban Development and Integration Laboratory (PAIL) was developed[91]. The Urban Development and Integration Laboratory (PAIL) is the name proposed by the authors for a framework designed to promote public participation in addressing local development and social integration issues. The development of Latvia's cities, with a few exceptions, must be viewed in the context of a declining population and an ageing society. PAIL is a framework that enables a local government to develop a deeper understanding of the possibilities to address matters of local development and integration and to implement solutions in a long-term perspective. This roadmap proposes developing PAIL by relying on the quadruple helix model. The quadruple helix is an innovation framework, where public administration, higher education institutions, entrepreneurs, and civil society cooperate.[92]

On July 31, 2026, the Cabinet of Ministers' informative report "On the interim assessment of the implementation of the Guidelines for the development of a cohesive and civically active society for 2021–2027"[93] was approved, in which it is said, that in the mid-term evaluation of the implementation of the Society Integration Fund (SIF), the creation of the One-Stop Agency and the provision of Latvian language courses for newcomers was recognized as the most significant investment in the field of integration. The interim evaluation concluded that the implementation of the policy for a cohesive and civically active society has generally been targeted and the measures have largely been directed towards addressing the problems identified in the guidelines. At the same time, it is necessary to further strengthen policy coordination, the sustainability of civil society, community cooperation and the systemic accessibility of state language learning.[94]

On September 1, 2026, the new Immigration Law[95] was signed which establishes that a foreigner who has been issued a temporary residence permit or consecutive temporary residence permit with a total duration of at least 18 months has an obligation to complete the early integration program. The early integration program includes:

1. a course on Latvian culture and history;
2. Latvian language learning at least at the basic level, first step (A1).

Early integration measures shall be financed by the third-country national.

This regulation will come into force in the December of 2027.

Integration in labour market

In 2025, 144 persons with refugee or alternative status were registered with the SEA.

During 2025, the SEA continued to provide consultations in person and remotely by email, telephone and video conferencing.

In 2025, 7 persons with a refugee or an alternative status received career consultations, and 18 persons were involved in the following active employment and preventive measures: e-career self-assessment tests (2), information days (3), competitiveness improvement measures (3), EURES (the network of European employment services, members and partners)

[90] The project is funded by the Latvian Council of Science, grant No. LZP-2023/1-0227.
[91] Roadmap for the establishment and operation of the Urban Development and Integration Laboratory (PAIL). – Available on: 10.5281/zenodo.17728461.
[92] Roadmap for the establishment and operation of the Urban Development and Integration Laboratory (PAIL). – Available on: 10.5281/zenodo.17728461.
[93] the Cabinet of Ministers' informative report of the July 31, 2026 "On the interim assessment of the implementation of the Guidelines for the development of a cohesive and civically active society for 2021–2027". - Latvijas Vēstnesis No 148, 05.08.2026.
[94] The mid-term evaluation commends SIF's contribution to social integration and strengthening civil society. – Available at: https://www.sif.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/starpposma-novertejuma-atzinigi-novertets-sif-ieguldijums-sabiedribas-integracija-un-pilsoniskas-sabiedribas-stiprinasana
[95] Immigration Law. - Latvijas Vēstnesis No 167, 01.09.2026. – [entered into force on 15.09.2026.]

consultations (1), a measure for starting a business or engaging in self-employment (1), individual consultations by a psychologist (1), measures for specific groups of persons (1), training on online course platforms (1), a summer employment measure for pupils (1), official language courses (13).

In 2025, 61 persons with a refugee or an alternative status who had received the SEA support started employment.[96]

In the spring of 2025, the SEA organised regional seminars for employers in Liepāja, Rēzekne, Riga, Valmiera, and Jelgava on the "Employment of Third-Country Nationals in Latvia: Legal and Practical Aspects". Entrepreneurs were informed about the conditions, legal framework and solutions for attracting foreign labour, and employers' questions were answered by experts – representatives of the SEA, the OCMA, the State Labour Inspectorate, and the European Employment Services network (EURES). The seminars were organised in the framework of the European Social Fund Plus (ESF) project "Ensuring the Operation of the EURES Network in Latvia". Participation in the events was free of charge for employers.

Topics of the seminars:

- Issuance of SEA opinions to employers on the employment of third-country nationals;
- EURES support to recruitment from the European Union and European Economic Area countries, including Latvia;
- OCMA work permit issuance process for third-country nationals;
- Rights and obligations of employers and employees, and SLI supervision mechanisms;
- Discussions, exchange of experience, and analysis of practical situations.[97]

To ensure greater support and objectivity in selecting candidates from the local labour market, as of 15 August 2025 all employers who have requested an opinion on a vacancy and on the need to recruit a third-country national may use an opportunity to have interviews with candidates in person (on SEA premises or at the employer's premises) or online.

In addition, in 2025 the SEA received requests to issue 5,247 opinions (for 38,565 vacancies), and issued 4,408 positive opinions on the recruitment of foreign nationals (for 32,029 unfilled vacancies) and 388 opinions refusing the permission to recruit third-country nationals. At the same time, employers hired 1,066 local candidates that filled the notified guest worker vacancies.[98] Since the beginning on 2025 when registering a vacancy with the SEA, an employer must cooperate with the SEA: justify the number of vacancies, evaluate the candidates offered by the agency and also provide justification for rejecting candidates. If a suitable candidate is not found within 10 working days, the SEA will provide a positive opinion for attracting foreign labour, and the employer will be able to prepare an invitation or summons with the OCMA to invite a third-country national – employee[99].

[96] Source: SEA.
[97] In Liepāja, Rēzekne, Riga, Valmiera, and Jelgava, the SEA will organise regional seminars for employers on issues related to the employment of foreigners. – Available on: https://www.valka.lv/lv/jaunums/liepaja-rezekne-riga-valmiera-un-jelgava-nva-rikos-regionalos-seminarus-darba-devejiem-par-arvalstnieku-nodarbinasanas-jautajumiem
[98] Source: SEA.
[99] Cabinet Regulation No. 803 of 10 December 2024 "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 55 of 28 January 2014 "Regulations Regarding Employment of Foreigners"". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 242, 12.12.2024. – [entered into force on 01.01.2025]

Basic services

Social services

At the Ministry of Welfare, an analysis of data from recent years provided by the State Social Insurance Agency (hereinafter, the SSIA) demonstrates that, in recent years, as employer-supported labour recruitment from third countries has steadily increased and as financially intensive demographic support measures have been further developed, an unintended trend has emerged regarding the possibility for third-country nationals who have come to Latvia to work for a fixed period to make use of the parental benefits while the rest of the family and the children actually live in a third country.

On 27 November 2025 and as a matter of urgency, the Saeima adopted the final reading of the draft law "Amendments to the Law "On Maternity and Sickness Insurance"" [100], which, *inter alia*, provided for an additional criterion for granting the parental benefit. Thus, as of 1 July 2026, the parental benefit can be granted for a child who has been assigned a personal identification number, whose status in the Register of Natural Persons is active, and who permanently resides in the territory of Latvia. If the child of a person socially insured in Latvia, in respect of whom the parental benefit is granted, lives in another Member State of the European Union, the Swiss Confederation or a Member State of the European Economic Area, the parental benefit for this child shall be granted in accordance with the provisions of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 (hereinafter, Regulation (EU) No 883/2004).

Whether the child permanently resides in Latvia will be verified by the SSIA that will rely on the information at its disposal regarding the child's declared place of residence in Latvia. In case of doubt, the SSIA may ask the recipient of the parental benefit to submit evidence confirming that the child permanently resides in the territory of Latvia (travel documents, registration with a general practitioner, and visitation records). Accordingly, the parental benefit will be granted only if the child has an active status in Register of Natural Persons of Latvia, has been assigned a personal identification number, and permanently resides in Latvia.

Language learning

In 2025, the OSA also developed a new platform "LearnLatvian" to facilitate access to information on free Latvian language courses. It is available on: www.livelatvia.lv. There, newcomers can conveniently find the Latvian language learning location closest to their place of residence. The platform also provides information on paid Latvian language courses, as well as offers a compilation of free online learning materials and recommendations for language learning.[101]

At the end of August 2025, the University of Latvia received a decision of the Higher Education Quality Agency on the licensing of the study programme "Teacher of Latvian as a Foreign Language". The newly created programme aims to expand the opportunities for learning the Latvian language, thereby promoting social integration, and to prepare teachers for work with adult learners. Studies in the newly created programme are free of charge – state-funded places are available, and students also have an opportunity to receive a scholarship of

[100] Law on Amendments to the Law "On Maternity and Sickness Insurance". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 233, 03.12.2025. – [entered into force on 01.01.2026]

[101] The contribution of the One-Stop Agency in supporting newcomers in 2025. – Available on: https://livelatvia.lv/lv/vienas-pieturas-agenturas-ieguldijums-jaunpienaceju-atbalsta-2025-gada/

up to EUR 280 per month. [102] In February 2026, 37 students commenced their studies in this programme.[103]

The study programme is intended for those who wish to acquire or improve pedagogical skills in teaching Latvian as a foreign language, with a particular emphasis on supporting the integration processes of foreign nationals and representatives of minorities who wish to learn Latvian.

At the end of 2025, the Latvian Language Agency published the study "Latvian language learning among newcomers: experience and needs" (2025)[104]. The report summarises the results of the study conducted by the Latvian Language Agency in 2024 on the Latvian language learning needs and experiences of newcomers.

Immigrants who have resided in Latvia for no longer than five years and who are neither Latvian nationals nor non-citizens, including refugees, asylum seekers and third-country nationals, are the target group of the study. The data gathered during the study provide an insight into the newcomers' experience of learning Latvian, their motivation to learn, the effectiveness of the learning process, the use of the language in everyday life, and newcomers' future plans in relation to language learning and integration into the society. The study outlines the difficulties encountered by language learners and presents good practice examples.

Respondents offer recommendations for improving the Latvian language learning system and refining the official language policy that are based on their experience. These recommendations are related to the availability of information on Latvian language learning, ensuring the quality of Latvian language courses, the motivation to learn Latvian, and the use of Latvian in everyday life.[105]

The study provides an insight into the current situation and offers recommendations for improving the language policy in organising the study of Latvian as a foreign language for adults and in supporting newcomers (how to promote the learning of Latvian and facilitate comprehensive inclusion of newcomers in the Latvian society).[106]

At the beginning of 2026, the Latvian Language Agency published adult learning programmes for Latvian as a foreign language for language proficiency levels A0–C2. The model education programmes for language proficiency levels A0–C2 have been developed with an emphasis on the practical use of the language in everyday communication and in the performance of professional duties. The language learning content is organised into seven themes, each integrating grammar, text production, orthography, orthoepy, and punctuation. The introduction provides a methodological description of the programme models. The model education programmes are available here: https://maciunmacies.valoda.lv/maci/pieaugusajiem.[107]

On August 11, 2026, Cabinet Order No. 459 "On the conceptual report "On a solution for preventing institutional and competence fragmentation in the acquisition of the state

[102] The new study programme for adults "Teacher of Latvian as a Foreign Language" has been licensed. – Available on: https://valoda.lv/licence-jauno-studiju-programmu-pieaugusajiem-latviesu-valodas-ka-svesvalodas-skolotajs/
[103] The Ministry of Education and Science proposes a uniform Latvian language learning system for adults. – Available on: https://www.izm.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/izm-rosina-veidot-vienotu-latviesu-valodas-apguves-sistemu-pieaugusajiem
[104] "Latvian language learning among newcomers: experience and needs" (2025). – Available on: https://valoda.lv/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Petijums_Latviesu-valodas-apguve-jauniebrauceju-vidu_2025.pdf
[105] A study on the Latvian language learning needs and experiences of newcomers has been published. – Available on: https://valoda.lv/publicets-petijums-par-jauniebrauceju-latviesu-valodas-apguves-vajadzibam-un-pieredzi/
[106] "Latvian language learning among newcomers: experience and needs" (2025). – Available on: https://valoda.lv/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Petijums_Latviesu-valodas-apguve-jauniebrauceju-vidu_2025.pdf
[107] Adult learning programmes for Latvian as a foreign language for language proficiency levels A0–C2. – Available on: https://valoda.lv/latviesu-valodas-ka-svesvalodas-apguves-programmas-pieaugusajiem-a0-c2-valodas-prasmes-limeniem/

language for adults"[108] was adopted. The Ministry of Education and Science has been designated as the responsible institution for the development and implementation of the solution in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Welfare. The unified system is intended to ensure unified process management, defining requirements for educators, updating teaching methodology issues and indicating achievable results. It is also planned to create a digital Latvian language learning skills management platform and improve the availability of information about the teaching offer.

The new system provides for unified process management, setting clear requirements for educators, improving the teaching methodology and defining achievable learning outcomes. It is also planned to integrate the receipt of the state language service into the adult skills management platform STARS and improve communication about learning opportunities.

The receipt and management of the state language learning service will be integrated into the digital adult skills management platform STARS. The platform will provide:

- a unified application for Latvian language learning,
- language proficiency level self-assessment options (A1–C2),
- data accumulation on the progress and results of learning,
- funding traceability and reduction of the risk of double funding.

The development and maintenance of the state language module on the platform will be ensured by the State Education Development Agency, while the functions of improving the content of language learning, teaching quality and methodological support will be within the competence of the Latvian Language Agency.

Specific information on the reception and integration of Ukrainian refugees[109]

At the beginning of 2026, there were 26 407[110] Ukrainian citizens who had received the temporary protection status in Latvia.

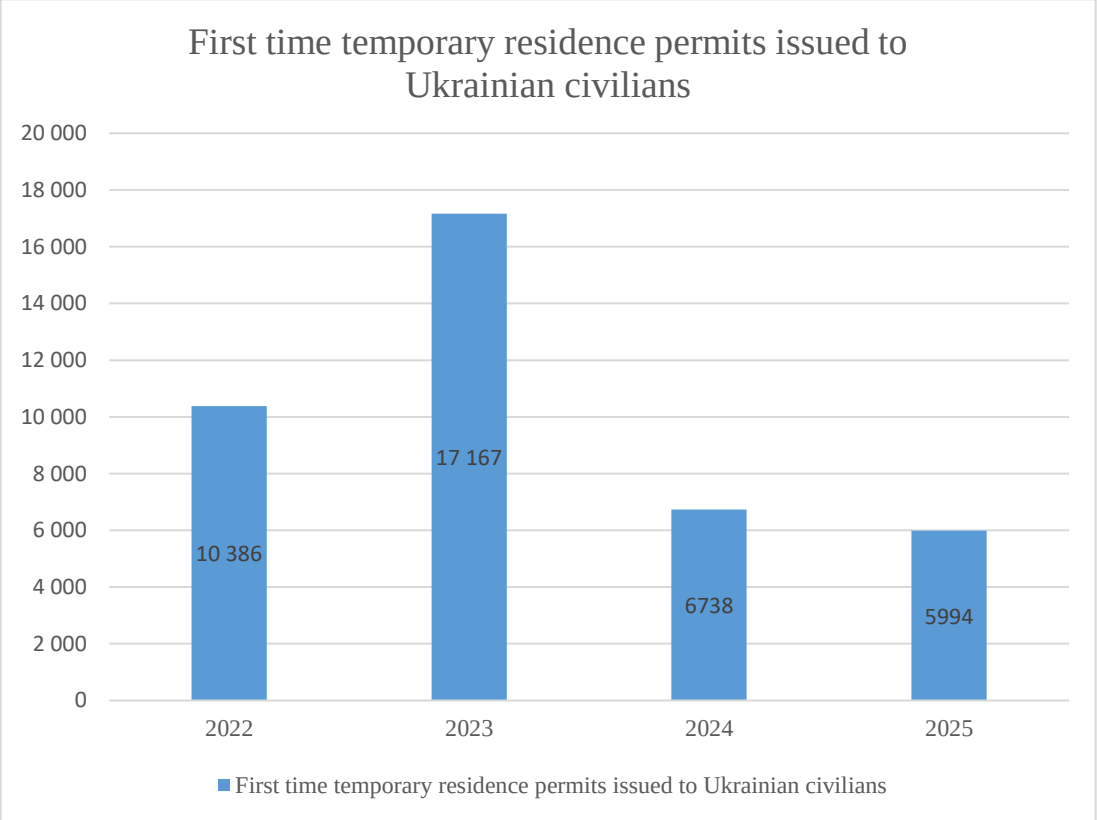
The Ministry of Welfare has prepared the report “Employment of Ukrainian civilians in 2022–2025”[111], which includes information and data from various institutions that describe the employment of Ukrainian civilians, SEA support to Ukrainian civilians, and the learning of the Latvian language, as well as data from the State Revenue Service. SEA observations summarised in the report on the most significant challenges that have hindered more effective integration of Ukrainian civilians into the labour market are as follows:

- lack of available and affordable rental flats in Riga and centres of economic development;
- limited availability of vacancies in municipalities and rural areas outside the Riga region;
- limited public transport connections from places of residence in rural areas to municipal centres;

[108] Cabinet Order of August 11, 2026, No. 459 "On the conceptual report "On a solution for preventing institutional and competence fragmentation in the acquisition of the state language for adults”. - Latvijas Vēstnesis No.154, 13.08.2026. – [entered into force on 11.08.2026.]
[109] Data source: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/media/11424/download?attachment and https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/media/12099/download?attachment
[110] https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/fizisko-personu-registra-statistika-2026-gada
[111] Report “Employment of Ukrainian civilians in 2022–2025”. – Available on: https://www.lm.gov.lv/lv/media/33626/download?attachment

- lack of the official language proficiency in highly qualified professions (for example, teachers, medical practitioners, lawyers, and others), which prevents the Ukrainian civilians from working in their profession and fully realising their potential;
- insufficient number of part-time vacancies, which is particularly relevant, for example, for women with children at the pre-school or primary school age.

One of the conclusions of the report is that, overall, positive trends can be observed in the integration of Ukrainian civilians in the Latvian labour market that are supported by the growing number of employed and self-employed persons, as well as the increase in the average wage. At the same time, promoting employment in highly qualified professions remains important, as many Ukrainian civilians have higher education. It is also important to improve employment opportunities in regions outside Riga, especially in Latgale, where the number of long-term unemployed persons is the highest. Availability of housing and a range of suitable vacancies in the regions, as well as availability of part-time vacancies are preconditions for the employment, which is particularly relevant for women.[112]



Data source: Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs of Latvia.

On January 1, 2025, the Action Plan on providing support to Ukrainian civilians in the Republic of Latvia entered into force[113]. It sets out the support measures available to Ukrainian civilians in 2025 in accordance with the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians and specifies the indicative funding required for their implementation.

[112] Report "Employment of Ukrainian civilians in 2022–2025". – Available on: https://www.lm.gov.lv/lv/media/33626/download?attachment

[113] Cabinet Order No. 1109 of 18 December 2024 "On the 2025 Action Plan for the Provision of Assistance to Ukrainian civilians in the Republic of Latvia". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 250, 27.12.2024. – [entered into force on 18.12. 2024]

According to the decision taken at the Cabinet of Ministers meeting of August 26, 2025 (Minutes No. 33, Paragraph 53, Clause 18)[114], if ministries achieve expenditure reductions by making policy changes and reviewing the provided functions and services, they shall prepare the required statutory amendments, which shall be included in the package of draft laws on the state budget. On December 3, 2025, Amendments to the Law on Support for Ukrainian Civilians were adopted[115]. The state support for Ukrainian civilians in Latvia is reduced by approximately 40% (from the EUR 65 million planned for 2025 to just under EUR 40 million). This means changes both to the benefits and to some services, while maintaining support for the most vulnerable groups. The amendments aim to ensure the provision of support to Ukrainian civilians in Latvia in 2026 that is appropriate in the current situation and commensurate to the capacity of the state budget.

Think-tank "Providus" conducted the study "Experience of Latvian municipalities in receiving Ukrainian civilians: from crisis to long-term solutions"[116]. It aimed to assess how local governments were able to adapt to this crisis, what assistance they provided, and what were the main challenges in receiving Ukrainian civilians. The conclusions are important to strengthen Latvia's ability to respond to similar crises in the future.

The study covers the period of time from the beginning of the war on February 24, 2022 until approximately the spring of 2025. On the one hand, it summarises the role of local governments in providing various types of assistance during the crisis, but on the other hand it also provides a basis for assessing how the situation has developed over more than three years, not only what concerns the achievements of local governments, but also more broadly what concerns the approach to integration in Latvia, inter-institutional cooperation, and the tasks to be undertaken in the future. This period has demonstrated that it is high time to move from crisis solutions to a long-term strategy for the integration of individuals who have received international protection in Latvia.[117]

In June 2025, Providus presented the study "The phenomenon of NGOs established by Ukrainian refugees in Latvia: growth, challenges, and sustainability". Its main objective was to understand the development dynamics of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) established by Ukrainian refugees in Latvia and to identify their success factors, challenges, and sustainability prospects. The self-organisation and civic activity of Ukrainian civilians in Latvia is a noteworthy phenomenon, given that in the previous years the participation of newcomers in the life in Latvia, as in many places across the EU (according to the Migrant Integration Policy Index, MIPEX), has been fragmented and problematic. Having analysed the viability of these organisations, it was concluded that, although they demonstrate determination and adaptability, their sustainability is not guaranteed. At present, dependence on short-term cycles of project funding and uncertainty following the end of crisis grants is the greatest challenge, which results in a constant "struggle for funds". Additional difficulties are caused by the language barrier, the administrative burden, the complexity of reporting, and the risk of burnout among leaders, as well as the possible return of some NGO leaders to Ukraine.[118]

[114] Minutes No. 33 of the Cabinet of Ministers meeting of 26.08.2025. –
Available on: https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/meetings/protocols/fba1296e-4d5c-45f5-8edf-f843782a48fe
[115] Law on Amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians. – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 244, 18.12.2025. – [entered into force on 01.01.2026]
[116] Study "Experience of Latvian municipalities in receiving Ukrainian civilians: from crisis to long-term solutions". – Available on: https://providus.lv/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Pasvaldibu_kapacitate_petijums.pdf
[117] Study "Experience of Latvian municipalities in receiving Ukrainian civilians: from crisis to long-term solutions". – Available on: https://providus.lv/petijumi/petijums-latvijas-pasvaldibu-pieredze-ukrainas-civiliedzivotaju-uznemsana-no-krizes-lidz-ilgtermina-risinajumiem/
[118] The phenomenon of NGOs established by Ukrainian refugees in Latvia: growth, challenges, and sustainability. – Available on: https://providus.lv/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/UkrainuNVOpetijums_gala_mazaks-compressed.pdf

A series of measures were implemented to support Ukrainian civilians in 2025 and early 2026:

1. Legal amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians

Pursuant to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians, as of 5 March 2025 every Ukrainian civilian residing in the Republic of Latvia that has been granted the temporary protection status is required to hold a valid residence permit. In 2025, the OCMA updated information on 18.6 thousand Ukrainian civilians in the Register of Natural Persons, who had lost the temporary protection status in Latvia as they had not applied for a new temporary residence permit within one month of the expiry of their previous visa or residence permit. This number includes both persons whose residence permits expired in the first quarter of 2025 and persons whose documents (visa or temporary residence permit) expired in 2022.[119] The requirement for a valid residence permit was justified by the need to determine the actual number of Ukrainian civilians in the country to plan assistance measures for the forthcoming period and to calculate the financial resources required for these measures according to the actual costs.

2. Employment and professional development support

On December 3,2025, amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians were adopted[120]. They no longer provide for the payment of employment commencement and self-employment commencement benefits to Ukrainian civilians. Both benefits were paid by the SEA on the basis of a person's application. Each benefit equalled one minimum monthly wage (EUR 500 in 2022, EUR 620 in 2023, EUR 700 in 2024, EUR 740 in 2025) set by the state; and these benefits were also exempt from the personal income tax.

The amendments were made in view of the favourable labour market situation and the relatively low unemployment rate (the registered unemployment rate on January 5, 2026 was 5.0%), as well as the comparatively high employment among Ukrainian civilians (according to the estimates of the Central Statistical Bureau, 54% at the beginning of 2025).

By January 1, 2026, 18 649 Ukrainian civilians had received the employment commencement benefit (10 303 in 2022, 3 715 in 2023, 2 379 in 2024, 2 252 in 2025), whilst the self-employment benefit had been paid to 1 010 persons (79 in 2022, 241 in 2023, 221 in 2024, 469 in 2025).[121]

At the same time, Ukrainian civilians, like the citizens of the Republic of Latvia, will continue to have the right to receive all support services of the SEA that promote employment. SEA employees provide consultations to Ukrainian civilians, help them identify job opportunities and communicate with employers.

In 2025, 1406 Ukrainian civilians participated in active employment and preventive measures. Ukrainian civilians were the most active in using the following opportunities: non-formal education (375 participations), learn Latvian (329 participations), receive career counselling (635 participations), work in the summer employment programme for school pupils (72 participations), as well as other active employment measures.

In 2025, 181 employers registered 2 027 vacancies for Ukrainian civilians in various areas: lorry driver (210 vacancies), metal structure fitter (160 vacancies), cleaner (162 vacancies),

[119] Information about 18.6 thousand Ukrainian civilians has been updated in the Register of Natural Persons. – Available on: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/fizisko-personu-registra-aktualizetas-zinas-par-186-tukstosiem-ukrainas-civiliedzivotaju

[120] Law on Amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians. – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 244, 18.12.2025. – [entered into force on 01.01.2026]

[121] Source: the State Employment Agency.

labourer (143 vacancies), packer (manual work) (112 vacancies), and other occupations (1,240 vacancies).

In 2025, 1 535 Ukrainian civilians – unemployed persons and job seekers who had received SEA support – found employment.

3. Latvian language learning support for Ukrainian civilians

Since January 2025, the Society "Shelter" Safe House"" has been implementing a new project "Latvian language learning sessions for Ukrainian doctors, medical personnel and Ukrainian citizens who work in the medical and first aid sectors in Latvia"[122].

The project aims to provide support to Ukrainian civilians who work in the medical institutions of Latvia and receive services from medical institutions, as well as to improve their Latvian language proficiency, to practically use the language in the process of providing the first aid and to improve well-being in the area of healthcare.

The Latvian language is taught at levels A1, A2, B1, and B2. During the language learning, listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills are improved.[123]

On April 25, 2025, the SIF approved the results of the competition for the programme financed from the Latvian state budget: "Latvian Language Training for Ukrainian civilians – children". 18 applications were approved during the competition, and the total available funding was EUR 981 890. The programme aims to promote the use of the Latvian language among Ukrainian civilians – children and young people – by providing them with free language courses in all regions of Latvia.

The programme gives Ukrainian civilians – children aged 5 to 16 and young people aged 16 to 18 who are registered in the Latvian education system – an opportunity to learn Latvian for at least 50, but no more than 120 academic hours. The training is to be organised taking into account the participants' initial language proficiency. The unit cost of one academic hour per participant must not exceed EUR 5.70. The project cost eligibility period runs from the date of conclusion of the contract on the implementation of the project and until 30 November 2025. All project activities must be completed by November 15, 2025.[124]

To facilitate registration for the Latvian language courses, a new registration platform *LearnLatvian* was developed. In this platform, the participants will have the opportunity to select a training provider by finding the most convenient and appropriate training centre based on their place of residence, the form of training and the offered course times. The platform will be available on the One-Stop Agency website www.livelatvia.lv upon conclusion of a contract with the approved training provider.[125]

In 2025, 3 690 adults and 1 532 children applied for a free Latvian language course offered by the SIF, and 2 869 adults and 1 358 children completed the course.[126]

On January 23, 2026, the SIF Council approved the dossier of the open competition for service providers under the programme "Latvian Language Training for Ukrainian civilians", with total available funding of EUR 3,180,880.00. Unlike in the previous years, every adult

[122] The language courses will take place from 9 January until 30 April 2025. This project was developed with the financial support of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), an organisation affiliated with the United Nations.
[123] Latvian language learning sessions for Ukrainian doctors, medical personnel and Ukrainian citizens who work in the medical and first aid sectors in Latvia. – Available on: https://www.patverums-dm.lv/lv/latviesu-valodas-apguves-nodarbibas-ukrainas-arstiem-arstniecibas-personam-un-ukrainas-pilsoniem-kuri-strada-medicinas-un-pirmas-palidzibas-joma-latvija
[124] The results of the project competition "Latvian Language Training for Ukrainian civilians – children" have been approved. – Available on: https://www.sif.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/apstiprinati-projektu-konkursa-latviesu-valodas-macibas-ukrainas-civiliedzivotajiem-berniem-rezultati
[125] Results of the competition "Latvian Language Training for Ukrainian civilians" have been approved. – Available on: https://www.sif.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/apstiprinati-konkursa-latviesu-valodas-macibas-ukrainas-civiliedzivotajiem-rezultati
[126] Support is available for the Latvian language courses for Ukrainian civilians. – Available on: https://www.sif.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/pieejams-atbalsts-latviesu-valodas-kursiem-ukrainas-civiliedzivotajiem

who learns Latvian at level A1 or higher will be required to take the state language proficiency examination at the State Education Development Agency (hereinafter, the VIAA).

The programme aims to promote the use of the Latvian language among Ukrainian civilians – children and adults – by providing free Latvian language courses in all regions of Latvia. For adults, the training will be available from the language proficiency level A1 and, depending on the initial language proficiency, will last for 160 academic hours, while for children it will be between 70 and 160 academic hours. Furthermore, for children up to the age of 10, the training must take place only in person. Participant records will be kept in the integration measures database maintained by the SIF.

Children and adult Ukrainian civilians to whom the OCMA has issued a temporary residence permit granting temporary protection in Latvia are the target group of this competition. To ensure the effectiveness of the programme, the dossier of this year's project competition provides that every participant of a Latvian language course who studies for A1 or a higher language proficiency level will have to take the state language proficiency test at the VIAA. Furthermore, before the training, the service provider will have to conclude a written agreement with each participant (or, if the learner is a minor, with their legal representative).
The training may take place in person, remotely or in a hybrid format, and the beneficiary will have to provide all training materials that may bee needed free of charge. Each group will consist of 8 to 15 learners to ensure high-quality and targeted learning.

In the spring of 2026, SIF began implementing the program "Latvian Language Training for Ukrainian Civilians", within the framework of which more than 3,500 Ukrainian civilians, including 1,428 children, have already learned the Latvian language (as of August 2026). For the implementation of the program, SIF concluded 32 project agreements, providing a total of 350 training groups to date. The funding available to SIF for the implementation of the program was 3,180,880.00 euros, which has currently been fully used, but training in the groups that have started will continue until November 1 of 2026.
The goal of the program is to promote the use of the Latvian language among children and adults and to help Ukrainian civilians integrate more successfully into Latvian society. Thus, Latvian language training adapted to different levels of language proficiency was provided.
The participants learned (and are still learning) Latvian from A1 to C1 levels. Of the total number of participants, 1,428 people studied (and are studying) at the A1 level, 587 at the A2 level, 237 at the B1 level, 66 at the B2 level, 12 participants at the C1 level and 1,428 children. A significant novelty of the program was the greater emphasis on measurable and verifiable learning outcomes. Adults who mastered Latvian at the A1 level or higher in the program took the state language proficiency test at the State Education Development Agency. This allowed for an objective assessment of the acquired language skills and to confirm the achieved level of language proficiency. The training was organized in person, remotely and in a hybrid format. Participants were provided with the necessary learning materials free of charge. The classes were organized in groups of 8 to 15 participants, thus providing the opportunity to practice the language more and receive individual attention from the teachers.[127]

[127] With the support of SIF, more than 3,500 Ukrainian civilians learned Latvian. – Available at: https://www.sif.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/ar-sif-atbalstu-vairak-neka-3500-ukrainas-civiliedzivotaju-macijas-latviesu-valodu

4. Social and psychological support

On February 1, 2025, the Society "Shelter" Safe House"" began implementing the project "Educational and Creative Activities as an Assistance for More Successful Integration of Ukrainian Residents"[128]. The project aims to promote active involvement of Ukrainian civilians in the Latvian society by learning new skills and engaging in various interesting activities.
The society will organise various educational and assistance activities. Assistance groups for Ukrainian women are planned to provide them with assistance during a particularly difficult period in their lives. Creative workshops for Ukrainian young people will also be organised, as well as a course on the Latvian labour market is planned in the autumn.
In February 2025, a memorandum of cooperation was signed between the Ministry of Welfare and the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine. The memorandum aims to develop a partnership and implement the Latvian and Ukrainian agreement on long-term assistance and security commitments in the social sector, as well as to continue and develop cooperation between the two countries in the area of social protection. The cooperation also aims to support Ukraine on its path to the EU membership, in particular by promoting the exchange of experience on social reforms.[129]

On April 4, 2025, the SIF approved the results of the competition "Activities of Non-governmental Organisations for Assistance to Ukrainian civilians". 7 applications were approved during the competition, and the total available funding was EUR 234 776. The programme aims to assist the NGOs to continue their activities in Latvia in providing assistance to Ukrainian civilians who are fleeing the Russian military aggression in Ukraine, including financing assistance to Ukrainian civilians at the state border.[130]

On April 15, 2025, the government[131] supported the solution proposed by the Ministry of Education and Science, i.e. to organise day and overnight camps for children and young people to provide psycho-emotional assistance, promote the Latvian language learning and facilitate the integration of children of Ukrainian refugees. This is set out in the order on the reallocation of appropriation prepared by the Ministry of Education and Science.

Funding amounting to EUR 900 thousand was available until November 1, 2025, and the support programme was implemented by the State Education Development Agency in cooperation with local authorities. The camps are planned for pupils from grades 1 to 12, and 50% Ukrainian and 50% Latvian pupils will be invited to participate.
The camp curricula for Ukrainian and Latvian young people offered both Latvian language classes and a variety of other activities and creative pursuits that improved communication and interpersonal skills. At the same time, this allowed to promote the social-emotional skills and strengthened the psycho-emotional well-being, which, considering the geopolitical situation, is important for both Ukrainian and Latvian children and young people.[132]

---

[128] A project supported by Riga City Council on integration activities for Ukrainian civilians in Riga has been launched. – Available on: https://www.patverums-dm.lv/lv/uzsakts-rigas-domes-atbalstits-projekts--par-ukrainas-civiliedzivotaju-integracijas-aktivitatem-riga/1854

[129] A memorandum on cooperation in the social area has been signed between the Ministry of Welfare and the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine. – Available on: https://www.lm.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/parakstits-labklajibas-ministrijas-un-ukrainas-socialas-politikas-ministrijas-memorands-par-sadarbibu-socialaja-joma

[130] Results of the competition "Activities of Non-governmental Organisations to Provide Assistance to Ukrainian civilians" have been approved. – Available on: https://www.sif.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/apstiprinati-konkursa-nevalstisko-organizaciju-pasakumi-ukrainas-civiliedzivotaju-atbalstam-rezultati

[131] Cabinet Order No. 212 of 16 April 2025 "On the Reallocation of Appropriations from the Programme 17.00.00 "Funding for the Implementation of Measures Specified in the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians" of the budgetary position 74 "Financing to Be Reallocated During the Implementation Process of the Annual State Budget". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 77, 22.04.2025. – [entered into force on 16.04.2025]

[132] Funding allocated for the camps for Ukrainian and Latvian children this year. – Available on: https://www.izm.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/pieskir-finansejumu-sim-gadam-ukrainas-un-latvijas-bernu-nometnu-organizesanai-0

On July 22, 2025, the Cabinet issued an order on amendments to the action plan for the provision of support to Ukrainian civilians in Latvia[133], which sets out that a psychological support course shall be made available in Latvia not only for the officials of the State Border Guard of Ukraine, but also for the officials of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine, namely firefighters-rescuers. The State Fire and Rescue Service of Latvia, the State Border Guard, and the Health and Sports Centre of the Ministry of the Interior have managed to allocate 20 places for officials of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine in a psychological support course planned for September 2025.[134]

On December 3, 2025, Amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians were adopted[135]. They stipulate that persons arriving to Latvia for the first time and fleeing the war in Ukraine will continue to require immediate primary support, and provide for accommodation for these persons for up to 60 days and sustenance for up to 30 days (with a daily limit of EUR 5 per person), as well as compensation to households for accommodating such persons for up to 60 days.

To ensure special support to vulnerable groups of Ukrainian civilians, the amendments stipulate that the nine groups of vulnerable persons defined in the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians shall be able to receive accommodation support for up to 180 days[136]. The amendments stipulate that, after the end of the said 180-day accommodation period, the municipality shall verify if the Ukrainian civilian still requires the state-provided accommodation and shall take a decision either to continue it for up to a further 180 days, but no later than by 31 December 2026, or to discontinue the state-provided accommodation if the Ukrainian civilian does not belong to any of the groups in Paragraph 1.2 of this Section[137]. The amendments aim to ensure the provision of support to Ukrainian civilians in Latvia in 2026 that is appropriate in the current situation and commensurate to the capacity of the state budget.[138]
On 3 December 2025, Amendments to the Law on Support for Ukrainian Civilians were adopted[139]. They stipulate that, as of 1 January 2026, Ukrainian civilians will be required to make the patient co-payments and that the compensation for the purchase of medicinal products will be provided to them according to the general procedure. Given that the situation of Ukrainian civilians has now stabilised, the amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians aim to ensure that all residents of Latvia have equal access to state-funded healthcare

[133] Cabinet Order No. 449 of 22 July 2025 "On the 2025 Action Plan for the Provision of Support to Ukrainian Civilians in the Republic of Latvia". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 141, 25.07.2025. – [entered into force on 22.07.2025]
[134] A psychological support course in Latvia will also be available to Ukrainian firefighters and rescuers. – Available on: https://lvportals.lv/dienaskartiba/378725-psihologiska-atbalsta-kurss-latvija-bus-pieejams-ari-ukrainas-ugunsdzesejiem-glabejiem-2025
[135] Law on Amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians. – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 244, 18.12.2025. – [entered into force on 01.01.2026]
[136] Households will also be able to receive compensation for accommodating these groups of persons for up to 180 days.
[137] 2) is a person with a disability;
3) provides care to the person in Clause 2 of this paragraph;
4) is of retirement age in accordance with the retirement age established in Latvia;
5) is receiving education in Latvia in person at a pre-school, basic education, general secondary education or vocational secondary education institution, or is progressing to studies at the next educational level, is receiving education at a higher education institution, or continues education in Ukraine by means of distance or remote learning at a basic education, general secondary education or vocational secondary education institution;
6) is a woman who has registered her pregnancy;
7) is one of a child's parents or an emergency guardian caring for a child for up to two years of age;
8) provides care and supervision for a pre-school-age child, and the child is unable to attend a pre-school education institution;
9) is a pre-school-age child who is unable to attend a pre-school education institution.
[138] Annotation to the draft law "Amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians". – Available on: https://titania.saeima.lv/LIVS14/SaeimaLIVS14.nsf/0/3F3B005435D1CBBFC2258D24001BA76C?OpenDocument
[139] Law on Amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians. – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 244, 18.12.2025. – [entered into force on 01.01.2026]

services. There is a need to transition from an emergency support regime to an equitable and sustainable framework for the healthcare system.

On March 3, 2026, Cabinet Regulation No. 109 "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 339 of June 8, 2022 "Regulations on the Provision of Primary Support to Ukrainian Civilians"" was adopted[140]. It updates the procedure for organising primary support to persons in accordance with the amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians that entered into force on January 1, 2026. It also takes into account the state budget funding available in 2026 for the accommodation and sustenance of Ukrainian civilians.[141]

5. Educational support to Ukrainian civilians

On August 12, 2025, Cabinet Regulation No. 492, "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 488 of July 26, 2016 "Procedures by which Minor Asylum Seeker shall be Provided with Opportunities for Acquiring Education "", was adopted[142]. It allows to prepare individual education plans in which the learning outcomes set out in the State education standards may be appropriately adapted to the knowledge and skills of learners in the target group, adapting the assessment of the learners' academic performance accordingly. The procedures also lay down conditions for pedagogical support for the implementation of an individual education plans at State and private educational institutions. The amendments aim to continue the inclusion of children of Ukrainian civilians in the Latvian education system in order to ensure their well-being, promote their integration, and address any issues related to their education.

In March 2025, the opening conference of the project "School in the Community", implemented by the VIAA in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science, took place at *Ziemeļblāzma* Palace of Culture. The project "School in the Community" aims to develop integrated cooperation between schools and communities by strengthening cooperation between parents, educational institutions and various other institutions. It aims to reduce the risks of social exclusion and early school leaving, while helping the young people to complete basic and secondary education.[143]

In autumn 2025, idea workshops organised in the framework of the ESF+ project "School in the Community" implemented by the VIAA, took place in five regions of Latvia. During these workshops, representatives of municipalities, non-governmental organisations and educational institutions developed concepts for initiative and partnership projects. The workshops aimed to identify solutions for strengthening cooperation between schools and local communities, reducing the risk of social exclusion and early school leaving, and supporting pupils, teachers, and parents in learning the Latvian language.

In the initiatives proposed by participants, particular emphasis was placed on a holistic approach that allows to simultaneously address several issues of importance to the society, including the strengthening of mental health, the reduction of violence, the development of life skills, and the improvement of literacy. Considerable attention was also paid to supporting children from ethnic minority, immigrant and remigrant families. [144]

---

[140] Cabinet Regulation No. 109 of 3 March 2026 "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 339 of 8 June 2022 "Regulations on the Provision of Primary Support to Ukrainian Civilians"". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 47, 09.03.2026. – [entered into force on 10.03.2026]

[141] Annotation to the draft legal act "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 339 of 8 June 2022 "Regulations on the Provision of Primary Support to Ukrainian Civilians"". – Available on: https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/annotation/cee5ca3f-5c3a-4864-b0c2-c93e9ab0a3e3

[142] Cabinet Regulation No. 492 of 12 August 2025 "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 488 of 26 July 2016 "Procedures by which Minor Asylum Seeker shall be Provided with Opportunities for Acquiring Education"". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 154, 13.08.2025. – [entered into force on 01.09.2025]

[143] Opening conference of the project "School in the Community": Together with "School in the Community". – Available on: https://www.viaa.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/projekta-skola-kopiena-atklasanas-konference-kopa-ar-skola-kopiena

[144] Local governments and schools are developing new initiatives to reduce social exclusion and to strengthen communities. – Available on: https://www.skola-kopiena.lv/news/details?oid=b2966664-643d-451a-ad51-dfe667ff86f1

At the end of 2025, training for learner mentors completed in five regions of Latvia, resulting in 117 mentors being trained. As of January 2026, mentor support will be available to young people throughout Latvia. The risk group includes young people in situations of social exclusion: children from Ukraine, learners with special needs, and young people who, for various reasons, rarely attend school or do not attend it at all.[145]

On January 20, 2026, Cabinet Regulation No. 18, "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 488 of July 26, 2016 "Procedures by which Minor Asylum Seeker shall be Provided with Opportunities for Acquiring Education"", was adopted[146]. It clarifies the financing conditions that will be applicable from January 1, 2026 until August 31, 2026 to Ukrainian civilians who on September 1, 2025 are registered in the State Education Information System with the sub-status "Ukrainian civilian" for participation in general and vocational education programmes.

In October 2025, the Providus study "Ukrainian civilians in the Latvian education system: practice and challenges" was published[147]. It aimed to identify and analyse the inclusion practices of children of Ukrainian civilians in the Latvian education system, assess how they have integrated into Latvian schools, and develop policy recommendations.

The study is divided into three parts in order to address the main questions on the characterisation of the situation and the legal framework, the resources of local governments and schools in the context of access to education, and the main long-term challenges in Latvia's education integration system.

The compiled data demonstrate that the admission of Ukrainian civilians to the Latvian education system takes place in circumstances when institutions at the state and municipal level are still developing a long-term approach to the inclusion of newcomers. The results of the study indicate that educational integration is possible and partially functional; however, it is fragmented and unevenly implemented, and directly dependent on the initiative of schools, the availability of human resources and the involvement of local governments.

The study concluded that the integration of Ukrainian civilians into the Latvian education system was taking place in a fragmented manner and depended on the initiative of schools. There is a lack of a uniform long-term strategy, stable funding, and human resources. Although schools are the main setting for integration, they also assume an assessment role; however, there is a lack of clear and uniform data collection methods that would make it possible to assess the progress of integration processes. [148]

Amendment to the Cabinet of Ministers Order No. 896 "On the Plan of Measures for Providing Support to Ukrainian Civilians in the Republic of Latvia for 2026"[149], provides for the creation of a new measure "Support for Reducing the Risk of Early School Leaving and Social Exclusion of Ukrainian Civilian Students". It is intended to provide subject consultations (individually or in groups), as well as support staff and mentor support for students, promoting integration into the educational environment and society. Support should be planned in cooperation between the municipality and educational institutions, adapting the type and amount of support to the individual needs of the learner. It is planned to attract teaching staff and mentors of learners

[145] The first 117 mentors of the project "School in the Community" are ready to support young people. – Available on: https://www.skola-kopiena.lv/news/details?oid=307d8ea9-1966-491a-9706-5e124f603e36

[146] Cabinet Regulation No. 18 of 20 January 2026 "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 488 of 26 July 2016 "Procedures by which Minor Asylum Seeker shall be Provided with Opportunities for Acquiring Education"". – *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 16, 23.01.2026. – [entered into force on 24.01.2026]

[147] Ukrainian civilians in the Latvian education system: practice and challenges. – Available on: https://providus.lv/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/UCLVizglitibas-sistema-1-1.pdf

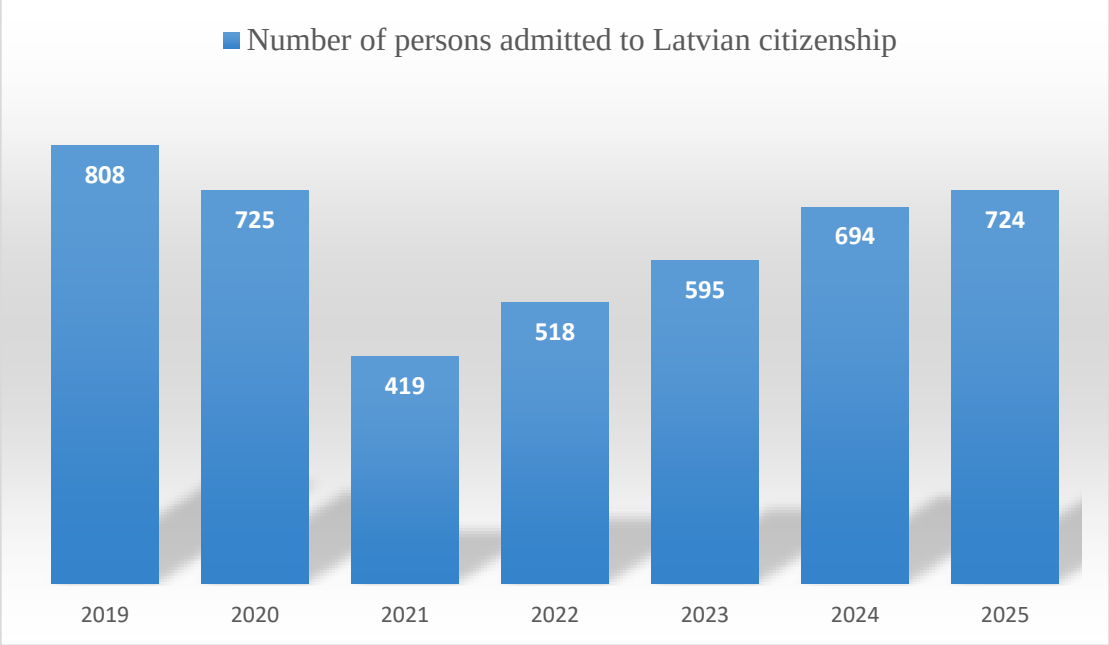
[148] Study "Ukrainian civilians in the Latvian education system: practice and challenges". – Available on: https://providus.lv/raksti/petijums-ukrainas-civiliedzivotaji-latvijas-izglitibas-sistema-prakse-un-izaicinajumi/

[149] Cabinet Order No 267 of December 22, 2025 "Amendments to the " Cabinet Order No. 896 "On the 2026 Action Plan for the Provision of Support to Ukrainian Civilians in the Republic of Latvia". - *Latvijas Vēstnesis* No 91, 14.05.2026. – [entered force on 12.05.2026.]

who have received a professional development certificate of 36 hours on mentoring young people. The chosen solution is based on an already functioning and proven approach in practice, thus there is no need to develop new support measures or a system, and this solution can ensure quick implementation. At the same time, a flexible approach to the use of funding is envisaged for municipalities, both by giving the opportunity to combine learners in groups in a situation where one type of support is needed, and by planning a larger amount of support for one learner when such a need is identified, and also by planning different types of support for one learner (for example, both mentor and consultative support in subjects). It is not planned to limit the type of support that can be expected depending on how long the learner has been studying at the educational institution, because in practice, situations tend to be individual.[150]

[150] Annotation of the Draft Cabinet Order No 267 **"**Amendments to the " Cabinet Order No. 896 "On the 2026 Action Plan for the Provision of Support to Ukrainian Civilians in the Republic of Latvia" of December 22, 2025. – Available on: https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/annotation/73b86665-de54-40ea-8d0e-e12d4fb91094

Naturalisation[151]



Since the naturalisation procedure was introduced (1995) 151 424 persons have received Latvian citizenship. 203 persons received Latvian citizenship until June 30, 2026.[152]

Compared to 2024, the number of persons granted the Latvian citizenship as a result naturalisation had increased – 724 (694 in 2024).[153] Like in 2024, the largest group of persons who received citizenship was the Latvian non-citizens – 434. The number of third-country nationals who received the Latvian citizenship increased to 280 (155 in 2024).

Return migration

According to data from the Central Statistical Bureau, 7 618 re-emigrants returned to Latvia in 2025 (9 973 in 2024), representing 55,1% of all arrivals.[154]

In 2025, remigrants can apply for support in 20 municipalities in all regions of Latvia. The total state funding for this purpose in 2025 is planned to be EUR 250 000. Municipalities that applied for this support announce tenders and conclude contracts with applicants for support. The state support intended for the creation of one job or company is EUR 8000, but the amount of municipal and private co-financing is determined in the tender regulations.[155]

To assist remigrants and Latvian citizens living abroad who wish to return to Latvia, the job mobility consultants/advisors from the State Employment Agency (SEA / NVA) and

[151] Data source: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/naturalizacija
[152] Data source: Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs. Data until 30 June, 2025.
[153] Data source: OCMA.
[154] IBR010. Characteristics of remigrants 2013 - 2024. – available at: https://data.stat.gov.lv/pxweb/en/OSP_PUB/START__POP__IB__IBR/IBR010
In 2025, CSB changed the method for producing population estimates. Since 2012, a logistic regression model was used, but going forward, the Sol-Logit model will be applied. The methods are similar, with the main difference being that the logistic regression model is a supervised model trained on data from the Population and Housing Census 2011, whereas the Sol-Logit model is unsupervised model and does not require training data.
To ensure comparability, the data for 2023 and 2024 have also been recalculated using the new method.
[155] Remigration program and opportunities for remigrants in 2025. – Available at: https://lvportals.lv/dienaskartiba/376065-remigracijas-programma-un-remigrantu-iespejas-2025-gada-2025

the European Employment Services Network (EURES) organize regular online seminars titled **"I want to return to Latvia! Where to start?"**.

The seminars, held on the Zoom platform, aim to provide detailed information on:

- The current situation and employment opportunities in the Latvian labor market.
- Support programs and services offered by the SEA and EURES.
- Essential formalities that need to be completed both prior to departing from abroad and upon returning to Latvia. [156] [157]

For Latvian citizens living abroad but wishing to return to Latvia, the EURES job mobility consultants of the SEA of the European Employment Services Network offer the opportunity to receive free monthly information on the current situation in the Latvian labor market, services to facilitate remigration, support for starting a business and other issues important to remigrants. This is a great opportunity to obtain useful information that will help you to plan your return and start a new stage of life in Latvia in an informed manner. The SEA EURES newsletter for remigrants is being created within the framework of the European Social Fund (ESF) Plus project "Ensuring the operation of the EURES network in Latvia".

By subscribing to the SEA EURES newsletter, valuable information will be recieved:

- on job opportunities in Latvia: labor market trends, the most sought-after professions and current vacancies, which will help you find the most suitable job opportunities and plan your career;
- on social support for remigrants: finding a place to live, social protection, benefits, educational opportunities and language courses for successful integration in Latvia;
- on support for entrepreneurs: resources offered by the state for starting or developing a business after returning to their homeland;
- on actions to be taken upon returning to Latvia: practical advice from industry specialists and experts.

In the SEA EURES newsletter, the experience stories of people who have already returned to Latvia and are successfully building a career or implementing their business ideas is shared.[158]

In the middle of 2026, in order to provide transparent information on remigration opportunities and the return process in one place, the Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional Development in cooperation with remigration coordinators has created a new website www.remigracija.lv. It contains useful information for Latvian nationals and their families who are planning or considering returning to live in Latvia. The website www.remigracija.lv is a new, expanded and technologically improved solution to the previous remigration coordinator website www.paps.lv. Remigration coordinators have been operating in the regions of Latvia since 2018, providing individual consultations and practical support to Latvian nationals abroad.[159]

[156] Are you planning to return to Latvia or would you like to help someone else return? Participate in the NVA EURES online seminars "I want to return to Latvia! Where to start?"!. - Available at: https://www.nva.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/planojiet-atgriesanos-latvija-vai-velaties-palidzet-kadam-citam-atgriezties-piedalieties-nva-eures-tiessaistes-seminaros-gribu-atgriezties-latvija-ar-ko-sakt

[157] If you live abroad but want to return to Latvia, participate in the NVA EURES online seminars "I want to return to Latvia! Where to start?". - Available at: https://www.nva.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/ja-dzivojat-arvalsti-bet-velaties-atgriezties-latvija-piedalieties-nva-eures-tiessaistes-seminaros-gribu-atgriezties-latvija-ar-ko-sakt-0

[158] The SEA invites Latvian citizens abroad to subscribe to a free newsletter about job and career opportunities in Latvia. - Available at: https://www.nva.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/nva-aicina-latvijas-valsts-piederigos-arvalstis-abonet-bezmaksas-vestkopu-par-darba-un-karjeras-iespejam-latvija

[159] The new remigration coordinators' website remigracija.lv is launched. – Available at: https://www.varam.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/darbu-sak-jauna-remigracijas-koordinatoru-timeklvietne-remigracijalv

Remigrants can learn information on the following thematic subjects: job opportunities, documents, services and consular information, integration and life in Latvia, organisations and media; local government support, taxes and social security, business support, language and education.

The Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional Development, in collaboration with planning regions and local governments, continue to implement support measures for returnees to promote entrepreneurship in 2026. Total state funding for this purpose in 2026 is set at EUR 57 488.

The conditions for receiving support are following:

State support is granted to a returnee for the establishment of a new business or the creation of a new job for a returnee – EUR 8 000 per project per year. Additional municipal funding may be available, but the applicant must also provide their own co-financing.

The following are eligible for support:

- a returnee who has returned to live in Latvia no more than 2 years ago and has spent at least 2 years abroad;
- an employer who creates a new job for a returnee.

Support may be used for:

- Fixed assets;
- Wages (including labour taxes (personal income tax and/or mandatory state social insurance contributions)).
- A new service must be developed at the regional level.[160]

The report of the study "Diaspora Investments in Latvia"[161] was published in early 2026. The Latvian diaspora, which accounts for approximately one fifth of Latvian citizens abroad, is a significant but still underutilized resource for the country's development. The new study analyzes diaspora investments not only as financial flows, but as multidimensional capital, where economic decisions are intertwined with a sense of belonging, trust and a desire to promote Latvia's growth.

The study reveals a significant lack of data on the volume and forms of diaspora investments, which has so far hindered the development of targeted and evidence-based policies. Using a mixed methods approach, existing investment practices are mapped, motivations and obstacles are analyzed, and the potential of the diaspora in attracting foreign investors is assessed.

The results of the study offer an analytical basis for the transition from a narrow remittance-based approach to an integrated diaspora capital ecosystem and provide specific recommendations for a modern, transparent and reliable diaspora investment policy in Latvia.

International Migration in the Public Debate

In 2025, discussions continued on the growing number of third-country nationals in Latvia, including the misuse of legal entry channels by foreign students.

In March 2025, a meeting of the Saeima Committee on Citizenship, Migration and Social Cohesion took place. During this meeting, it was concluded that there were two gaps in the

[160] Business support. – Available at: https://www.remigracija.lv/en/business-support

[161] I. Mieriņa, L.Brasliņa, A.Batraga, K.Kellerte, I. Švarca. Diaspora Investments in Latvia. University of Latvia, Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia. Riga: University of Latvia Academic Press, 2026.. – Available at: https://www.diaspora.lu.lv/fileadmin/user_upload/lu_portal/projekti/diaspora/petijumi/F5_Diasporas_investicijas_Latvija_Gala_nodevums_publicesanai.pdf

control of the residence of third-country nationals in Latvia: first, it was not entirely clear how many third-country nationals actually leave the country once the grounds for residing in Latvia cease to exist; second, there was insufficient oversight of higher education institutions admitting foreign students.

The number of foreign students in the higher education institutions of Latvia is increasing; however, most of these students do not graduate, which have given rise to the question of where they end up – an issue that has also been noticed by the Members of the Parliament. "Today, in the committee, we especially focussed on students, as we feel that in this area there is a gap in the control system, insufficient control on the part of the state, and, in fact, it seems to me that no one is exercising any control at all,".

He indicated that there were suspicious higher education institutions that were interested only in collecting tuition fees from students rather than actually educating them.[162]

On March 31, 2025, the Ministry of Education and Science, in cooperation with higher education institutions of Latvia, presented the next steps and the necessary legislative changes required to improve the process of attracting foreign students and to ensure more effective supervision.

The average drop-out rate among foreign students in Latvia in the 2023/2024 academic year was 37%, whereas in 2022/2023 it was 31%, which is similar to the drop-out rate among foreign students in Germany. Due to the security situation and the drop-out rate of foreign students, attention must be paid to improving the overall regulatory framework to ensure more responsibility among those inviting students to the Latvian education institutions, as well as to attract genuinely interested students to study in the Latvian higher education institutions and other educational establishments.

Representatives of higher education institutions and the Ministry acknowledged that it was necessary to improve the recording of data on foreign students and the interoperability of various registers, as it was essential that all interested parties could receive reliable and up-to-date data on foreign students and accurately track their progress at a particular higher education institution in Latvia, including in cases where they change these institutions. It is also important to ensure systematic data exchange between state institutions and higher education institutions in order to track the employment of foreign students both during their studies and after graduation.

The Ministry of Education and Science has developed an action plan to improve the situation in this sector, and it undertakes to implement this plan in cooperation with other sectors (interior, foreign affairs, and security) and in consultation with higher education institutions:

1. lay down stricter academic requirements for the admission of foreign students;
2. restrict the right of higher education institutions to admit foreign students if there is a high visa refusal rate;
3. pay more attention to the matter of foreign students during the accreditation of higher education institutions;
4. hold rectors administratively liable if they fail to report students who have been exmatriculated;
5. review the possibility of inviting students to short-cycle, secondary vocational, non-formal education, and professional development programmes;
6. develop a national higher education internationalisation strategy.[163]

At the meeting of the parliamentary inquiry committee on March 3, 2026, representatives of higher education institutions were heard on third-country students studying there. During the

[162] Member of the Parliament highlight migration issues – foreign students and insufficient control of removed persons. – Available on: https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/zinas/latvija/19.03.2025-deputati-norada-uz-problemam-migracija-arvalstu-studenti-un-nepietiekama-izraidito-kontrole.a592193/

[163] Action plan on improving the attraction of foreign students. – Available on: https://lvportals.lv/dienaskartiba/374504-ricibas-plans-arvalstu-studentu-piesaistes-uzlabosanai-2025

meeting and in the context of assessing the immigration framework, representatives of higher education institutions promised to attract more students from the European countries and the member states of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), rather than students from third countries. Rīga Stradiņš University (RSU) was singled out by the participating Members of the Parliament as a good example of internationalisation. The total number of foreign students at RSU reaches nearly 3,200, of whom approximately 480 are from third countries, while students from OECD countries account for around 90%. The "top" countries are said to be Sweden, Germany, Norway, Finland, Italy, Portugal, as well as India.
RSU places great emphasis on motivation interviews with foreign students, which is also the stage at which the student's English language skills are assessed. If there are doubts about these skills, the interview is sent to RSU language lecturers, who assess whether the student's English meets B2 level.[164]

Several discussions have taken place about Ukrainians in Latvia. "Municipalities do not know how to integrate such large number of Ukrainian civilians into the Latvian society in the long term. They do not see themselves as makers of the integration policy, but expect it to be developed at the national level," *Dārta Pelse*, the lead researcher on migration and integration issues at "Providus", explained to the Member of the Saeima.[165]
Furthermore, researchers from "Providus" have also noted that the new Immigration Law will come into conflict with another law – the Law on Support for Ukrainian Civilians. It lays down that after five years of residing in Latvia Ukrainians who have learned the language and are working could be eligible for permanent residence. However, the new Immigration Law does not provide for such possibility for persons with a temporary protection status. As a result, it is possible that Ukrainians meet all the requirements, but legally are unable to receive a permanent residence permit. This means that the next year, when five years would have passed since some of the Ukrainian civilians began residing in Latvia, some of them would have theoretically fulfilled the requirements necessary to receive a permanent residence permit, namely continuous residence in Latvia, as well as language proficiency. And if this draft Immigration Law were adopted in its current wording, it would in practice prevent individuals from receiving the right of permanent residence in the long term.[166] The Ministry of the Interior is preparing to address this problem by making relevant amendments in the Law on Support for Ukrainian Civilians, which are to be sent to other ministries for their approval shortly.

Migration issues also remained topical at the beginning of 2026. The Employers' Confederation of Latvia (hereinafter, the LDDK) stated that Latvia needed a targeted migration policy that was appropriate for the economy, developed as a single national-level framework and covering four interrelated directions: personnel recruitment, the attraction and retention of foreign students, security and integration matters, as well as capital and business migration. Such approach must be based on regular assessment of the labour market needs across sectors and regions and must provide solutions both for attracting highly qualified specialists and for occupations requiring practical skills where local resources are no longer able to meet the demand. LDDK indicated that migration policy was currently fragmented, and this hindered both the development of the labour market and the attraction of investments.
LDDK emphasised that fast, transparent and clear labour recruitment processes, as well as strict measures in cases of violations were needed. Targeted work must continue to substantially accelerate and simplify the process of issuing work and residence permits, as the labour force

[164] Higher education institutions promise to reduce the share of students from third countries. – Available on: https://leta.lv/home/important/227CF7CC-7478-4102-AAD7-DB86C86AB5CB/
[165] Attitudes do not change, but benefits decrease: how Latvia is adapting to the long-term presence of Ukrainians. – Available on: https://lasi.lv/latvija-pasaule/sabiedriba/attieksme-nemainas-pabalsti-mazinas-ka-latvija-pielagojas-ilgtermina-ukrainu-klatbutnei.34432
[166] In the draft Immigration Law, which has been considered by the Saeima for years, a favourable status for the Ukrainians fleeing the war has been overlooked. – Available on: https://tv3.lv/zinas/latvija/neka-personiga/toposaja-imigracijas-likuma-ko-jau-gadiem-skata-saeima-piemirsts-ieklaut-ipasas-labvelibas-statusu-no-kara-begosajiem-ukrainiem/

needed in the labour market is required exactly at the moment when the demand arises, and not after the completion of a lengthy bureaucratic process. An effective migration policy must be based on the principle that the state is able to promptly take entry decisions, while ensuring a clear, transparent and functioning supervision system on the ground. Security aspects must be strict and integrated, not an obstacle at the entry stage, but a continuous control mechanism after arrival. Such approach would allow to meet the needs of the national economy and to protect the public security interests, while preserving the state's ability to act flexibly and responsibly.[167]

In 2026 which is an election year migration appears more often in public media and politician's statements.

Researchers emphasize that concerns about security, border control and the ability of immigrants to integrate into society are not xenophobia in themselves. However, the line is crossed when one unverified or individual case becomes the basis for judgments about an entire group of people.

When faced with questions about immigration, the cautious attitude of society in Latvia is understandable to a certain extent. Researchers point out that it is based on concerns about security or the desire to protect one's language and cultural space, which is not an automatic condemnation of those who are different.

"Caution as such is, in my opinion, very rational on the part of the people of Latvia. In this case, I could denounce it or not, but the fact that Latvia is seriously addressing this issue is not in itself a bad thing, that immigration policy is not left to its own devices," said *Mārtiņš Kaprāns*, a leading researcher at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the University of Latvia (LU).

The problems in the conversation begin when a single concept is used to describe very different groups of people: those who cross the border illegally, asylum seekers, foreign students and those legally employed.

Similarly, the line is crossed when the actions of one individual are attributed to everyone.[168]

Trends in work, investor residence permits, irregular migration

Work Permits

The total number of third-country nationals who were granted the right to employment in 2025 increased by 15.6% (22 917 in 2025; 19 825 in 2024). Most thirdcountry nationals work in land transport and pipeline transport (9,604), in labour search and personnel provision (2 498), in construction of residential and non-residential buildings (1 908), in computer programming, consultancy, and related activities (1 581), in specialised construction (1 036), and in catering services (822). In 2025, the right to employment was most frequently granted to nationals of Uzbekistan (7 265), India (3 034), and Belarus (2 845).[169]

[167] LDDK calls for the development of a comprehensive human capital development strategy. – Available on: https://www.leta.lv/news/all/0167C1A2-5155-45A9-A391-C4558C065FBB/

[168] The immigration debate – between concerns and populism. – Available at: https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/zinas/latvija/23.07.2026-diskusija-par-imigraciju-starp-bazam-un-populismu.a656139/

[169] Data source: OCMA.

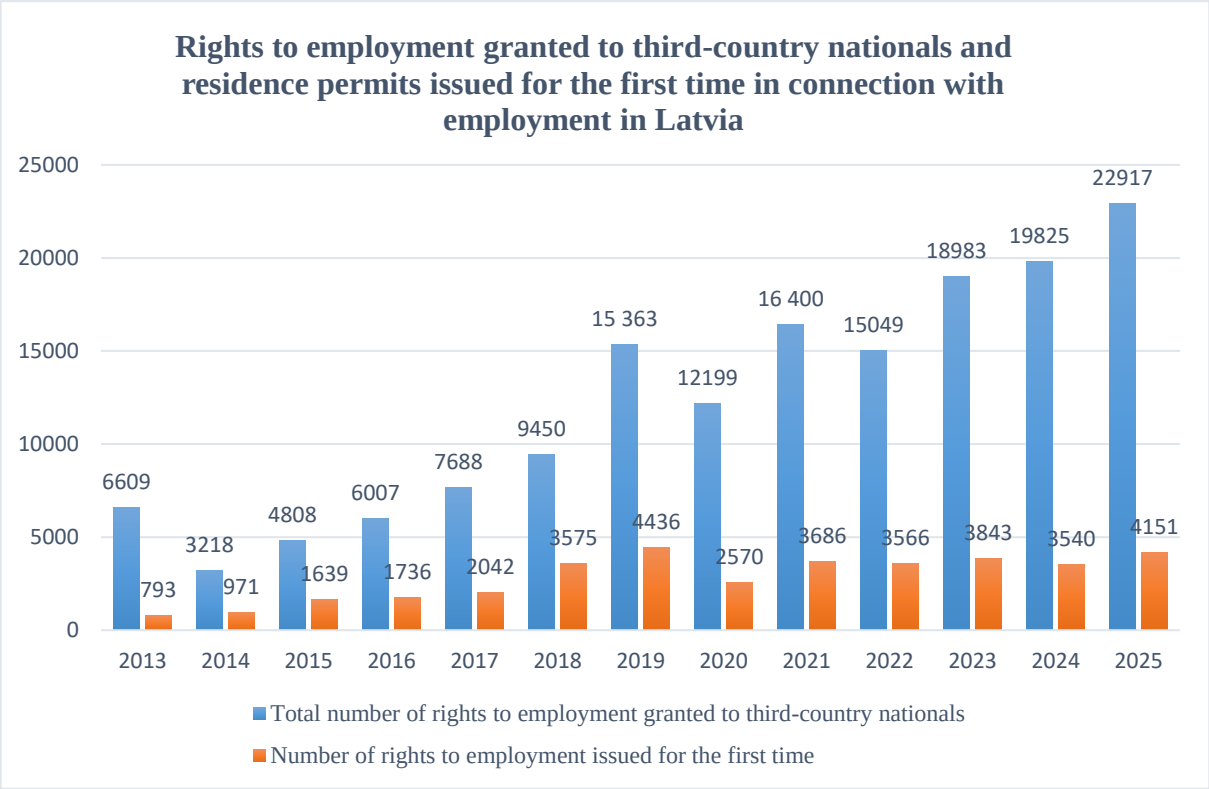


Figure 1

The number of first-time residence permits issued to third-country nationals for employment purposes has increased: 3 558 in 2024 and 4 151 in 2025.[170]

Investor residence permits

In 2025, the number of first-time temporary residence permits issued to investors and their families increased by 38,26 % - 206 (149 in 2024). The highest number of residence permits related to investment were issued to Turkey nationals – 54, who invested in real estate and a capital company.

In the first half of the 2026, 156 initial temporary residence permits were issued to investors and their family members (83 in the first half of the 2025).[171]

On September 15, 2026 new Immigration Law came into force, which aim is to ensure the implementation of an immigration policy consistent with the interests of the Latvian state by determining the procedures for the entry, residence, implementation of early integration measures, transit, exit and detention of third-country nationals, as well as the procedures for the expulsion of third-country nationals from the Republic of Latvia. A third-country national has the right to request a temporary residence permit in accordance with the procedures specified in the Immigration Law:

- for a period of up to two years, if he or she has made an investment in the share capital of a capital company, increasing it, or an investment in the share capital of a capital company, establishing a new capital company, and, when

[170] Data source: OCMA. Initial data on residence permits collected by *Eurostat* – to be adjusted at a later date.
[171] Data source: OCMA

requesting a first-time temporary residence permit in accordance with this paragraph, has paid 10,000 euros into the state budget, and the investment made is at least:

a) EUR 50 000 and it was made in a capital company that employs no more than 50 employees and whose annual turnover or annual balance sheet does not exceed 10 million euros;

b) EUR 100 000, and it was made in a capital company that, separately or together with one or more subsidiary merchants registered in the Republic of Latvia, employs more than 50 employees, with an annual turnover or annual balance sheet exceeding 10 million euros;

- for a period of up to five years, if an agreement has been concluded and a transfer has been made for an investment of at least EUR 150 000 for no less than five years in a state-established alternative investment fund manager and the foreigner has paid EUR 10 000 into the state budget. A temporary residence permit issued to a foreigner is valid if, during its validity period, the state-established alternative investment fund manager certifies that the investment agreement has not been terminated and the investment balance is not less than EUR 150 000.[172]

The new Immigration Law abolishes the option to apply for a residence permit through individual merchant status, real estate purchases, or liabilities with credit institutions.

In its 2026 performance audit report titled "Does the work permit issuance system in Latvia operate effectively?"[173], the State Audit Office concluded that the system for issuing work permits in Latvia lacks sufficient strategic focus, predictability, and administrative proportionality. The system relies primarily on detailed procedures and compliance with formal requirements rather than on a clearly defined policy for attracting foreign labour, overall process management, data utilization, and risk-based controls. Consequently, the work permit system does not always effectively balance two crucial objectives: the timely recruitment of necessary labour and the assurance that granted employment rights are utilized for their intended purpose. The State Audit Office has issued six recommendations aimed at ensuring that the recruitment of foreign labour in Latvia is more closely aligned with labour market needs, the work permit application process becomes more timely and administratively proportionate, and the use of granted work permits is monitored more effectively. The recommendations call for improving the planning of foreign workforce recruitment, simplifying the work permit issuance process and the flow of information between the relevant institutions, assessing embassy capacity and the appropriateness of work-related residence permit durations. The institutions included in the scope of the audit are the Ministry of the Interior, the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Economics.

[172] Immigration Law. - Latvijas Vēstnesis No 167, 01.09.2026. – [entered into force on 15.09.2026.]
[173] Performance audit report "Does the work permit issuance system in Latvia operate effectively?" Rīga 2026. – Available at: https://www.lrvk.gov.lv/lv/getrevisionfile/29817-G7dKqG8bALkToYHUhjY4mOlUR3phfud2.pdf

Irregular Migration

In 2025, 340 third-country nationals were detained for irregular crossing of the "green" border (122 in 2024). The detained persons mostly were the nationals of Somalia, Sudan, and Morocco. The majority of detained persons were found on the land border between Latvia and Belarus; however, in 12 cases the Latvian–Russian border was crossed.[174]

The SBG refused entry into Latvia to 2 952 persons – 4% less than in 2024 (3 073 persons). In 2025, entry was most frequently refused to nationals of Russia (783), Moldova (756), Belarus (371), Ukraine (310), and Uzbekistan (161). The changes in these numbers are mainly attributable to additional sanctions introduced in the procedure for the entry of vehicles and the entry bans imposed on individuals.[175]

Information available to the SBG on the number of detected and prevented attempts to irregularly cross the Latvian–Belarusian border indicates that 12 046 cases were identified in 2025[176].[177]

Schengen visas were annulled for 459 third-country nationals (353 in 2024); the increase is attributable to decisions to revoke visas when it was established that misleading information on employment opportunities in Latvia was provided at the time of visa issuance.[178]

In Latvia, in the parish of Skrudaliena in the Augšdaugava municipality, the first underground tunnel through which 15 migrants had illegally entered the country from Belarus was discovered on August 10, 2026. They have been returned to Belarus, according to the State Border Guard. This is the first tunnel to be discovered in Latvia. Until now, migrants had attempted to enter the country by scaling the border fence.[179]

Following the initiative of Prime Minister of Latvia Andris Kulbergs and an assessment of the situation by the defence and interior ministries, a decision has been made to launch Operation "VILKATIS" to ensure the security of Latvia's eastern border. The operation is coordinated by the Crisis Management Centre of the State Chancellery, while its implementation primarily involves agencies under the Ministry of the Interior (the State Border Guard and the State Police) and the National Armed Forces.

The Ministry of Defence will ensure the continued involvement of the National Armed Forces in support of the State Border Guard by increasing personnel and material resources, including the use of new technologies such as unmanned aerial vehicles (drones), helicopters, and aircraft.

The SBG, State Police, Military Intelligence and Security Service, State Security Service, and National Armed Forces will ensure the exchange of operational information regarding attempts at irregular border crossings and the persons involved, including possible involvement in organizing irregular migration.

As part of the operation, modern technologies will be used more intensively for the detection and detention of irregular migrants, as well as for the protection of Latvia's entire eastern border. Unmanned aerial systems will be deployed more extensively in border areas to improve the early detection of irregular migrants and facilitate their detention if the border has been crossed unlawfully.[180]

---

[174] Source: SBG.
[175] Data source: SBG.
[176] as identity is not established, one person may recur in several episodes.
[177] Source: SBG.
[178] Source: SBG.
[179] First illegal border tunnel found at Silene, Latvia. - Available at: https://eng.lsm.lv/article/society/defence/11.08.2026-first-illegal-border-tunnel-found-at-silene-latvia.a658310/
[180] New Security Operation "VILKATIS" Began in Latvia's Eastern Border Region. – Available at: https://www.mk.gov.lv/en/article/new-security-operation-vilkatis-began-latvias-eastern-border-region

Preventing the abuse of legal migration routes

In 2025, SBG officials identified 185 violations related to illegal employment of foreign nationals, while employers were penalised for illegal employment in 54 cases.[181]

In 2025 (until 3 December), 102 unregistered employed foreign nationals (including third-country nationals) were identified during supervisory and control inspections carried out by the State Labour Inspectorate (hereinafter, the SLI) in the area of labour law and labour protection, accounting for 11% of all unregistered employed persons identified during the specified period.

Furthermore, the State Labour Inspectorate, in cooperation with the State Border Guard, carried out 106 joint inspections in 2025 to effectively and purposefully limit and reduce unregistered employment (including that of third-country nationals).[182]

In September 2025, the agreement "On Amendments to the Agreement on Good Practice of Attracting Foreign Students and Delivering Studies of September 22, 2022" was signed[183] and laid down five stricter obligations for higher education institutions:

1. to immediately inform the SBG and the OCMA about third-country students if they have not attended the respective study programme at the higher education institution for 14 consecutive days without a justified reason;
2. the higher education institution has reasonable doubts about the student's intention to continue studies at the respective higher education institution;
3. the higher education institution has other information indicating that the student has another purpose to stay in Latvia not related to studies;
4. the higher education institution establishes that the student does not comply with the mandatory attendance requirement laid down in the study programme and has exceeded the mandatory attendance percentage threshold;
5. the student does not arrive in Latvia within the specified period or does not commence studies at the higher education institution.

The amendments set out a mandatory requirement for higher education institutions to introduce an internal system to control the attendance of third-country students, imposing the maximum student drop-out rate threshold of 20% (for higher education institutions with at least 50 foreign students). The amendments aim to improve the monitoring of students and prevent irregular entry and residence for study purposes.

From 13 to 17 January 2025, an associate professor of the Border Guard and Immigration Services Department of the State Border Guard College provided training to 18 officials of the Moldovan Border Police in accordance with the professional development programme "Profiling, Interviewing, Identification". The training was held at the General Inspectorate of the Border Police of Moldova.

During the training, Moldovan colleagues had an opportunity to study the best practices of the competent EU authorities in the area of profiling and identifying persons. The conceptual foundations and the development directions were examined, various types of border-crosser

[181] Data source: SBG.
[182] Data source: SLI.
[183] Agreement on Good Practice of Attracting Foreign Students and Delivering Studies, consolidated version: 08.09.2025. – Available on: https://www.izm.gov.lv/lv/media/30134/download?attachment

profiles were discussed, and the most characteristic behaviour of each profile was analysed. In addition, information was provided on interviewing and identification methods.[184]

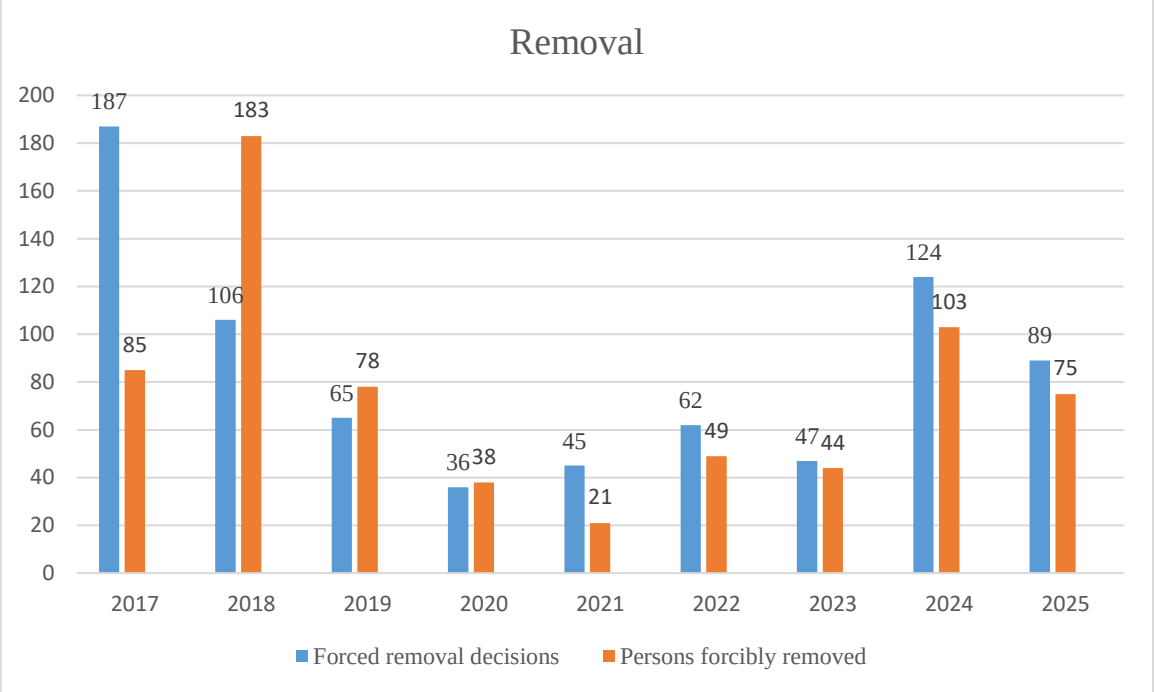
Forced and Voluntary Return

In 2025, the number of persons who voluntarily left Latvia increased to 2 206 (1 965 in 2024). In most cases, they were the nationals of Uzbekistan, Russia, and Tajikistan.[185] 80[186] persons received voluntary return assistance. In 2025, the number of forcibly removed persons decreased to 75 (103 in 2024 [187]). The largest number of forcibly removed third-country nationals were from Russia, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

To promote more effective and sustainable return of foreign nationals, at the end of 2024 Latvia's SBG joined the European Union reintegration programme (hereinafter, the EURP). Since the beginning of 2025, the SBG has been actively using the EURP, and by the end of 2025 there were 38 reintegration cases. For the purposes of the SBG participation in the EURP and in order to regulate the internal procedure for the use of the programme at the State Border Guard, an internal regulatory act of the State Border Guard was issued: State Border Guard Order No. 23.1-8.4/608 "On the commencement of the use of the European Union reintegration programme" of April 16, 2025. At the same time, the SBG proposed amendments to the Immigration Law to lay down that officials have the right to change a decision from forced to voluntary removal if a foreigner applies for one of the available reintegration programmes, including the EURP. At the same time, considering the migration situation that has developed in Latvia, namely, the pressure from Belarus, and the insufficient staffing capacity at the SBG, as well as to promote active participation of foreign nationals in the EURP and to provide return and reintegration counselling to foreign nationals, a Frontex return specialist has been operating in Latvia since July 2025.[188]

On September 1, 2026, Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 528 were adopted regarding the Protocol between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Armenia on the implementation of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Armenia on the readmission of persons residing without authorization[189]. Together with the Agreement, this protocol ensures the implementation of faster and more effective technical solutions and procedures for identifying and returning—in a safe and proper manner—persons who do not, or no longer, meet the conditions for entry, presence, or residence in the territory of Armenia or the Republic of Latvia, as well as for facilitating the transit of such persons within the framework of cooperation.[190]

[184] Officials of the State Border Guard provide training to the officials of the Moldovan Border Police on the profiling and identification of persons crossing the border. – Available on: https://www.rs.gov.lv/lv/projekts/valsts-robezsardzes-amatpersonas-nodrosina-moldovas-robezpolicijas-amatpersonu-apmacibas-par-robezskersojoso-personu-profilesanu-un-identificesanu
[185] Data source: OCMA.
[186] Data source: IOM Riga office.
[187] Source: SBG.
[188] Source: SBG.
[189] Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 528 of September 1, 2026 "the Protocol between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Armenia on the implementation of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Armenia on the readmission of persons residing without authorization". - Latvijas Vēstnesis No 175, 11.09.2026. – [entered into force on 12.09.2026.]
[190] Annotation to the draft legal act "On the Protocol between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Armenia on the Implementation of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Armenia on the Readmission of Persons Residing without Authorization". – Available at: https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/annotation/3bf680a1-74ee-4618-8637-5c4e244333a9


Removal
200
180
160
140
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
187
85
106
183
65
78
36
38
45
21
62
49
47
44
124
103
89
75
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
2025
Forced removal decisions
Persons forcibly removed

Statistics

Migrant stocks in Latvia, main countries of citizenship, OCMA, as of 01.01.2026

Country of citizenship	Number of foreign country nationals in Latvia
Russia	40109
Ukraine	6659
India	6145
Uzbekistan	5091
Lithuania	4798
Belarus	4204
Germany	2516
United Kingdom	1460

Source: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/media/14585/download?attachment

Immigration flows in 2025, by nationality, main nationalities*

Nationality	Number of immigrants
Latvians	**4 295**
Ukrainians	2 460
Russians	2 492
Indians	825
Uzbeks	240
Belarusians	260
Total	**13 826**

*Central Statistical bureau provides these data based not on citizenship but ethnic nationality.

Source: Central Statistical bureau. Available: https://data.stat.gov.lv/pxweb/en/OSP_PUB/START__POP__IB__IBE/IBE040//

The population size at the beginning of 2023 and 2024 has been recalculated using a new estimation method.

This affects the migration estimates and results in a methodological break in the time series.

As the migration data for 2022 were not recalculated, they are not fully comparable with the population size at the beginning of 2023.

The population estimate published on 2 June was revised on 2 October 2025, and the usually resident population now includes foreign students.

Emigration flows in 2025, by nationality, main nationalities*

Nationality	Number of emigrants
Latvians	**4 839**
Russians	3 676
Ukrainians	2 575
Belarusians	341
Lithuanians	136
Total	**15 117**

*Central Statistical bureau provides these data based not on citizenship but ethnic nationality.

Source: https://data.stat.gov.lv/pxweb/en/OSP_PUB/START__POP__IB__IBE/IBE040/table/tableViewLayout1/

The population size at the beginning of 2023 and 2024 has been recalculated using a new estimation method.

This affects the migration estimates and results in a methodological break in the time series.

As the migration data for 2022 were not recalculated, they are not fully comparable with the population size at the beginning of 2023.

The population estimate published on 2 June was revised on 2 October 2025, and the usually resident population now includes foreign students.

Inflows of third-country workers in 2025, 2026 main countries

Country of citizenship	2025	2026 (January – June)
Total third-country nationals	**9073**	**2250**
India	642	331
Uzbekistan	1434	728
Tajikistan	455	208
Russia	21	8
Belarus	228	100
Ukraine	111	42
Georgia	53	46

Source: Eurostat and OCMA

Inflows of investors in 2025, 2026 main countries

Country of citizenship	**2025**	**2026 (January – June)**
Total third-country nationals	**206**	**156**
Turkey	54	38
China	20	6
India	10	20
Vietnam	12	0
Iraq	7	0
Georgia	7	1

Source: OCMA

Numbers of residence permits holders, 2025, 2026

Type of permit	**2025**	**2026 (January – June)**
Initial temporary	15 739	6 543
Initial permanent	189	87
Valid temporary, total	82 605	81 490
Valid permanent, total	45 204	46 045

Source: OCMA (https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/uzturesanas-atlaujas)

Status changes of international students, numbers in 2025

Residence permit previously granted for education and study purposes	
Total status changes	641
New permit for family reasons	60
Remunerated activities	326
Other reasons	255

Source: Eurostat https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/migr_reschange__custom_22091074/default/table

Students, including exchange students, with temporary residence permits, 2025, 2026 main countries of origin

Country of origin	**2025**	**2026 (January – June)**
India	3496	3568
Uzbekistan	3525	1268
Sri Lanka	686	656
Germany	619	595
Turkey	530	587
Finland	344	389
Sweden	316	413
Azerbaijan	400	452
Pakistan	195	181
Norway	163	187
Italy	122	117
Ukraine	81	77
Russia	72	70
Cameroon	83	76
Kazakhstan	71	65
Belarus	22	19
Total	**9678**	**10 119**

Source: OCMA

Students, including exchange students, with first time temporary residence permits, 2025, 2026 main countries of origin (flow data)

Country of origin	**2025**	**2026 (January – June)**
India	1284	477
Sri Lanka	192	59
Uzbekistan	470	284
Turkey	263	93
Pakistan	84	24
Azerbaijan	223	66
Norway	34	29
Ukraine	13	2
Russia	13	3
Total	**3260**	**1419**

Source: OCMA

Third-country nationals returned 2025		
Returned as part of forced return measures[191]	***Returned voluntarily[192]***	***Among third-country nationals returned voluntarily, the number of third-country nationals returned as part of an assisted return programme[193]***
Total	***Total***	***Total***
75	**2206**	**80**

* Minors travelled together with their parents.

[191] Reference period: 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023. Data source: Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs.
[192] Reference period: 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023. Data source: Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs.
[193] Reference period: 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023. Data source: IOM Riga Office.

Third-country nationals returned 2026 (June)		
Returned as part of forced return measures[194]	***Issued voluntarily return orders[195]***	***Among third-country nationals returned voluntarily, the number of third-country nationals returned as part of an assisted return programme***
Total	***Total***	***Total***
39	821	34[196]

Main legal acts and further information[197]

Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians. - Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 45A, 04.03.2022. – [entered into force on 05.03.2022]

Law "Amendments to the Immigration Law". – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 198, 14.10.2025. – [entered into force on 28.10.2025]

Law on Amendments to the Law "On Maternity and Sickness Insurance". – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 233, 03.12.2025. – [entered into force on 01.01.2026]

Law on Amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians. – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 244, 18.12.2025. – [entered into force on 01.01.2026]

Law "Amendment to the Immigration Law". – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 72, 15.04.2026. – [entered into force on 29.04.2026]

Law "Amendments to the Immigration Law". – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 85, 06.05.2026. – [entered into force on 20.05.2026.]

Immigration Law. - Latvijas Vēstnesis No 167, 01.09.2026. – [entered into force on 15.09.2026.]

Cabinet Regulation No. 141 of 4 March 2021 "Procedures for the Recognition of Travel Documents of Foreigners". – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 46. – 08.03.2021. – [entered into force on 09.03.2021]

Cabinet Regulation No. 803 of 10 December 2024 "Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 55 of 28 January 2014 "Regulations Regarding Employment of Foreigners"". – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 242, 12.12.2024. – [entered into force on 01.01.2025]

[194] Reference period: 1st January 2026 to 1t July 2026. Data source: Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs.
[195] Reference period: 1st January 2026 to 1t July 2026. Data source: Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs.
[196] Data source: IOM Riga Office until 1. July 2026.
[197] References to relevant websites as well as to national media, where the migration debate took place, are included in footnotes.

Cabinet Regulation No. 197 of 25 March 2025 “Regulations Regarding Emergency Travel Document”. – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 63, 31.03.2025. – [entered into force on 09.12.2025]

Cabinet Regulation No. 176 of 18 March 2025 “Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 157 of 8 March 2022 “Regulations Regarding the Extent of the Knowledge of the Official Language and the Procedures for Examining the Proficiency in the Official Language””. – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 57, 21.03.2025. – [entered into force on 22.03.2025]

Cabinet Regulation No. 217 of 8 April 2025 “Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 352 of 20 June 2017 “Regulations on the Sample Official Statistics Form in the Area of Operation of the Orphan’s and Custody Court and the Procedures for Completing and Submitting the Form””. – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 74, 15.04.2025. – [entered into force on 16.04.2025]

Cabinet Regulation No. 277 of 6 May 2025. “Procedure for Ensuring the Provision of Priority Public Services to Merchants” – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 91, 14.05.2025. – [entered into force on 15.05.2025]

Cabinet Regulation No. 18 of 20 January 2026 “Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 488 of 26 July 2016 “Procedures by which Minor Asylum Seeker shall be Provided with Opportunities for Acquiring Education“”. – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 16, 23.01.2026. – [entered into force on 24.01.2026]

Cabinet Regulation No. 84 of 24 February 2026 “Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 277 of 6 May 2025 “Procedure for Ensuring the Provision of Priority Public Services to Merchants””. – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 40, 26.02.2026. – [entered into force on 27.02.2026]

Cabinet Regulation No. 109 of 3 March, 2026 “Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 339 of 8 June 2022 “Regulations on the Provision of Primary Support to Ukrainian Civilians””. – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 47, 09.03.2026. – [entered into force on 10.03.2026]

Cabinet Regulation No. 388 of July 7, 2026 “Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 564 of June 21, 2010 "Regulations Regarding Residence Permits"”. - Latvijas Vēstnesis No129, 09.07.2026. – [came into force on 10.07.2026]

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 528 of September 1, 2026 “the Protocol between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Armenia on the implementation of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Armenia on the readmission of persons residing without authorization”. - Latvijas Vēstnesis No 175, 11.09.2026. – [entered into force on 12.09.2026.]

Cabinet Order No. 1109 “On the 2025 Action Plan for the Provision of Assistance to Ukrainian civilians in the Republic of Latvia” of 18 December 2024. – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 250, 27.12.2024. – [entered into force on 18.12. 2024]

Cabinet Order No. 212 of 16 April 2025 “On the Reallocation of Appropriations from the Programme 17.00.00 “Funding for the Implementation of Measures Specified in the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians” of the budgetary position 74 “Financing to Be Reallocated During the Implementation Process of the Annual State Budget”. – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 77, 22.04.2025. – [entered into force on 16.04.2025]

Cabinet Order No. 449 “On the 2025 Action Plan for the Provision of Support to Ukrainian Civilians in the Republic of Latvia” of 22 July 2025. – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 141, 25.07.2025. – [entered into force on 22.07.2025]

Cabinet Order No 267 **“**Amendments to the “ Cabinet Order No. 896 “On the 2026 Action Plan for the Provision of Support to Ukrainian Civilians in the Republic of Latvia” of December 22, 2025. - *Latvijas Vēstnesis* No 91, 14.05.2026. – [entered force on 12.05.2026.]

Cabinet Order of August 11, 2026, No. 459 "On the conceptual report "On a solution for preventing institutional and competence fragmentation in the acquisition of the state language for adults”. - Latvijas Vēstnesis No.154, 13.08.2026. – [entered into force on 11.08.2026.]

Informative report “On the impact of measures to ensure the protection of the rights and interests of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers on municipal budgets”. – Available on: https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/meetings/cabinet_ministers/47e44dd2-3576-4640-ae69-5ea79e9436c2

The Cabinet of Ministers' informative report of the July 31, 2026 "On the interim assessment of the implementation of the Guidelines for the development of a cohesive and civically active society for 2021–2027". - Latvijas Vēstnesis No 148, 05.08.2026.

Minutes No. 49 of the Cabinet meeting of 25 November 2025. – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 231, 01.12.2025.

EU legal acts

Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 establishing a framework for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials and amending Regulations (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1724 and (EU) 2019/1020 (Text with EEA relevance), PE/78/2023/REV/1. – Official Journal L, 2024/1252, 3.5.2024.

Regulation (EU) 2024/1735 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 on establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe’s net-zero technology manufacturing ecosystem and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1724 (Text with EEA relevance), PE/45/2024/REV/1. – Official Journal L, 2024/1735, 28.6.2024.

Directive (EU) 2024/1233 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 April 2024 on a single application procedure for a single permit for third-country nationals to reside and work in the territory of a Member State and on a common set of rights for third-country workers legally residing in a Member State (recast). - PE/93/2023/REV/1 Official Journal L, 2024/1233, 30.4.2024.

Other literature and sources

“Integration of International Students and Employment Opportunities in Latvia”. – Available on: https://biceps.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/treso_valstu_studentu_nodarbinatiba_2025.pdf

“Latvian language learning among newcomers: experience and needs” (2025). – Available on: https://valoda.lv/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Petijums_Latviesu-valodas-apguve-jauniebrauceju-vidu_2025.pdf

“Latvian language learning among newcomers: experience and needs” (2025). – Available on: https://valoda.lv/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Petijums_Latviesu-valodas-apguve-jauniebrauceju-vidu_2025.pdf

A memorandum on cooperation in the social area has been signed between the Ministry of Welfare and the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine. – Available on: https://www.lm.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/parakstits-labklajibas-ministrijas-un-ukrainas-socialas-politikas-ministrijas-memorands-par-sadarbibu-socialaja-joma

A project supported by Riga City Council on integration activities for Ukrainian civilians in Riga has been launched. – Available on: https://www.patverums-dm.lv/lv/uzsakts-rigas-domes-atbalstits-projekts--par-ukrainas-civiliedzivotaju-integracijas-aktivitatem-riga/1854

A psychological support course in Latvia will also be available to Ukrainian firefighters and rescuers. – Available on: https://lvportals.lv/dienaskartiba/378725-psihologiska-atbalsta-kurss-latvija-bus-pieejams-ari-ukrainas-ugunsdzesejiem-glabejiem-2025

A seminar for legal aid providers on asylum law took place. - Available on: https://cilvektiesibas.org.lv/lv/news/notika-seminars-juridiskas-palidzibas-sniedzejiem--706/

A study on the Latvian language learning needs and experiences of newcomers has been published. – Available on: https://valoda.lv/publicets-petijums-par-jauniebrauceju-latviesu-valodas-apguves-vajadzibam-un-pieredzi/

A webinar on the European Union Pact on Migration and Asylum took place. – Available on: https://cilvektiesibas.org.lv/lv/news/notika-vebinars-par-eiropas-savienibas-migracijas--707/

Action plan on improving the attraction of foreign students. – Available on: https://lvportals.lv/dienaskartiba/374504-ricibas-plans-arvalstu-studentu-piesaistes-uzlabosanai-2025

Adult learning programmes for Latvian as a foreign language for language proficiency levels A0–C2. – Available on: https://valoda.lv/latviesu-valodas-ka-svesvalodas-apguves-programmas-pieaugusajiem-a0-c2-valodas-prasmes-limeniem/

Agreement on Good Practice of Attracting Foreign Students and Delivering Studies, consolidated version: 08.09.2025. – Available on: https://www.izm.gov.lv/lv/media/30134/download?attachment

Analysis provided in this report covers the time period from January 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Annotation of the Draft Cabinet Order No 267 “Amendments to the “ Cabinet Order No. 896 “On the 2026 Action Plan for the Provision of Support to Ukrainian Civilians in the Republic of Latvia” of December 22, 2025. – Available on: https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/annotation/73b86665-de54-40ea-8d0e-e12d4fb91094

Annotation of the draft legal act "Amendments to the Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers of June 21, 2010 No. 564 " Regulations Regarding Residence Permits "". – Available at: https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/annotation/302aae89-d762-415e-85e2-e4d12c5e0f0c

Annotation to the draft law “Amendment to the Immigration Law”. – Available on: https://titania.saeima.lv/LIVS14/SaeimaLIVS14.nsf/0/1B61F336839C2D39C2258D2C004D9821?OpenDocument

Annotation to the draft law “Amendments to the Immigration Law”. – Available on: https://titania.saeima.lv/LIVS14/SaeimaLIVS14.nsf/0/E100E8B09965485CC2258C7C001DD55F?OpenDocument
Annotation to the draft law “Amendments to the Immigration Law”. – Available on: https://titania.saeima.lv/LIVS14/SaeimaLIVS14.nsf/0/755EA9F769245E90C2258D61004D726B?OpenDocument

Annotation to the draft law “Amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians”. – Available on: https://titania.saeima.lv/LIVS14/SaeimaLIVS14.nsf/0/3F3B005435D1CBBFC2258D24001BA76C?OpenDocument

Annotation to the draft legal act "On the Protocol between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Armenia on the Implementation of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Armenia on the Readmission of Persons Residing without Authorization". – Available at: https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/annotation/3bf680a1-74ee-4618-8637-5c4e244333a9

Annotation to the draft legal act “Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 277 of 6 May 2025 “Procedure for Ensuring the Provision of Priority Public Services to Merchants””. – Available on: https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/annotation/12519ea4-6cbe-4639-b9df-150ed657a5f0

Annotation to the draft legal act “Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 339 of 8 June 2022 “Regulations on the Provision of Primary Support to Ukrainian Civilians””. – Available on: https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/annotation/cee5ca3f-5c3a-4864-b0c2-c93e9ab0a3e3

Annotation to the draft legal act “Procedure for Ensuring the Provision of Priority Public Services to Merchants”. – Available on: https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/annotation/45da77ff-1fe1-496d-b8b9-1dd853762c96

Are you planning to return to Latvia or would you like to help someone else return? Participate in the NVA EURES online seminars “I want to return to Latvia! Where to start?”!. - Available at: https://www.nva.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/planojiet-atgriesanos-latvija-vai-velaties-palidzet-kadam-citam-atgriezties-piedalieties-nva-eures-tiessaistes-seminaros-gribu-atgriezties-latvija-ar-ko-sakt

Attitudes do not change, but benefits decrease: how Latvia is adapting to the long-term presence of Ukrainians. – Available on: https://lasi.lv/latvija-pasaule/sabiedriba/attieksme-nemainas-pabalsti-mazinas-ka-latvija-pielagojas-ilgtermina-ukrainu-klatbutnei.34432

Brochures on the asylum procedure in Latvia as of June 12, 2026. – Available at: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/en/brochures-asylum-procedure-latvia-june-12-2026

Business support. – Available at: https://www.remigracija.lv/en/business-support

Cabinet Regulation No. 492 “Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 488 of 26 July 2016 “Procedures by which Minor Asylum Seeker shall be Provided with Opportunities for Acquiring Education“” of 12 August 2025. – Latvijas Vēstnesis, No. 154, 13.08.2025. – [entered into force on 01.09.2025]

Draft law “Immigration Law” annotation. – available at: https://titania.saeima.lv/LIVS13/saeimalivs13.nsf/0/C1B6E344F2D5B5D3C22587670047E254?OpenDocument#B

EMN national report for the study “Sustainable labour market integration of third-country nationals: skills matching policies and instruments. –Available on: https://www.emn.lv/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/EMN-study-Fostering-labour-market-integration_common-template_LV_final.pdf

European Union Financial Support Instrument for Border Management and Visa Policy (Migration and Asylum Pact) 2021–2027 project No. IC/MPP/RPVP/2025/1 “Modernisation of the technological platform of the biometric data processing system and procurement of EURODAC equipment”. – Available on: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/projekts/es-finansiala-atbalsta-instrumenta-robezu-parvaldibai-un-vizu-politikai-migracijas-un-patveruma-pakts-2021-2027gadam-projekts-nr-icmpprpvp20251-biometrijas-datu-apstrades-sistemas-tehnologiskas-platformas-modernizacija-un-eurodac-iekartu-iegade

Expenses of local governments incurred in meeting the needs of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers must be reimbursed without any delay. – Available on: https://www.tiesibsargs.lv/news/bez-kavesanas-jakompense-pasvaldibu-izdevumi/

First illegal border tunnel found at Silene, Latvia. - Available at: https://eng.lsm.lv/article/society/defence/11.08.2026-first-illegal-border-tunnel-found-at-silene-latvia.a658310/

Funding allocated for the camps for Ukrainian and Latvian children this year. – Available on: https://www.izm.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/pieskir-finansejumu-sim-gadam-ukrainas-un-latvijas-bernu-nometnu-organizesanai-0

Higher education institutions promise to reduce the share of students from third countries. – Available on: https://leta.lv/home/important/227CF7CC-7478-4102-AAD7-DB86C86AB5CB/

Higher education institutions promise to reduce the share of students from third countries. – Available on: https://leta.lv/home/important/227CF7CC-7478-4102-AAD7-DB86C86AB5CB/

Horizontal principle “Equality, inclusion, non-discrimination, and respect for the fundamental rights”. – Available on: https://www.lm.gov.lv/lv/horizontalais-princips-vienlidziba-ieklausana-nediskriminacija-un-pamattiesibu-ieverosana

I. Mieriņa, L.Brasliņa, A.Batraga, K.Kellerte, I. Švarca. Diaspora Investments in Latvia. University of Latvia, Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia. Riga: University of Latvia Academic Press, 2026.. – Available at: https://www.diaspora.lu.lv/fileadmin/user_upload/lu_portal/projekti/diaspora/petijumi/F5_Diasporas_investicijas_Latvija_Gala_nodevums_publicesanai.pdf

If you live abroad but want to return to Latvia, participate in the NVA EURES online seminars “I want to return to Latvia! Where to start?”. - Available at: https://www.nva.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/ja-dzivojat-arvalsti-bet-velaties-atgriezties-latvija-piedalieties-nva-eures-tiessaistes-seminaros-gribu-atgriezties-latvija-ar-ko-sakt-0

Implementation of Migration and Asylum Pact procedures in the area of asylum. – Available on: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/projekts/migracijas-un-patveruma-pakta-proceduru-ieviesana-patveruma-joma

In cooperation with the Ministry of Justice and during the 2021–2027 EU funds planning period, the Ministry of Welfare is responsible for coordinating the horizontal principle “Equality, inclusion, non-discrimination, and respect for fundamental rights” – this principle must be upheld at all stages of the planning, implementation, evaluation, and monitoring of EU funds.

In Liepāja, Rēzekne, Riga, Valmiera, and Jelgava, the SEA will organise regional seminars for employers on issues related to the employment of foreigners. – Available on: https://www.valka.lv/lv/jaunums/liepaja-rezekne-riga-valmiera-un-jelgava-nva-rikos-regionalos-seminarus-darba-devejiem-par-arvalstnieku-nodarbinasanas-jautajumiem

In the draft Immigration Law, which has been considered by the Saeima for years, a favourable status for the Ukrainians fleeing the war has been overlooked. – Available on: https://tv3.lv/zinas/latvija/neka-personiga/toposaja-imigracijas-likuma-ko-jau-gadiem-skata-saeima-piemirsts-ieklaut-ipasas-labvelibas-statusu-no-kara-begosajiem-ukrainiem/

Information about 18.6 thousand Ukrainian civilians has been updated in the Register of Natural Persons. – Available on: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/fizisko-personu-registra-aktualizetas-zinas-par-186-tukstosiem-ukrainas-civiliedzivotaju

Latvia will henceforth no longer recognise non-biometric passports of citizens of the Russian Federation. – Available on: https://www.mfa.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/latvija-turpmak-neatzis-krievijas-federacijas-pilsona-pases-bez-biometrijas-datiem

Latvian language learning sessions for Ukrainian doctors, medical personnel and Ukrainian citizens who work in the medical and first aid sectors in Latvia. – Available on: https://www.patverums-dm.lv/lv/latviesu-valodas-apguves-nodarbibas-ukrainas-arstiem-arstniecibas-personam-un-ukrainas-pilsoniem-kuri-strada-medicinas-un-pirmas-palidzibas-joma-latvija

LDDK calls for the development of a comprehensive human capital development strategy. – Available on: https://www.leta.lv/news/all/0167C1A2-5155-45A9-A391-C4558C065FBB/

Lead partner – the Ministry of Finance; Latvian partners: the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs, the Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional Development, the State Digital Development Agency, JSC “SEB banka”.

Local governments and schools are developing new initiatives to reduce social exclusion and to strengthen communities. – Available on: https://www.skola-kopiena.lv/news/details?oid=b2966664-643d-451a-ad51-dfe667ff86f1

Member of the Parliament highlight migration issues – foreign students and insufficient control of removed persons. – Available on: https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/zinas/latvija/19.03.2025-deputati-norada-uz-problemam-migracija-arvalstu-studenti-un-nepietiekama-izraidito-kontrole.a592193/

Migrant Integration Index: 2025 data. – Available on: https://providus.lv/raksti/migrantu-integracijas-indekss-2025-gada-dati/

New Security Operation "VILKATIS" Began in Latvia's Eastern Border Region. – Available at: https://www.mk.gov.lv/en/article/new-security-operation-vilkatis-began-latvias-eastern-border-region

News and updates. – Available on: https://www.lm.gov.lv/lv/zinas-un-jaunumi-0

Officials of the State Border Guard provide training to the officials of the Moldovan Border Police on the profiling and identification of persons crossing the border. – Available on: https://www.rs.gov.lv/lv/projekts/valsts-robezsardzes-amatpersonas-nodrosina-moldovas-robezpolicijas-amatpersonu-apmacibas-par-robezskersojoso-personu-profilesanu-un-identificesanu

On the state of discrimination in Latvia. – Available on: https://www.tiesibsargs.lv/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/diskriminacijas_situacija_latvija.pdf

Opening conference of the project "School in the Community": Together with "School in the Community". – Available on: https://www.viaa.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/projekta-skola-kopiena-atklasanas-konference-kopa-ar-skola-kopiena

Performance audit report "Does the work permit issuance system in Latvia operate effectively?" Rīga 2026. – Available at: https://www.lrvk.gov.lv/lv/getrevisionfile/29817-G7dKqG8bALkToYHUhjY4mOlUR3phfud2.pdf

Provision of legal aid to asylum seekers and individuals with international protection and capacity-building measures in Latvia. – Available on: https://cilvektiesibas.org.lv/lv/projects/juridiskas-palidzibas-sniegsana-patveruma-mekletaj-689/

Remigration program and opportunities for remigrants in 2025. – Available at: https://lvportals.lv/dienaskartiba/376065-remigracijas-programma-un-remigrantu-iespejas-2025-gada-2025

Report "Employment of Ukrainian civilians in 2022–2025". – Available on: https://www.lm.gov.lv/lv/media/33626/download?attachment

Results of the competition "Activities of Non-governmental Organisations to Provide Assistance to Ukrainian civilians" have been approved. – Available on: https://www.sif.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/apstiprinati-konkursa-nevalstisko-organizaciju-pasakumi-ukrainas-civiliedzivotaju-atbalstam-rezultati

Results of the competition "Latvian Language Training for Ukrainian civilians" have been approved. – Available on: https://www.sif.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/apstiprinati-konkursa-latviesu-valodas-macibas-ukrainas-civiliedzivotajiem-rezultati

Roadmap for the establishment and operation of the Urban Development and Integration Laboratory (PAIL). – Available on: 10.5281/zenodo.17728461.

Roadmap for the establishment and operation of the Urban Development and Integration Laboratory (PAIL). – Available on: 10.5281/zenodo.17728461.

State of discrimination in Latvia. – Available on: https://www.tiesibsargs.lv/resource/diskriminacijas-situacija-latvija/

Study “Experience of Latvian municipalities in receiving Ukrainian civilians: from crisis to long-term solutions”. – Available on: https://providus.lv/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Pasvaldibu_kapacitate_petijums.pdf

Study “Experience of Latvian municipalities in receiving Ukrainian civilians: from crisis to long-term solutions”. – Available on: https://providus.lv/petijumi/petijums-latvijas-pasvaldibu-pieredze-ukrainas-civiliedzivotaju-uznemsana-no-krizes-lidz-ilgtermina-risinajumiem/

Study “State of discrimination in Latvia”. – Available on: https://m.juristavards.lv/biblioteka/286984-petijums-diskriminacijas-situacija-latvija/

Study “Ukrainian civilians in the Latvian education system: practice and challenges”. – Available on: https://providus.lv/raksti/petijums-ukrainas-civiliedzivotaji-latvijas-izglitibas-sistema-prakse-un-izaicinajumi/

Summary of the study “Integration of International Students and Employment Opportunities in Latvia”. – Available on: https://biceps.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/applv_petijuma_parskats.pdf

Support is available for the Latvian language courses for Ukrainian civilians. – Available on: https://www.sif.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/pieejams-atbalsts-latviesu-valodas-kursiem-ukrainas-civiliedzivotajiem

Support measures for receiving and accommodating persons in need of international protection in Latvia (Phase 2). – Available on: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/projekts/atbalsta-pasakumi-personu-kuram-nepieciesama-starptautiska-aizsardziba-uznemsanai-un-izmitinasanai-latvija-2posms

The accommodation center for detained foreigners in Rauda, Augšdaugava region, will be ready by the end of the year. - Available at: https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/zinas/latvija/03.07.2026-aiztureto-arzemnieku-izmitinasanas-centrs-augsdaugavas-novada-rauda-bus-gatavs-lidz-gada-beigam.a653774/?utm_campaign=rss&utm_medium=links&utm_source=rss

The APTITUDE project – a step closer to a secure and convenient digital identity across Europe. – Available on: https://www.varam.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/aptitude-projekts-solis-tuvak-drosai-un-ertai-digitalajai-identitatei-visa-eiropa

The breakdown by nationality - Available: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/media/11046/download?attachment

The breakdown by nationality - Available: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/fizisko-personu-registra-statistika-2026-gada

The contribution of the One-Stop Agency in supporting newcomers in 2025. – Available on: https://livelatvia.lv/lv/vienas-pieturas-agenturas-ieguldijums-jaunpienaceju-atbalsta-2025-gada/

The contribution of the One-Stop Agency in supporting newcomers in 2025. – Available on: https://livelatvia.lv/lv/vienas-pieturas-agenturas-ieguldijums-jaunpienaceju-atbalsta-2025-gada/

The Council of the European Union approves the initial agreement on the solidarity mechanism of the Migration and Asylum Pact in writing; Latvia abstains from the vote. – Available on: https://www.iem.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/es-padome-rakstiski-apstiprina-sakotnejo-vienosanos-par-migracijas-un-patveruma-pakta-solidaritates-mehanismu-latvija-balsojuma-atturas

The development of the visa e-tool was financed under the project “Use and Development of the National Visa Information System (NVIS)” in the framework of the 2021–2027 programme of the Financial Support Instrument for Border Management and Visa Policy.

The first 117 mentors of the project “School in the Community” are ready to support young people. – Available on: https://www.skola-kopiena.lv/news/details?oid=307d8ea9-1966-491a-9706-5e124f603e36

The immigration debate – between concerns and populism. – Available at: https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/zinas/latvija/23.07.2026-diskusija-par-imigraciju-starp-bazam-un-populismu.a656139/

The language courses will take place from 9 January until 30 April 2025. This project was developed with the financial support of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), an organisation affiliated with the United Nations.

The mid-term evaluation commends SIF's contribution to social integration and strengthening civil society. – Available at: https://www.sif.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/starpposma-novertejuma-atzinigi-novertets-sif-ieguldijums-sabiedribas-integracija-un-pilsoniskas-sabiedribas-stiprinasana

The Ministry of Education and Science proposes a uniform Latvian language learning system for adults. – Available on: https://www.izm.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/izm-rosina-veidot-vienotu-latviesu-valodas-apguves-sistemu-pieaugusajiem

The new remigration coordinators' website remigracija.lv is launched. – Available at: https://www.varam.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/darbu-sak-jauna-remigracijas-koordinatoru-timeklvietne-remigracijalv

The new study programme for adults “Teacher of Latvian as a Foreign Language” has been licensed. – Available on: https://valoda.lv/licence-jauno-studiju-programmu-pieaugusajiem-latviesu-valodas-ka-svesvalodas-skolotajs/

The Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs has developed a digital guide on the visa application process. – Available on: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/pilsonibas-un-migracijas-lietu-parvalde-izstradajusi-digitalu-celvedi-vizu-sanemsanas-procesam

The Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs will modernise the asylum system in accordance with the new standards of the European Union. – Available on: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/pilsonibas-un-migracijas-lietu-parvalde-modernizes-patveruma-sistemu-atbilstosi-eiropas-savienibas-jaunajiem-standartiem

The One-Stop Agency for newcomers in Latvia continues its operations. – Available on: https://www.sif.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/latvija-darbu-turpina-vienas-pieturas-agentura-jaunpienacejiem-latvija

The phenomenon of NGOs established by Ukrainian refugees in Latvia: growth, challenges, and sustainability. – Available on: https://providus.lv/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/UkrainuNVOpetijums_gala_mazaks-compressed.pdf

The range of beneficiaries of the “green corridor” benefits has been narrowed: twice the export volume will be required. – Available on: https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/zinas/ekonomika/24.02.2026-sasaurina-zala-koridora-prieksrocibu-sanemeju-loku-vajadzes-divreiz-lielaku-eksporta-apjomu.a636154/

The results of the project competition “Latvian Language Training for Ukrainian civilians – children” have been approved. – Available on: https://www.sif.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/apstiprinati-projektu-konkursa-latviesu-valodas-macibas-ukrainas-civiliedzivotajiem-berniem-rezultati

The SEA invites Latvian citizens abroad to subscribe to a free newsletter about job and career opportunities in Latvia. - Available at: https://www.nva.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/nva-aicina-latvijas-valsts-piederigos-arvalstis-abonet-bezmaksas-vestkopu-par-darba-un-karjeras-iespejam-latvija

Ukrainian civilians in the Latvian education system: practice and challenges. – Available on: https://providus.lv/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/UCLVizglitibas-sistema-1-1.pdf

With the support of SIF, more than 3,500 Ukrainian civilians learned Latvian. – Available at: https://www.sif.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/ar-sif-atbalstu-vairak-neka-3500-ukrainas-civiliedzivotaju-macijas-latviesu-valodu

More information:

The Office of Citizenship and Migration affairs (OCMA)

www.pmlp.gov.lv

Central Statistical Bureau, Republic of Latvia

www.csb.gov.lv

Official statistics portal of Latvia

https://stat.gov.lv/lv