



REPUBLIC OF LATVIA

Investor presentation

January, 2024

www.kase.gov.lv

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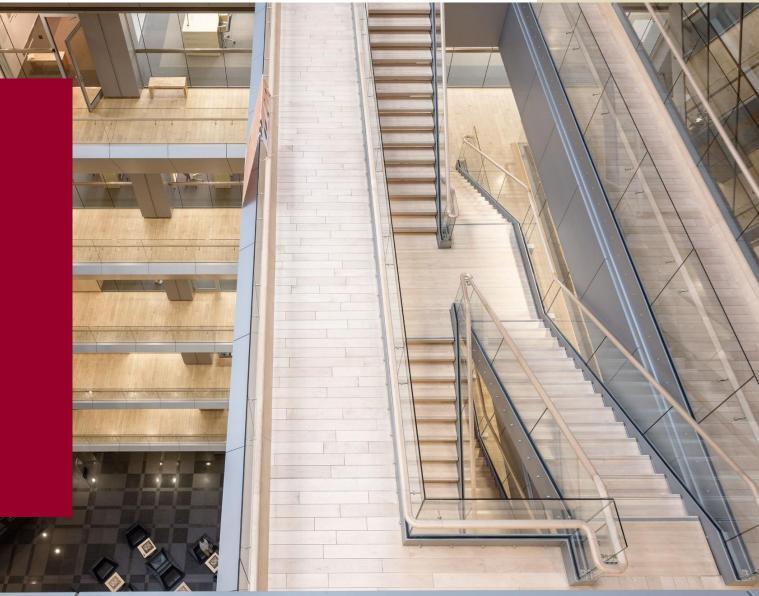
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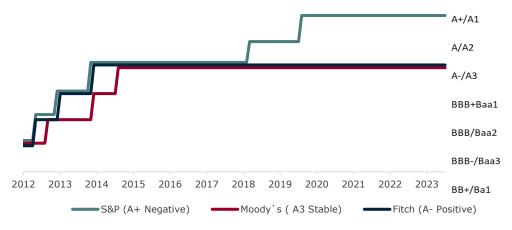
Key Investment Highlights

Resilient Economy	 Latvia has a solid record of consistent growth interrupted briefly in 2020 due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Real GDP growth rebounded strongly to 6.7% in 2021 and 3.4% in 2022, and after the reduction in 2023 is expected to grow up to 2.9% in the medium term. Growth will be fuelled by strong increase in investments which allow the Latvian economy to diversify into high-value added technology sectors and away from more cyclical traditional industries.
Predictable Policies	 A proven political consensus around the need for predictable and prudent economic policies is at the base of Latvia's consistent macro performance and it underpined effective implementation of corrective fiscal and social policies during the recent crises. Strong security, energy independence and macroeconomic prudence remain clear priorities under the current government and are reflected in the Recovery and Resilience plan agreed with the EU. Recovery and Resilience plan combined with EU funds would provide Latvia up to EUR 6.8 bn in next years, in addition to other EU multiannual facilities.
Availa	• Years of fiscal prudence and primary surpluses allowed Latvia's authorities to deploy active social policies over 2020-2022 in response to the Covid-19 crisis and negative impact of Russia military invasion of Ukraine. These fiscal buffers have softened the impact of the crises on vulnerable sectors and part of society without jeopardizing debt sustainability.
Fiscal S	• As the crisis emergencies subside, the authorities have returned to a path of responsible fiscal policy, with nominal deficits projected to drop from 7.2% of GDP in 2021 to 4.6% in 2022 and 2.7% in 2023, and estimated reduction to below 1% in the medium term while maintaining a degree of extraordinary support for key priorities including national security, education and health.
	 Latvia's general government debt metrics remain manageable and considerably below the average for its rating peer group. In addition to moderate debt levels, Latvia benefits from a smooth redemption profile and access to diversified funding sources, including a liquid domestic market which affords a choice of flexible tenors and a reliable investor base.
	• Latvia's export sector is both competitive and diversified. Knowledge intensive IT and various business services have expanded significantly. Large part of current account deficit is covered by FDIs and EU funds related capital transfers.
Compe Export	importantiy, this has been achieved while diversitying exports and trade links away norm russia. Exports to russia represented less than 5/6 of total exports in
Energy/Militan Security	 Latvia reacted swiftly to the Russia military invasion of Ukraine by replacing Russian gas imports with new regional arrangements. Energy security is guaranteed by access to regional LNG facilities and large inland gas storage capacity, as well as the promotion of renewable energy sources. Latvia's membership of NATO provides it with a proven security umbrella which has been strengthened since 2022 with new troops-on-the-ground and technology agreements reached during the 2022 NATO summit in Madrid. Latvia is also committed to increase defence spending to 2.5% of GDP by 2025 and 3% by 2027.
Solid Banking System	 Latvia's banking system is a credit strength. Latvian banks are well capitalized, profitable and cost-efficient. Average Liquidity Coverage Ratio stands at 298%. Latvia's households and corporates are the least indebted in the EU at 52% of GDP in 2Q2023.

Latvia's ratings firmly consolidated in the 'A' rating category

Rating agencies acknowledge flexibility of Latvia's economy, moderate level of government debt and swift policymaking that bolsters its creditworthiness

Long-term foreign currency rating developments



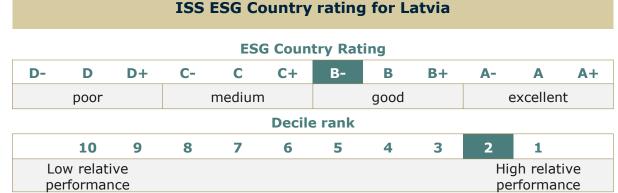
S&P Global Ratings	Fitch Ratings	Moody`s	
A+ / Negative —	A- / Positive —	A3 / Stable —	
On December 15, 2023, S&P Global affirmed long-term foreign currency sovereign credit ratings the A+ level with Negative outlook (contained Rating Action)	On July 28, 2023, Fitch Ratings affirmed long-term foreign currency sovereign credit ratings at the A- level, and changed outlook from Stable to Positive (contained Rating Action)	On July 28, 2023, Moody's published announcement that Latvia's long-term foreign currency sovereign credit ratings remains at the A3 level with Stable outlook (did not contain Rating action)	

Source: S&P, Fitch and Moody's



Source: Eurostat, Bank of Latvia forecasts, Ministry of Finance forecasts

Resilient growth on the back of fiscal prudency



Source: https://www.issgovernance.com/esg/ratings/country-rating/ and

https://www.kase.gov.lv/sites/default/files/public/FRD/%C4%80r%C4%93jie%20aiz%C5%86%C4%93mumi/ 2021_11_30_FINAL_SPO-20211130-Latvia.pdf



ENERGY AND SECURITY:

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE FROM RUSSIA AND NATO MEMBERSHIP



LATVIA HAS REPLACED RUSSIAN GAS WITH VIABLE ALTERNATIVES

Baltic states, including Latvia, are diversified away from Russian gas

Timely decisions adopted to ensure gas supply security in the Baltic - Finnish region

Latvia's access to global gas market is ensured by:

- 1. Primary gas channel is Klaipeda LNG floating terminal in Lithuania and Gas Interconnection Poland-Lithuania (GIPL). Klaipeda is planning to expand the LNG capacity
- 2. New floating LNG terminal in Finland operational since January 2023. Additional infrastructure available also in Estonia
- 3. Inčukalns underground gas storage is a unique for the region and the 3rd largest in Europe with the 22.6 TWh total technical capacity (for period 2023/2024) that exceeds Latvia's annual needs
- 4. Strengthening of regional energy cooperation with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Estonia in May 2023 allowing more decisive intervention in the event of gas supply disruptions

Inčukalns gas storage capacity is 100% booked for the 2023/2024 storage cycle

- At the end of the injection season, which ended on 15 October, 2023, the Inčukalns gas storage facility was fulfilled to 95% of the total technical capacity. Total technical capacity of Inčukalns is already fully booked for the upcoming heating season
- In December 2022 Latvia created gas energy security reserves of 1.8 TWh
- In 2022, annual gas consumption decreased by over 30%, from 12.5 TWh in 2021 to 8,8 TWh in 2022, impacted not only by austerity measures in 2022/2023 season, but also gradually replacing gas heating systems with alternative systems



LATVIA IS INTEGRAL PART OF SINGLE EU POWER MARKET. NO ELECTRICITY IMPORTED FROM RUSSIA

Latvia has diversified power supply and has strong focus on energy security and renewables

Latvia can operate independently from Russia electricity supply

- Since May 22, 2022 there are no electricity commercial imports from Russia, just parallel synchronisation and system stability operations
- Large amount of electricity generated in hydropower plants, and gas reserves provided by «Latvenergo» can be used for flexible and dispatchable production of electricity and heat in power plants to balance growing capacities of renewable energy sources
- The Baltic region is connected to European power system with four powerful interconnections. In case of sudden disconnection from BRELL¹ system, emergency synchronization would be immediately ensured

Latvia is among the greenest electricity producers in EU - 76% of actual electricity was generated from renewables in 2022²



3rd highest overall share of **gross final energy consumption** from renewable sources among EU countries in 2022³



6th largest share of **renewable electricity** production among EU countries in 2022⁴

¹BRELL: Belarus, Russia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania

² Source: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/nrg_bal_peh/default/table?lang=en ³Source: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Renewable_energy_statistics ⁴ Source: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/NRG_IND_REN/default/table?lang=en

Way forward

1990: focus imported electricity and on gas as a main source of electricity and heat generation

2020: diversification among hydropower, wind, solar, biomass and other renewables, the share of all together reaching 42% of gross final energy consumption in Latvia

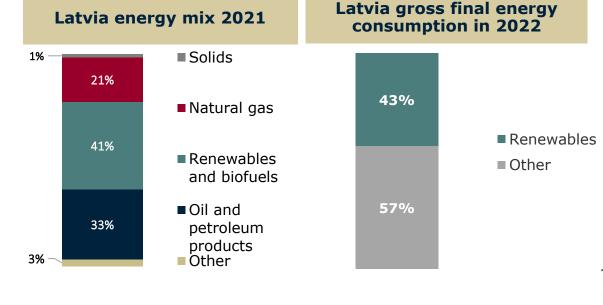
2050: continue to use hydropower, wind, solar, biomass, but fossils are replaced with other renewable (potentially including hydrogen)

Accelerated synchronization of Baltic power system with European Continental

Network no latter than **by February 2025** ensuring integral independence from Russia

Several large investment projects planned, among others:

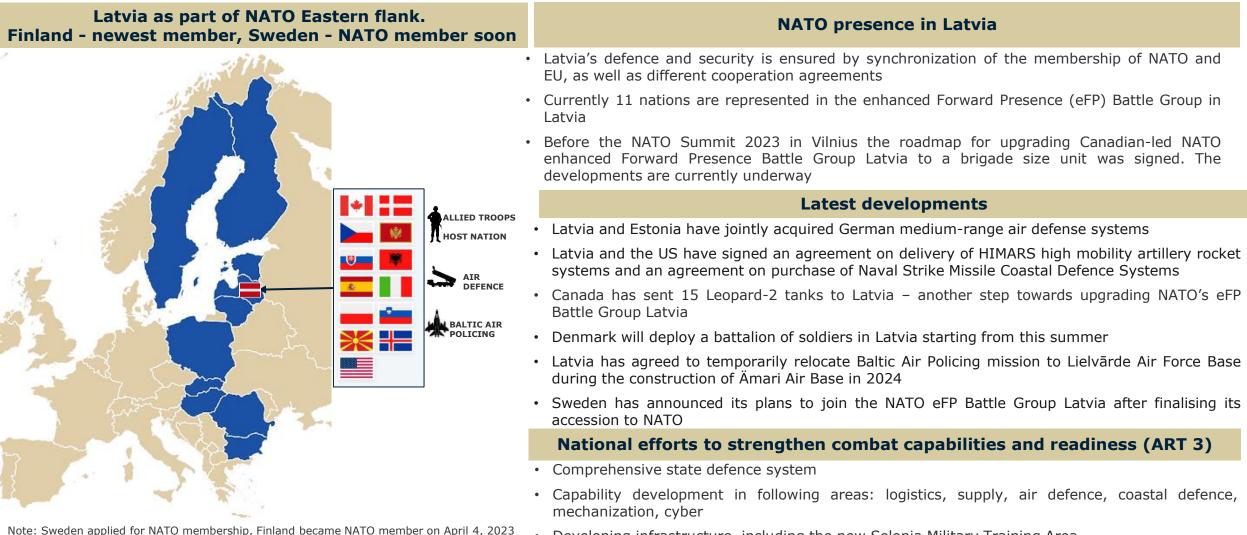
- ELWIND offshore wind farm project between Estonia and Latvia (planned to be implemented by 2030)
- Latvenergo and Latvijas valsts meži (state-owned land managed) in a joint onshore wind parks project (planned to be implemented by 2030)



Source: Eurostat

LATVIA – MEMBER OF THE WORLD'S STRONGEST MILITARY ALLIANCE

Latvia has been a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) since 2004



- Developing infrastructure, including the new Selonia Military Training Area
 - Conscription: third wave of recruits to start their state defence service duty on July, 2024
 - Gradual increase of defence budget to 2.5% of GDP by 2025 (3% of GDP by 2027)

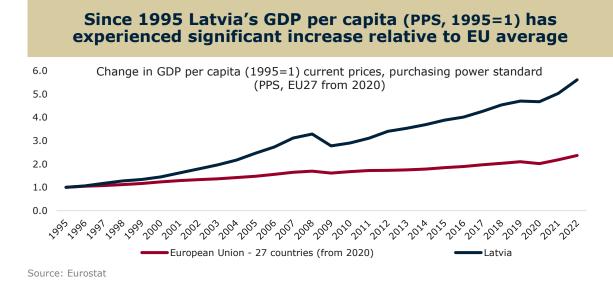
FISCAL POLICY:

MODERATE DEFICIT AND LOW DEBT

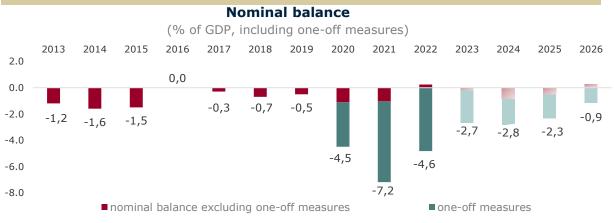


SUPPORTIVE FISCAL POLICY IN 2020-2022 AND GRADUAL RETURN ТО «NORMALITY» - PRUDENT FISCAL POLICY IN THE COMING YEARS

Moderate deficits and solid growth during 2012 -2019 contributed to public debt reduction

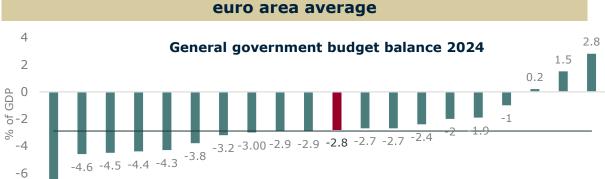


Fiscal strategy 2023 - 2026 (one-off measures: defense expenditure increase, defense and security investments, energy support, COVID-19, support package to refugees from UA, support to UA)



The latest projection made by the Ministry of Finance on the 5th of January 2024, the nominal balance for 2025 is 2,4% of GDP based on the latest decisions made by the Saeima within the framework of the Budget Law 2024-2026.

Source: DBP for 2024 Eurozone, https://economy-finance.ec.europa.eu/economic-and-fiscal-governance/stability-and-growthpact/annual-draft-budgetary-plans-dbps-euro-area-countries/draft-budgetary-plans-2024_en



GDP

%

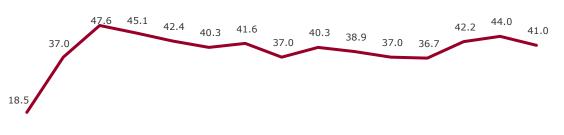
-8

-6.5

Latvia's general government deficit in 2024 planned close to euro area average

SK BE MT FR IT SI FI ESP EE LT LV AT LUX NL DE HR EL PT IE CY Source: DBP for 2024 Eurozone, https://economy-finance.ec.europa.eu/economic-and-fiscal-governance/stability-andgrowth-pact/annual-draft-budgetary-plans-dbps-euro-area-countries/draft-budgetary-plans-2024 en

General Government Debt (% of GDP)

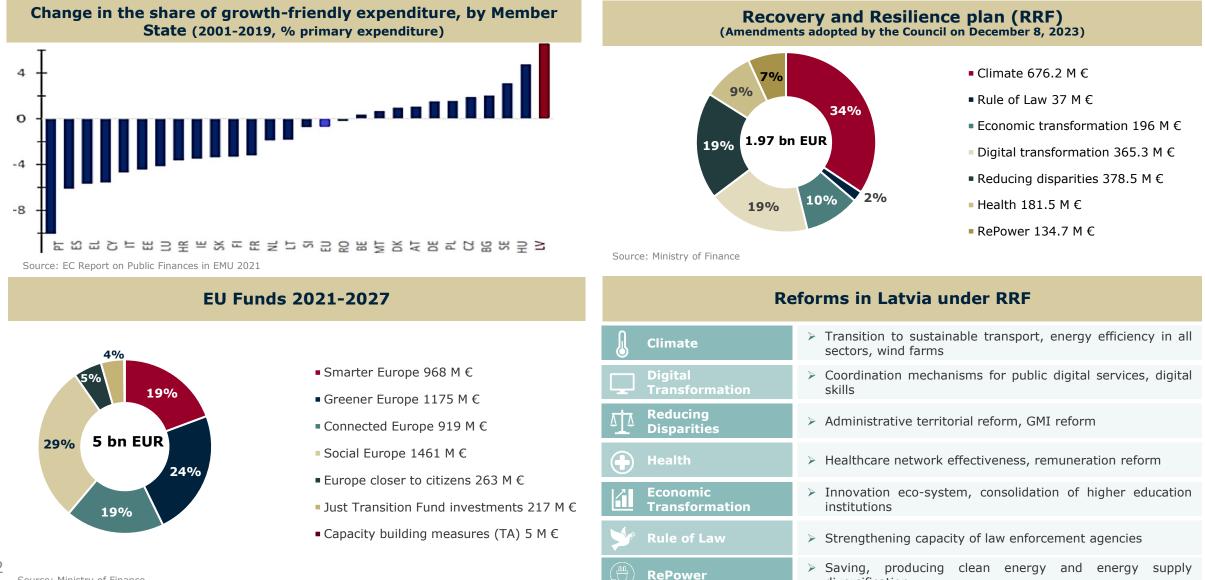


2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022

Source: Eurostat

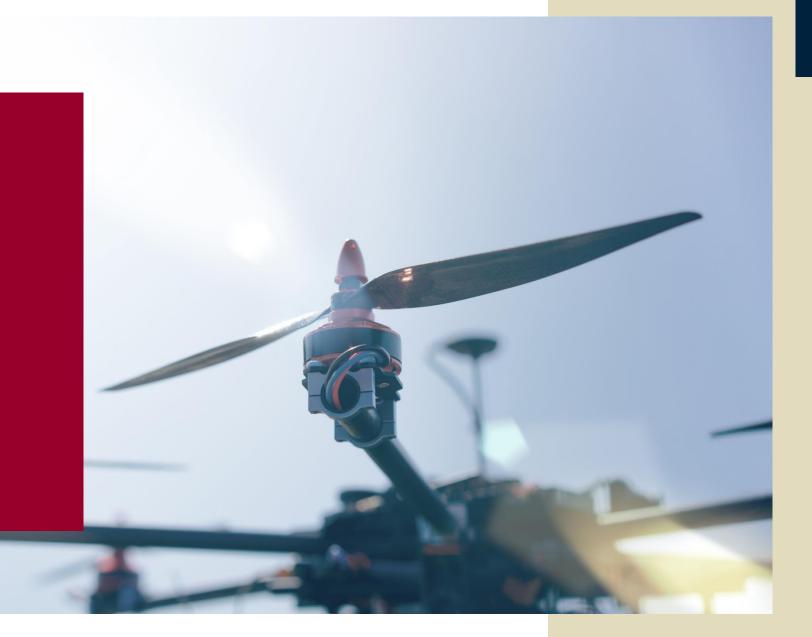
FOCUS ON AMBITIOUS GROWTH AND COMPETITIVENESS-FRIENDLY REFORM AGENDA

RRF and EU funds support the implementation of crucial investment and reform measures, including climate and digitalisation



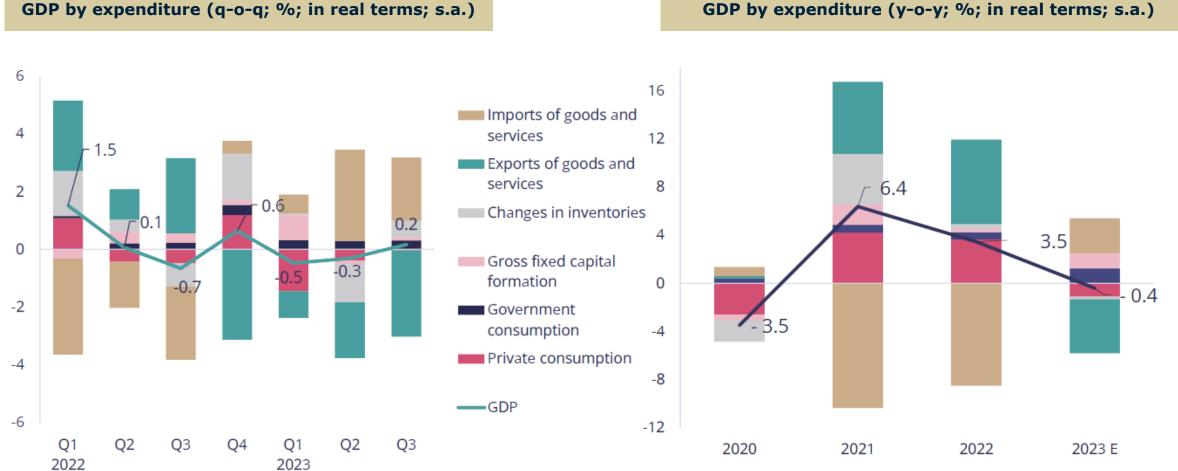
diversification

THE ECONOMY: FLEXIBLE AND RESILIENT ECONOMY



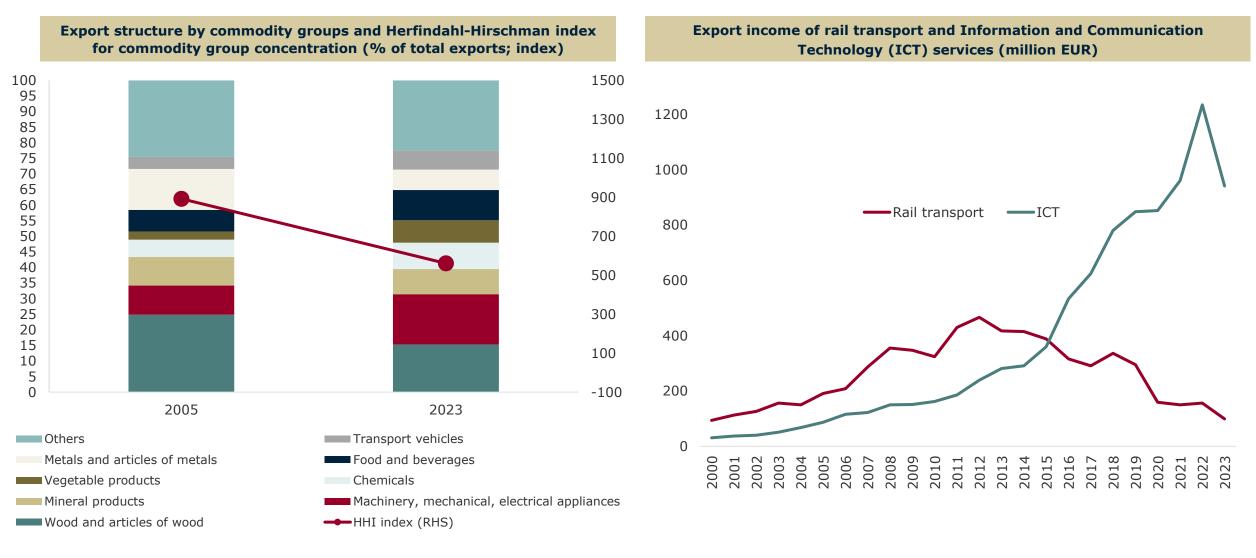
ECONOMIC GROWTH SLOWER IN 2023

A period of weak activity (the end of 2023 and the first half of 2024) will be followed by stronger growth, i.e. from the second half of 2024



STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION TOWARDS MORE PRODUCTIVE SECTORS

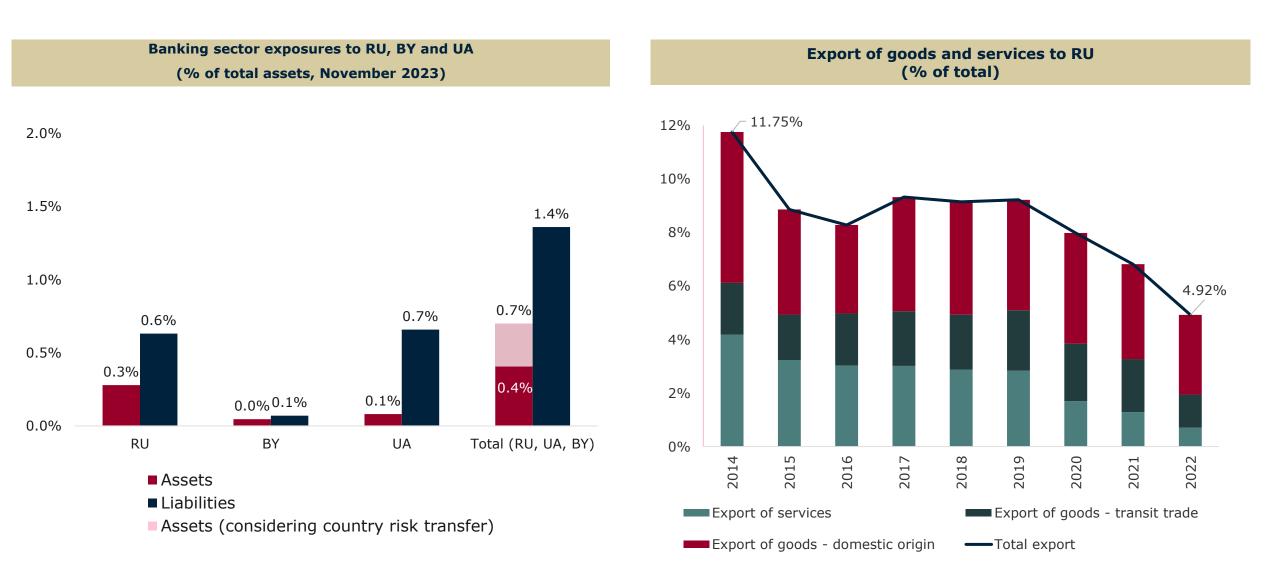
Merchandise export has become more diversified and sophisticated over time; a shift towards higher value-added services is evident over the long run



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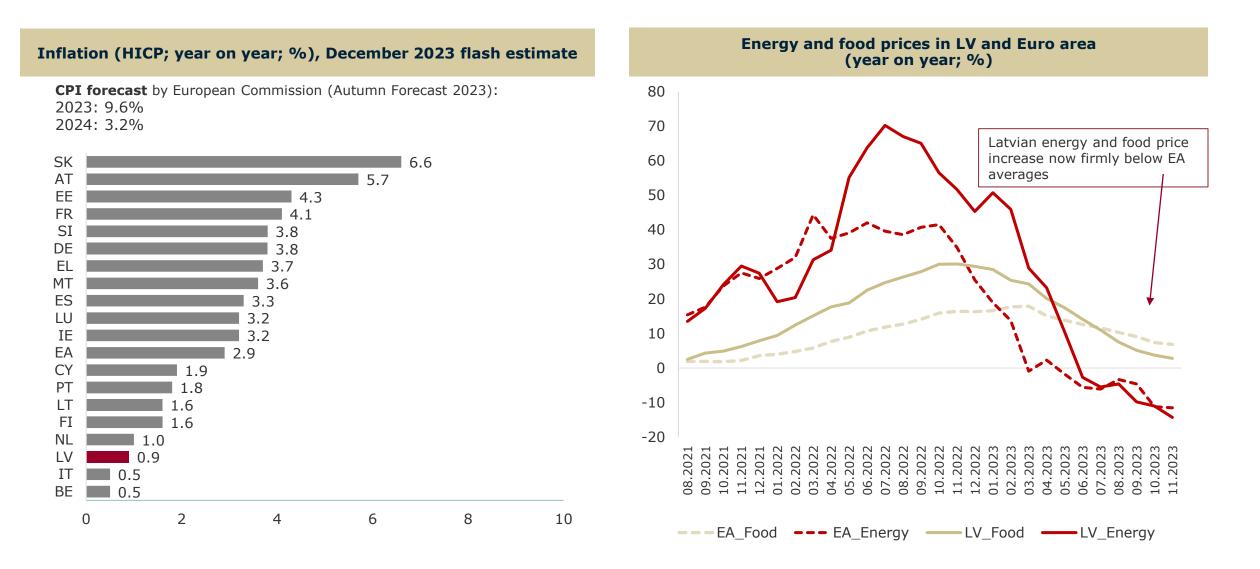
EXPOSURE TO RUSSIA IS RATHER LIMITED

Latvia has steadily reduced its exposure to Russia; economy is well diversified



DUE TO RESTRICTIVE MONETARY POLICY AND AS GLOBAL ENERGY AND FOOD PRESSURES SUBSIDE, INFLATION DECLINES RAPIDLY

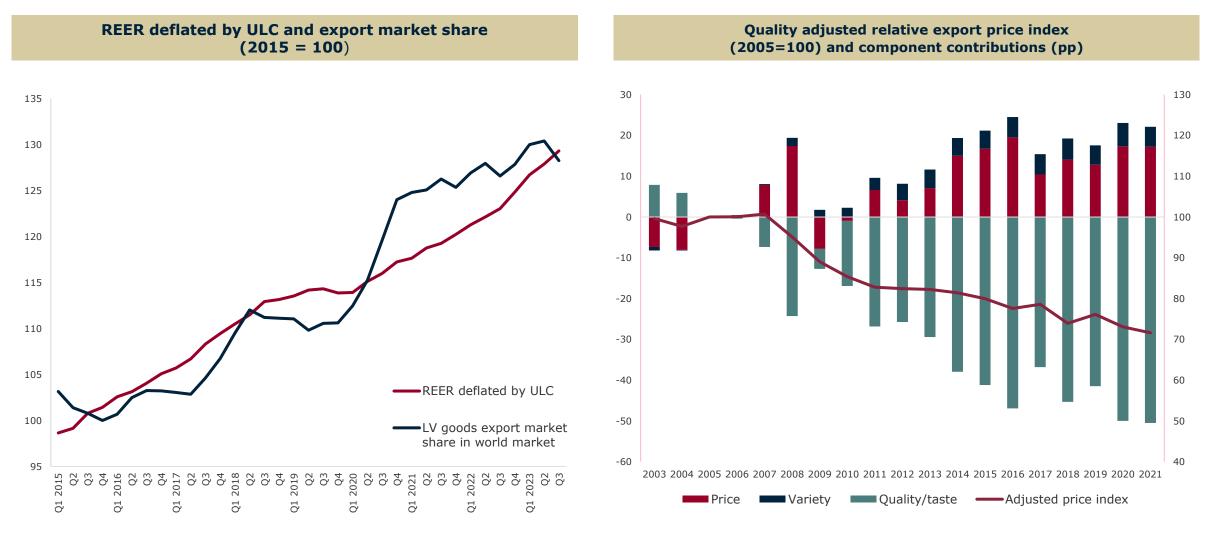
Inflation has receded quickly leaving no material harm on Latvia's cost competitiveness



Source: Eurostat

DESPITE INCREASE IN COSTS COMPANIES REMAIN GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE AND PROFITABLE

Supported by increasing quality of export basket, expansion of market share globally has continued despite appreciation in the real effective exchange rate



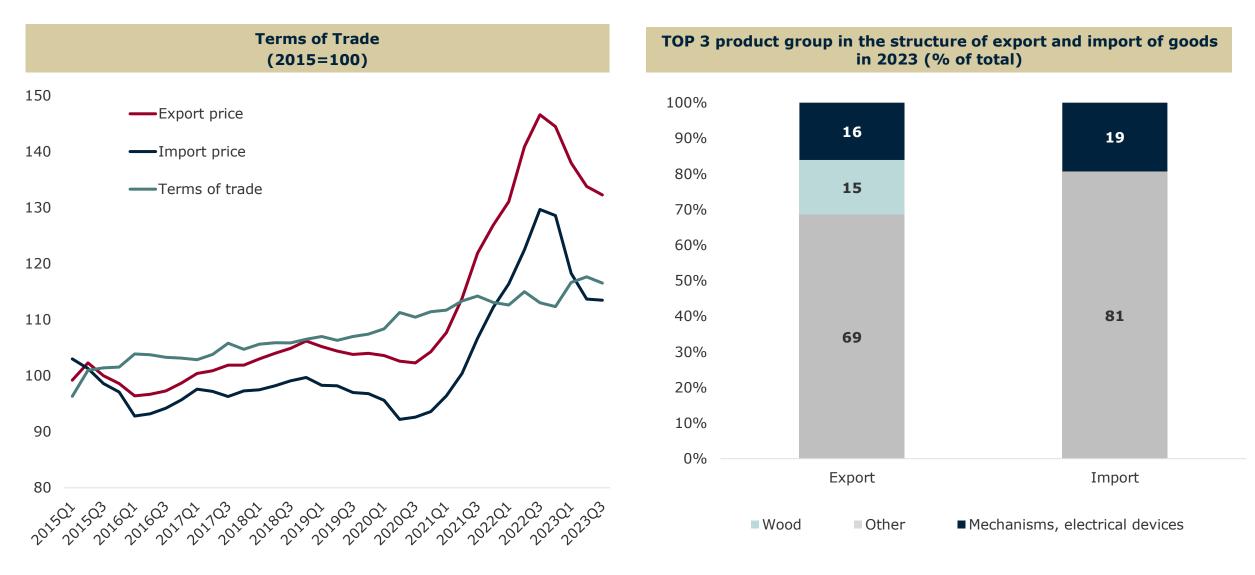
September 2023 (latvijasbanka.lv)

Source: UN Comtrade and Latvijas Banka calculations. More can be read here : Macroeconomic Developments Report

Source: European Commission, WTO

TERMS OF TRADE STAY FAVOURABLE DESPITE SWINGS IN ENERGY PRICES

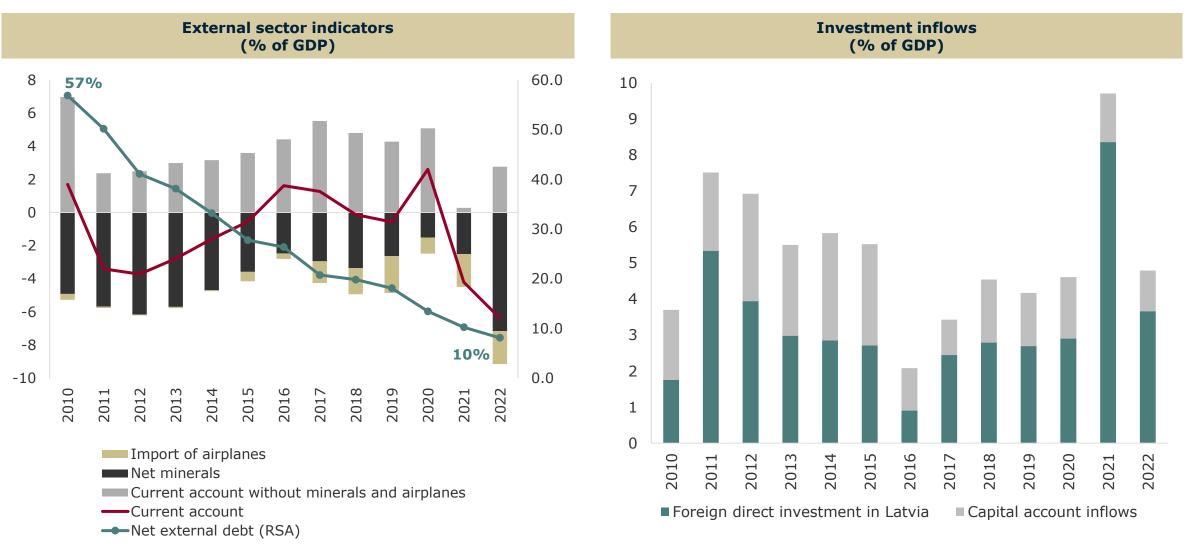
Declining energy prices have decreased import prices more substantially, leading to overall more favourable terms of trade



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CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT TEMPORARILY INCREASED REFLECTING SURGE IN ENERGY PRICES AND ACCUMULATION OF INVENTORY

Current account deficit driven by high energy prices and an increase in inventories to cope with supply chain bottlenecks during the pandemic and early stages of war in Ukraine; net external debt remains low



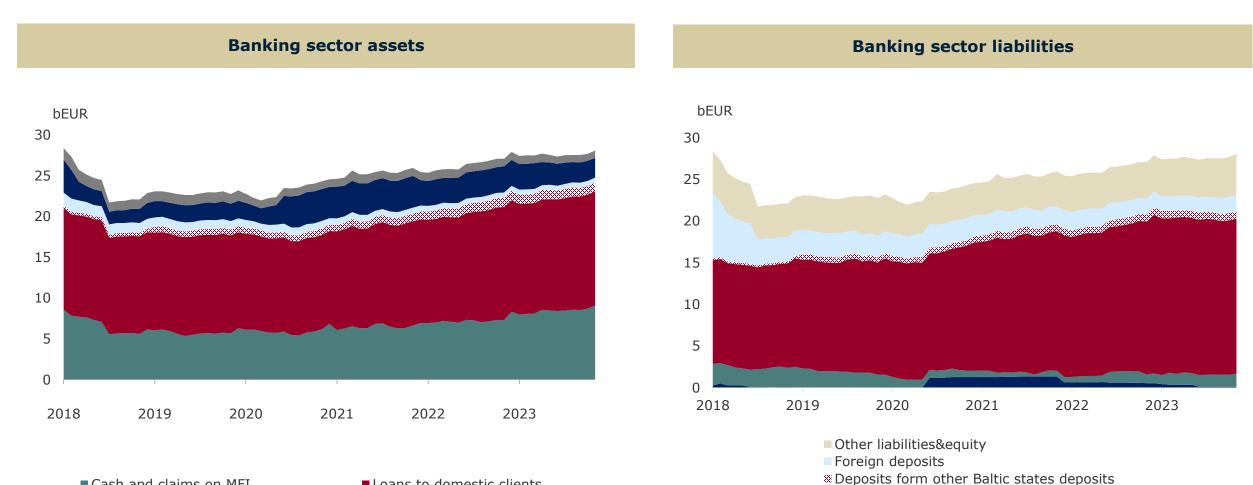
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BANKING SECTOR: WELL-CAPITALIZED AND LIQUID



DOMESTIC LOANS AND DEPOSITS PREVAIL IN BANKS' OPERATIONS

Banking sector focuses primarily on servicing domestic clients



Cash and claims on MFI
 Loans to other Baltic states
 Securities

Loans to domestic clients
 Loans to foreign clients
 Other assets

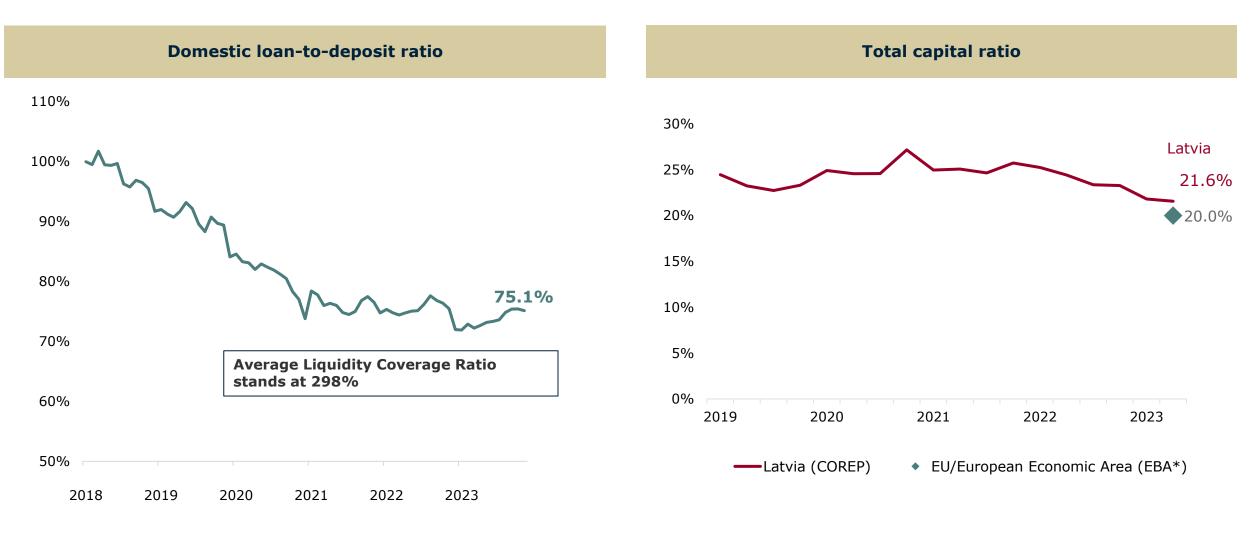
Domestic deposits

MFI

■ LB operations

BANKS HAVE AMPLE LIQUIDITY RESERVES AND HIGH CAPITALIZATION

Ample capital buffers provide good shock absorption capacity



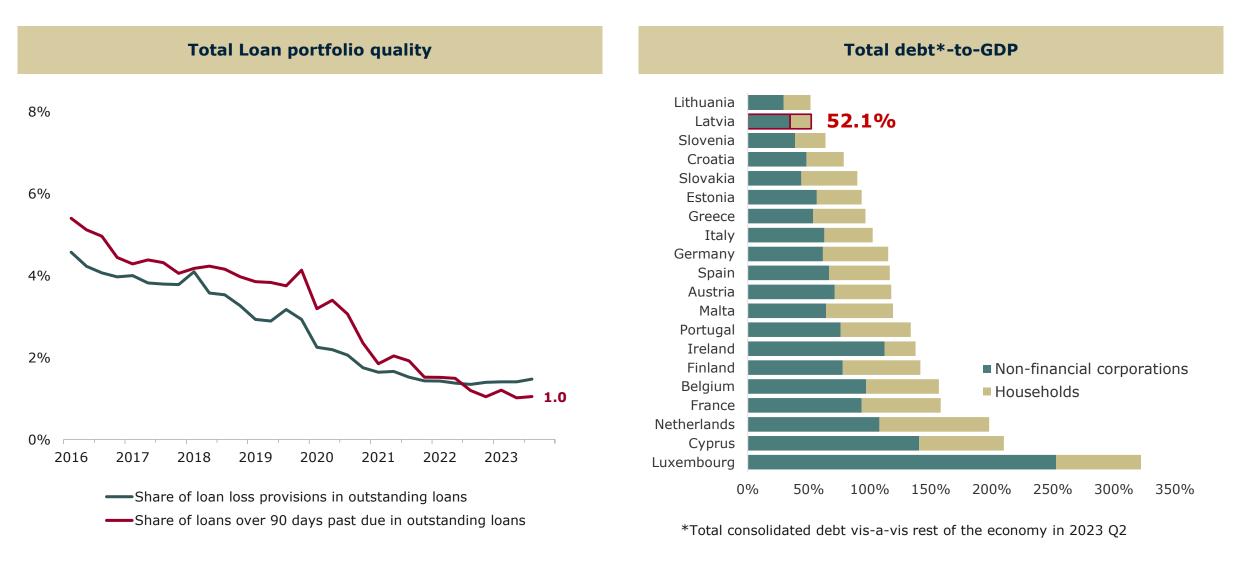
* Data for European Union (EU)/European Economic Area (EEA) are European Banking Authority (EBA) sample of largest institutions, for Latvia COREP data of active institutions are used

Source: Latvijas Banka, European Banking Authority (EBA) Risk Dashboard 2023 Q2

23 Source: Latvijas Banka

BANKS' CREDIT QUALITY REMAINS GOOD, HOUSEHOLD AND CORPORATE INDEBTEDNESS IS LOW

Prudent lending practices and low leverage of households and corporate sector supports asset quality



BANKING SECTOR PROFITABILITY IS ABOVE EU AVERAGE

Exceptional profitability in 2023 is boosted by rising net interest income



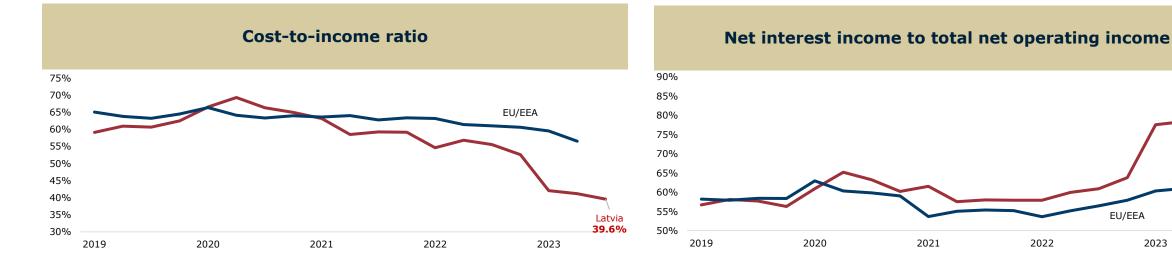
25



Latvia

79.0%

2023



Data on European Union (EU)/European Economic Area (EEA) are European Banking Authority (EBA) sample of largest institutions. For Latvia - FINREP data on all institutions are used Source: Latvijas Banka, European Banking Authority(EBA) Risk Dashboard and Latvijas Banka calculations

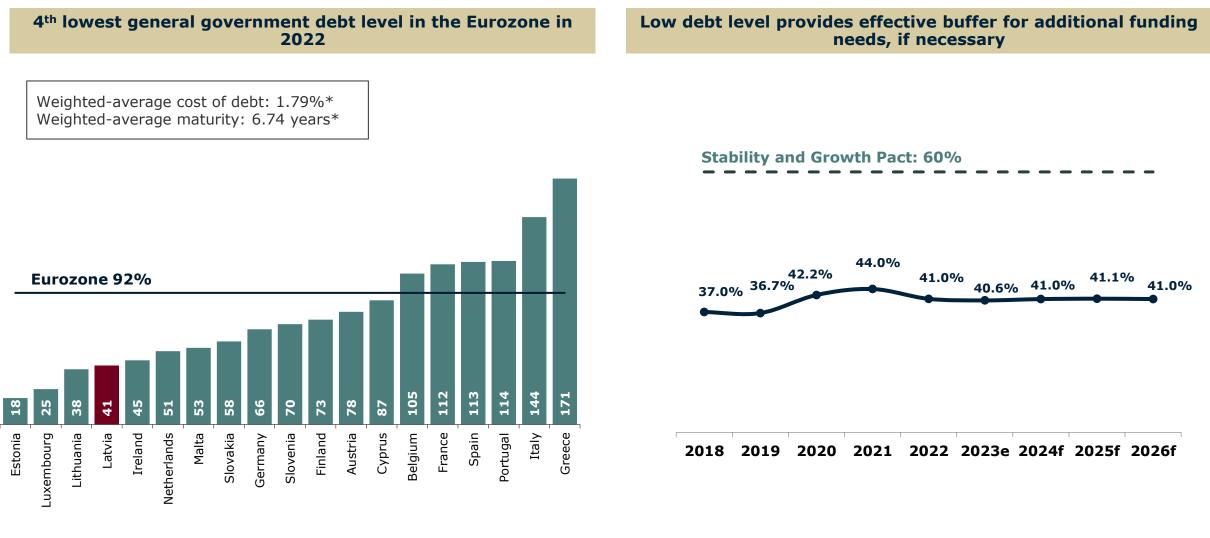
GOVERNMENT DEBT MANAGEMENT:

FLEXIBILITY OF FUNDING STRATEGY



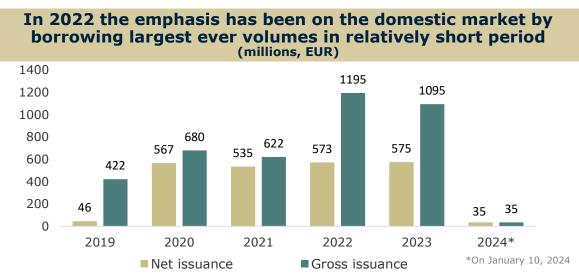
GENERAL GOVERNMENT DEBT REMAINS LOW AND MANAGEABLE

General government debt is expected to stay well below 60% of GDP, stabilizing at a level about 41% of GDP in the medium term. Other debt metrics are also very favorable



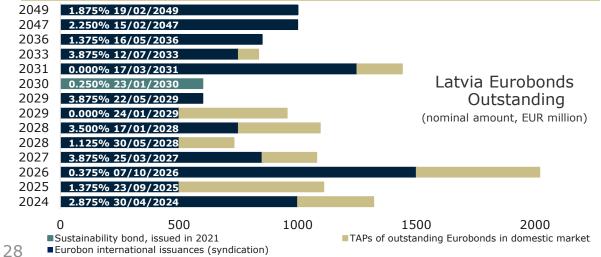
DEMAND IN THE DOMESTIC AUCTIONS CONTINUES TO BE SUPPORTIVE

Liquidity of the outstanding Eurobonds is facilitated by TAP auctions in domestic market



Source: The Treasury as of 10.01.2024.



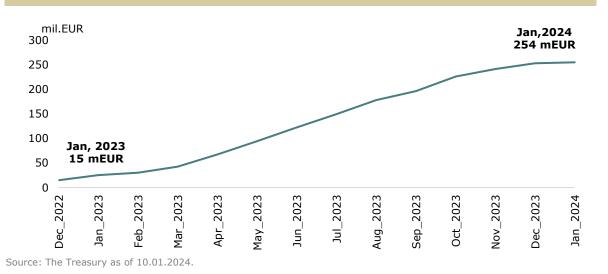


Source: The Treasury as of 10.01.2024.

Domestic market continues to perform strongly in domestic auctions (BIDs/Sold amount ratio)



Savings Bonds - record demand from retail investors in 2023



FLEXIBILITY IS EMBEDDED IN LATVIA`S FUNDING STRATEGY

Main funding instruments are government debt securities issued in the international and domestic capital markets, amidst diversified funding tools



Source: The Treasury, on December 31, 2023

Estimated central government borrowing volumes in 2022-2025 (including international and domestic market)

	Actual 2022	Actual 2023	Plan 2024	Plan 2025
Gross Borrowing volumes (nominal amount, EUR bn)	2.2	3.65	2.9	3.15
Cash buffer (% of GDP)	3.9	3.5		

The estimated gross borrowing volume is indicative, subject to actual state budget execution and may change due to number of contingencies and external factors



Savings Bonds

✓ Outstanding saving bonds reached EUR 254 million raised as of January, 2024 across different maturities from 12 month up to 10Y

LATVIA PIONEERED SUSTAINABLE FUNDING IN THE REGION

First Sovereign issuing a Sustainability Bond from the Baltic and Nordic regions

- ✓ The Republic of Latvia has established a Sustainable Bond Framework in November 2021 confirming its commitment to contribute to financing its environmental and social transition and to support the development of Sustainable Finance in the Republic. Among the 11 categories of eligibles expenditures for the use of proceeds approach, 8 are related to green projects and 3 to social ones. Web link to the framework: Latvia Sustainability Bond Framework FINAL.pdf (kase.gov.lv)
- ✓ The Sustainable Bond Framework has been independently reviewed by the second party opinion provider ISS ESG and assessed as aligned with ICMA's Green Bond Principles (GBPs), Social Bond Principles (SBPs) and Sustainability Bond Guidelines (SDGs).

ISS ESG evaluation grid

Sustainability bond's link to Latvia's sustainability strategy	Consistent
Alignment with GBPs, SBPs and SBGs	Aligned
Sustainability quality of the selection criteria	Positive

Web link to the Second Party Opinion: <u>Sustainability Quality of the Issuer and Sustainability Bond Framework (kase.gov.lv)</u>

Sustainability Bond Allocation and Impact Report

✓ The Republic of Latvia has issued its debut sustainable bond in December 2021 with a € 600mn long 8-year transaction (January 2030) and hence has released an allocation and impact report on March 2023.

Web link to the Sustainability Bond Allocation and Impact Report: <u>Latvia</u> <u>Sustainability Bond Allocation and Impact Report.pdf (kase.gov.lv)</u>

✓ ISS ICS (powered by ISS ESG) provided assurance on the allocation and impact reports post-issuance confirming that the proceeds raised through the sustainable bond have been allocated in compliance with the criteria and objectives of the Republic's sustainable bond framework.

Web link to the Ex-Post External Report Review: <u>Report Review Latvia</u> <u>Sustainability Bond report (kase.gov.lv)</u>

Summary of the allocation Sustainability Bond net proceeds

GREEN EXPENDITURES (66,6%)	SOCIAL EXPENDITURES (33,4%)
399 461 716.75 EUR	200 538 283.25 EUR

Report Review Assessment Summary

Alignment with Latvia's commitments set in the Framework	Aligned
Alignment with the Harmonized Framework Impact Reporting	Aligned ¹
Proceeds allocation disclosure & soundness of reporting indicators	Positive

⁽¹⁾ except for reporting on an annual basis. Given the complexity for sovereign(s) to issue GSSB financial instruments, some delay in the bond allocation reporting could be observed in the bond market.

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