



FINANCING AND DEBT

- ◆ **The Bank of Latvia so far has purchased EUR 6.603 billion worth of Latvian and supranational securities under the European Central Bank's Public Sector Purchase Program.** In November 2017, the Bank of Latvia bought securities for EUR 191.573 million. (RĪGA, Dec 13, [Bank of Latvia](#))

MACROECONOMICS

- ◆ **During the first ten months of this year Latvia exported EUR 9.33 billion worth of goods, up 9.6 % or EUR 814.8 million against the same period last year, while Latvian imports grew 16 % or EUR 1.6 billion to EUR 11.62 billion.** In October 2017, Latvia exported goods worth EUR 1.07 billion and imported goods worth EUR 1.24 billion. Latvia registered above average increase in export volumes in January-October among European Union (EU) countries. (RĪGA, Dec 15, [CSB/ Eurostat](#))
- ◆ During the quarter of this year, Latvia recorded the smallest annual increase in employment among the EU's member states, according to the latest Eurostat data. **The number of employed people against Latvia's entire population increase by 0.4 % in the 2nd quarter of 2017.** (RĪGA, Dec 11, [Eurostat](#))
- ◆ In October 2017, Latvia showed the slowest industrial output growth in the European Union as compared to the same month a year ago. **In Latvia, industrial output increased by 0.3 % against October 2016.** (RĪGA, Dec 13, [Eurostat](#))
- ◆ **The Bank of Latvia has raised the GDP growth forecast for this year to 4.7 % from 4.2 %.** The central bank has also upped Latvia's economic growth forecast for 2018 to 4.1 % from 3.8 %. During the first nine months of 2017, Latvia's GDP grew by 4.7 % year-on-year at constant prices. (RĪGA, Dec 15, BNS/ Bank of Latvia)

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