



GOVERNMENT

- ◆ On Friday, September 15, **the Saeima gave a vote of confidence to the new Cabinet of Ministers headed by Prime Minister Evika Siliņa**. The new government includes the following political parties: “New Unity”, “Greens and Farmers Union” and “The Progressives”. (RĪGA, Sept 15, [MoC](#))

MACROECONOMICS

- ◆ The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has concluded the Article IV consultation with the Republic of Latvia. The IMF forecasts that **Latvia's gross domestic product (GDP) growth will slow to 0.9 % this year**, given the negative impact of high inflation and a slowdown in external demand. The country's economy grew by 2.8 % last year, compared with 4.3 % in 2021, the IMF Executive Board said, citing the spillover in the Baltic region from the Russian invasion of Ukraine and slower investment growth as reasons for the slowdown. (WASHINGTON, Sept 11, [IMF](#))
- ◆ Central Statistical Bureau (CSB) **provisional data show that in July 2023 Latvia had foreign trade turnover of EUR 3.15 billion (at current prices 17.7 % lower than a year ago), of which value of exported goods reduced by 15 % and of imported goods by 19.6 %**. In July Latvia exported EUR 1.36 billion and imported EUR 1.79 billion of goods. (RĪGA, Sept 11, [CSB](#))
- ◆ CSB data show that **in Q2 2023 there were 25.3 thousand job vacancies in Latvia, which is 1.2 thousand vacancies or 4.4 % fewer than in Q2 2022**. Out of all jobs available in Latvia (both occupied and vacant), 2.7 % positions were vacant, of which 3.7 % in public and 2.3 % in private sector. (RĪGA, Sept 15, [CSB](#))

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