

Export Control Policy of Strategic Goods

Latvia controls not just export, but also import and transit

In addition to export controls, Latvia carefully and strictly controls also the import and transit of strategic goods. Latvia's objective is to make sure that material that could endanger international security, does not pass through Latvia's territory. Therefore, licensing and control of transit have also been introduced. Import control of strategic goods helps Latvia to monitor internal security factors.

Latvia has harmonised its legislation in conformity with the EU rules

Latvia has followed the EU rules and procedures in the export control of strategic goods since 1995. Latvian Government fully supports the EU initiatives regarding the non-proliferation and control of arms and has aligned with EU Joint Action 1999/34/CFSP On EU Contribution to Combating the Destabilizing Accumulation and Spread of Small Arms and Light Weapons; EU Code of Conduct on Arms Exports and EU Program for Preventing and Combating Illicit Trafficking in Conventional Arms; Council Directive 91/477/EEC On Control of the Acquisition and Possession of Weapons; Council Regulation No. 1334/2000 setting up a Community regime for the control of dual-use items and technology related to intangible transfer of technologies.

Latvia has recently introduced in its legislation provisions to control brokerage, as well as the Catch-All Clause. Moreover, in order to set up a comprehensive legal framework for the control of manufacturing, accumulation and proliferation of small arms and light weapons, the new Law on Arms, Munitions and Explosives has been adopted by the Parliament and is in force since 1st January 2003.

Latvia cooperates closely with NATO member states

In order to strengthen the export control, counter-proliferation and law enforcement capacities, Latvia regularly consults and cooperates with its regional partners in the Nordic - Baltic framework, as well as with the EU and its Associated Countries in the area of export controls. Latvia has developed a very close cooperation with the United States and has concluded a specific bilateral agreement on prevention of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Latvia's Export Control