

# LATVIA FOOD, RESOURCE, AND COMMODITY ASSURANCE ACT

Scarcity is a Policy Choice

## SAEIMA OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA, 14TH SAEIMA, 2026 SESSION

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### SAEIMA OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA

#### Latvijas Republikas Saeima

14th Saeima / 2026 Session

### LIKUMPROJEKTS / DRAFT LAW

IESNIEDZIS \_\_\_\_\_ (Saeimas deputāti)

INTRODUCED BY \_\_\_\_\_ (Members of the Saeima)

PAR LATVIJAS PĀRTIKAS, RESURSU UN PIRMĀS NEPIECIEŠAMĪBAS PREČU  
NODROŠINĀJUMA PROGRAMMU  
CONCERNING THE LATVIAN FOOD, RESOURCE, AND COMMODITY ASSURANCE  
PROGRAMME

### LIKUMS / A LAW

#### LONG TITLE / GARAIS NOSAUKUMS

LATVIJAS REPUBLIKAS LIKUMS PAR PĀRTIKAS, RESURSU UN PIRMĀS  
NEPIECIEŠAMĪBAS PREČU NODROŠINĀJUMU

A LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA concerning the establishment of the Latvian Food, Resource, and Commodity Assurance Programme; the establishment of Latvian Food Assurance Centres (Latvijas pārtikas nodrošināšanas centri, LPNC) in every Latvian region and major municipality; the conferral of an at-cost basic-needs commodity entitlement on every Latvian citizen ordinarily resident in the Republic, identified by Personāls kods (Personal Code), enrolled through the existing Valsts sociālās apdrošināšanas aģentūra (State Social Insurance Agency, VSAA) and Latvija.lv unified state-service portal infrastructure; coordination with Altum (the state-owned Development Finance Institution) for capital investment; coordination with the Lauku atbalsta dienests (Rural Support

Service) for rural distribution and the Latvian agricultural cooperative sector; coordination with the Latvian Recovery and Resilience Plan (€1.97 billion EU NextGenerationEU allocation, third payment €293M disbursed May 2025, fourth payment €371.2M disbursed May 2026); coordination with Latvian consumer cooperatives in the kooperatīvs tradition; consistency with the Satversme (Constitution of the Republic of Latvia, 1922 / restored 1993) and the philosophical heritage of Krišjānis Barons, the Barricades of 1991, and the Dziesmu un deju svētki cooperative-cultural tradition; explicit declination to establish any new Latvian income tax (iedzīvotāju ienākuma nodoklis), value added tax (pievienotās vērtības nodoklis, PVN), excise duty, or other Latvian tax of any kind for the funding of the Programme; and provision for connected purposes.

## LEGISLATIVE ROUTING NOTE

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This Draft Law (Likumprojekts) is for introduction in the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia during the 14th Saeima, 2026 Session, under the legislative-initiative provisions of the Satversme.

Suggested committee referrals following First Reading:

- Sociālo un darba lietu komisija (Social and Labour Affairs Committee), for the welfare-related provisions
- Budžeta un finanšu (nodokļu) komisija (Budget and Finance / Tax Committee), for the fiscal provisions
- Tautsaimniecības, agrārās, vides un reģionālās politikas komisija (National Economy, Agrarian, Environmental, and Regional Policy Committee), for the food-distribution + agricultural-cooperative provisions
- Eiropas lietu komisija (European Affairs Committee), for the Latvian RRF coordination provisions
- Izglītības, kultūras un zinātnes komisija (Education, Culture, and Science Committee), for the education-modernisation provisions

Following Saeima passage on Third Reading, the Law is submitted to the President of the Republic for promulgation in the Latvijas Vēstnesis (Official Gazette).

### DIVISION I, FOOD ASSURANCE

#### ARTICLE 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE LATVIAN FOOD, RESOURCE, AND COMMODITY ASSURANCE PROGRAMME.

(1) There is hereby established the Latvian Food, Resource, and Commodity Assurance Programme (Latvijas pārtikas, resursu un pirmās nepieciešamības preču nodrošinājuma programma, "the Programme"), administered by the Ministry of Welfare (Labklājības ministrija) in coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture (Zemkopības ministrija), the Ministry of Finance (Finanšu ministrija), and the 119 municipal local governments.

(2) The Programme shall operate Latvian Food Assurance Centres (Latvijas pārtikas nodrošināšanas centri, "LPNC") in every Latvian region and major municipality on the effective date of this Act.

#### **ARTICLE 2. ENTITLEMENT TO PARTICIPATE.**

(1) Every Latvian citizen ordinarily resident in the Republic of Latvia, identified by Personas kods (Personal Code), is automatically entitled to participate in the Programme.

(2) Foreign nationals lawfully resident in Latvia who hold a Personas kods (including holders of EU residence rights and Latvian residence permits) are likewise entitled.

(3) Participation is voluntary. No citizen is required to obtain goods through the Programme; the existing commercial retail market continues to operate unaffected.

#### **ARTICLE 3. PROGRAMME GOODS AND AT-COST PRICING.**

(1) LPNC outlets shall offer for distribution at production cost plus reasonable distribution allowance:

(a) Staple foods (rye bread, ruzīmaize, oats, grains, pulses, potatoes, cooking oils, sugar, salt, tea, coffee);

(b) Protein sources (pork, chicken, eggs, freshwater and Baltic fish from Latvian fisheries, dairy products including sour cream and cottage cheese consistent with Latvian dietary tradition);

(c) Vegetables and fruits sourced where possible from Latvian producers including beetroot, carrots, cabbage, apples;

(d) Basic clothing including weather-appropriate outerwear suitable for the Latvian climate, school uniforms aligned

with national-curriculum requirements, undergarments, and footwear;

(e) Hand tools, household goods, basic kitchen and cleaning supplies;

(f) Educational supplies for students through the developmental window extended to age 25;

(g) Basic baby and child supplies;

(h) Emergency-preparedness supplies (water, non-perishable food, basic lighting) given Latvia's strategic-security exposure to its eastern frontier.

(2) Pricing shall be calculated on the at-cost basis.

#### **ARTICLE 4. COORDINATION WITH AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES AND THE LAUKU ATBALSTA DIENESTS.**

(1) The Minister of Agriculture, in coordination with the Lauku atbalsta dienests (Rural Support Service), is directed to enter partnership agreements with Latvian agricultural cooperatives (kooperatīvs), including LPKS Latraps and other cooperative federations, for the supply of Latvian-grown agricultural commodities to the Programme.

(2) The partnership shall preserve cooperative autonomy and membership governance and shall coordinate with European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) administration under the Common Agricultural Policy framework.

#### **DIVISION II, PUBLIC HEALTH PROMOTION**

**ARTICLE 5. PUBLIC HEALTH PROMOTION.**

(1) The Programme operates in coordination with the Nacionālais veselības dienests (National Health Service) to monitor and to contribute to the reduction of basic-needs food insecurity and stress-mediated public-health conditions in Latvian regions.

(2) The Ministry of Health (Veselības ministrija) shall report annually to the Saeima on the relationship between LPNC access in each region and Latvian population health indicators.

**DIVISION III, EDUCATION MODERNISATION****ARTICLE 6. EDUCATION PIPELINE AND THE EXTENDED DEVELOPMENTAL WINDOW.**

(1) The Latvian education system is acknowledged by this Act as a foundation for the developmental pipeline proposed by the Vitruvian Quotient framework (Cooper, 2026), the K-20 grade range under existing Latvian compulsory and post-compulsory education, plus an extension of the developmental window to age 25 consistent with the Compendium's broader proposal.

(2) The Minister of Education and Science (Izglītības un zinātnes ministrs) is directed to prepare a report to the Saeima within twenty-four months of the effective date of this Act on the operational steps required to extend developmental and competency-maintenance frameworks beyond the current post-secondary framework, in coordination with the University of Latvia, Riga Technical University, the Latvian University of Life Sciences and Technologies, and other Latvian universities.

(3) The Vitruvian Quotient framework (Cooper, 2026) is recognised by this Act as the conceptual instrument for the developmental pipeline. Detailed implementation of a Latvian Education Modernisation Law is the subject of a separate Likumprojekts.

#### **DIVISION IV, FUNDING**

##### **ARTICLE 7. INITIAL APPROPRIATION.**

(1) For the financial year 2027 there is appropriated from the Latvian state budget the sum of €100 million for the establishment of the Programme and the initial operation of LPNC outlets.

(2) Subsequent annual appropriations shall be made in the ordinary annual budget Law.

##### **ARTICLE 8. COORDINATION WITH ALTUM.**

(1) LPNC infrastructure capital investment may, by agreement between the Programme and JSC Development Finance Institution Altum, be co-financed from Altum's loan, guarantee, or venture-capital instruments where consistent with the Altum Strategy 2025-2027 priority areas, up to a cumulative outstanding principal of €300 million.

(2) Altum's role as the state-owned development finance institution of Latvia, with its mandate to develop and implement state-support financial instruments, makes it the natural Latvian indigenous chassis for Programme capital investment.

##### **ARTICLE 9. COORDINATION WITH THE LATVIAN RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE PLAN.**

(1) LPNC infrastructure capital investment may, by agreement between the Programme and the Ministry of Finance, be co-financed from the Latvian Recovery and Resilience Facility allocation (€1.97 billion total EU NextGenerationEU allocation to Latvia, of which the third payment of €293 million was disbursed 9 May 2025 and the fourth penultimate payment of €371.2 million was disbursed 8 May 2026) where consistent with the Latvian Recovery and Resilience Plan investment and reform lines approved by the European Commission and the Council of the European Union.

(2) The Programme does not displace any existing Latvian RRF investment or reform line.

#### **DIVISION V, GENERAL PROVISIONS**

##### **ARTICLE 10. NO NEW TAXATION.**

(1) The Saeima declares that no new Latvian personal income tax (iedzīvotāju ienākuma nodoklis, IIN), corporate income tax (uzņēmumu ienākuma nodoklis, UIN), value added tax (pievienotās vērtības nodoklis, PVN), excise duty (akcīzes nodoklis), or other Latvian tax of any kind is established, extended, or increased by this Act for the funding of the Programme.

(2) The Programme is funded through existing Latvian fiscal infrastructure as enumerated in Division IV.

##### **ARTICLE 11. EXISTING LATVIAN INSTITUTIONS UNAFFECTED.**

This Act does not affect the establishment, functions, governance, or operation of:

(a) Latvijas Banka (Bank of Latvia, the central bank within the Eurosystem);

(b) Altum (JSC Development Finance Institution Altum), beyond the coordination expressly authorised by Article 8;

(c) Latvenergo, AS Sadales tīkls, Augstsprieguma tīkls (AST), VAS Latvijas dzelzceļš, Latvijas Pasts, and other state-owned enterprises;

(d) Valsts sociālās apdrošināšanas aģentūra (VSAA), Valsts ieņēmumu dienests (VID), Nacionālais veselības dienests, Lauku atbalsta dienests, and other state agencies, beyond the coordination expressly authorised by this Act;

(e) The Latvian Recovery and Resilience Plan, beyond the coordination expressly authorised by Article 9;

(f) Latvian consumer cooperatives, agricultural cooperatives (kooperatīvs), and the kooperatīvs tradition generally;

(g) The Saeima, the Cabinet of Ministers (Ministru kabinets), the President of the Republic (Valsts prezidents), the Constitutional Court (Satversmes tiesa), the Supreme Court (Augstākā tiesa), and the Satversme.

#### **ARTICLE 12. SATVERSME CONSISTENCY.**

(1) This Act is enacted consistent with the Satversme of the Republic of Latvia (1922 / restored 1993), including the Preamble's affirmation of the duty of every citizen to care for the common good of society and the state, and Article 109's guarantee of the right to social security.

#### **ARTICLE 13. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

(1) This Act takes effect on 1 January 2027, except that Article 7 (Initial Appropriation) takes effect on the date this Act is promulgated in the Latvijas Vēstnesis, and Article 1 (Establishment) takes effect ninety days after promulgation.

(2) The Cabinet of Ministers shall issue implementing regulations (Ministru kabineta noteikumi) within 120 days of promulgation.

**ARTICLE 14. INTERPRETATION.**

In this Act:

"the Programme" means the Latvian Food, Resource, and Commodity Assurance Programme established under Article 1;

"a LPNC outlet" means a Latvian Food Assurance Centre established under Article 1;

"Personas kods" means the Latvian Personal Code;

"Altum" means JSC Development Finance Institution Altum;

"Latvian RRF" means the Latvian Recovery and Resilience Facility allocation under the EU Recovery and Resilience Facility;

"kooperatīvs" means a Latvian cooperative;

"ordinarily resident" has the meaning given by Latvian residence law.

