

State Chancellery  
Republic of Latvia

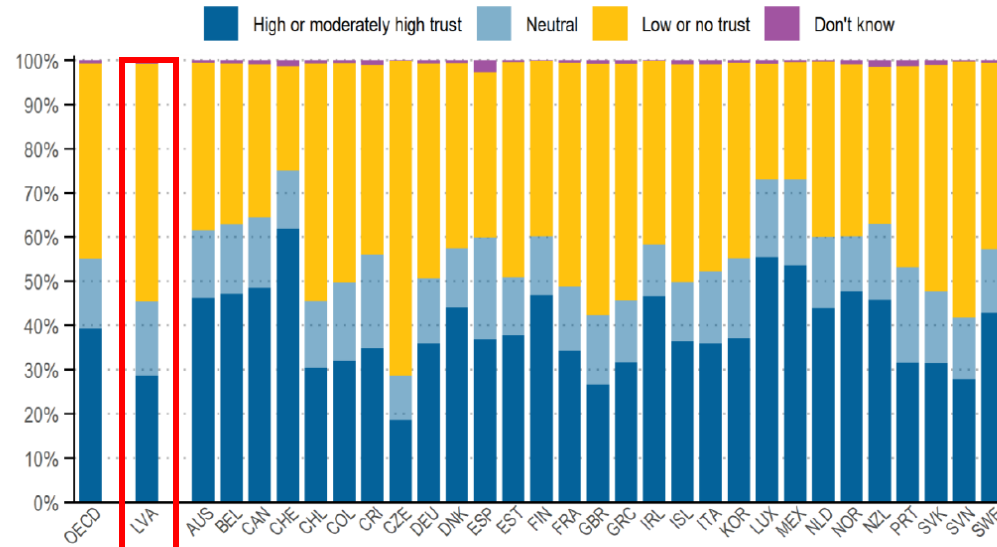
# **Dialogue circles - innovative form of public participation in Latvia**

8 April 2025

# Trust in the national government and perception of decision making openness

Figure 1. Trust in national government, 2023

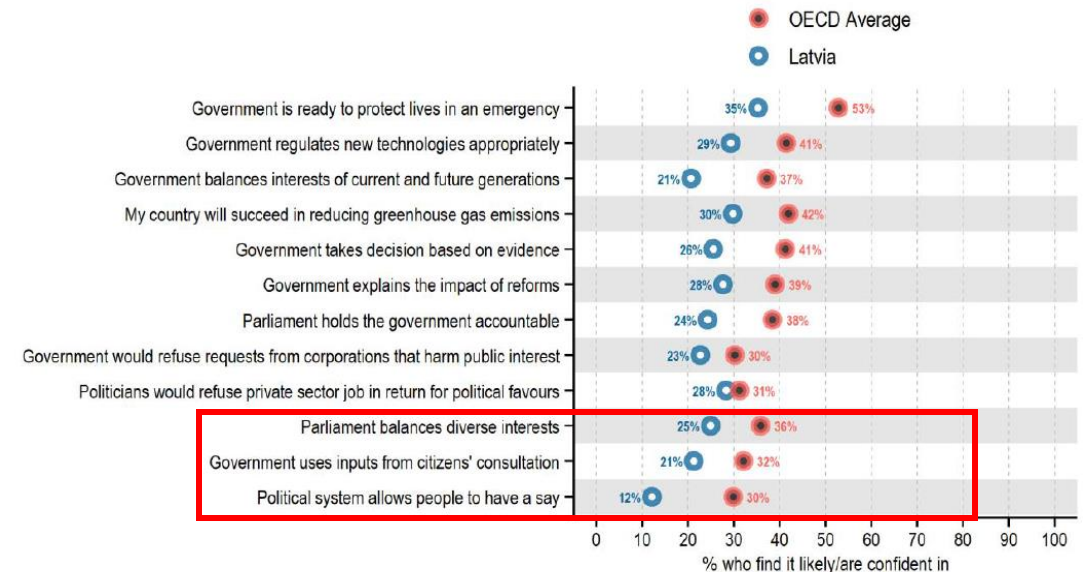
Share of population who indicate different levels of trust in their national government (on a 0-10 scale), 2023



Note (Figures 1-3): 'High or moderately high' corresponds to the aggregation of response options 6-10 to the question "On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is not at all and 10 is completely, how much do you trust the national government?"; neutral to option 5 and "low or no" to response options 0-4.

Figure 5. Perceptions of decision making on complex policy issues

Share of population who are confident in or find a positive action in the respective situation likely, OECD and Latvia, 2023





# Forms of public participation in Latvia

Along with working groups, consultative councils, meetings, public consultations, discussions, conferences, focus groups, task forces, opinion polls, in ensuring public participation, [public institutions in Latvia can use other innovative methods, if citizens can be engaged in a more efficient manner.](#)

«Procedures for the Public Participation in the Development Planning Process» Cabinet Regulation No. 639 adopted 15.10.2024.

[LAMPA Conversation Festival](#)

# Dialogues in Latvia



2022-2025



- Forming a community of facilitators
- **32** facilitators trained and practiced dialogue method in Latvia
- Feedback sessions during dialogue circles



## First dialogue circles for senior-level managers in November 2022

Theme:

**What does it mean to be a senior level manager in Latvian public administration today and in 10 years?**





# Dialogues on Trust in 2023

## Goal:

- Explore citizens' experiences with trust in 4 directions:
  - social trust (citizen – citizen)
  - trust in public institutions (citizen – state)
  - Trust in municipal institutions (citizen – his municipality)
  - Trust in politics
- Provide a forum for discussion among citizens and different social groups
- Increase public trust, ensure a better understanding of what others think and mutual trust

## Time frame:

- September – October 2023

## Responsible bodies:

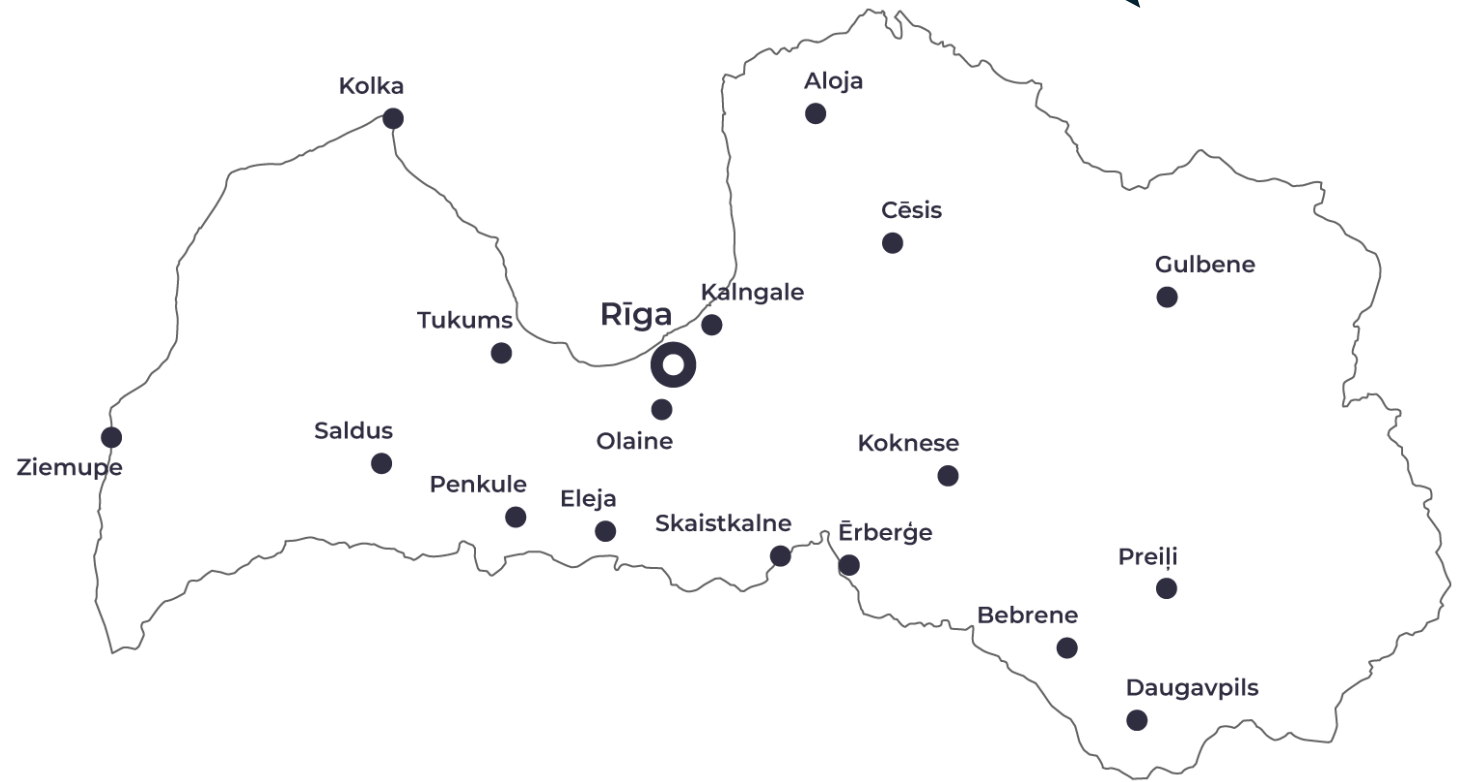
- The State Chancellery
- Implementing NGO: Latvian Rural forum



# Dialogues on Trust

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- **26 dialogue circles**
- **20 places across Latvia**
- **209 participants:** citizens, NGOs, entrepreneurs, seniors, youth, municipalities
- **35 organisers:** the State Chancellery, NGO «Latvian Rural Forum», other NGOs in regions, rural communities, social services workers, representatives of local governments





# Results

- Summary report
- Conference on Social Trust and Trust in Public Institutions in the Parliament on 27.10.2023.
- The conference attended by all political forces - a way to transmit the outcomes to decision-makers
- Some participants from dialogues also came to the conference



# Dialogues on Latvia 2050

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- Launched in **February 2025**
- In more than 20 places across Latvia dialogues take place about future of Latvia
- Theme: **How do you see your future and the future of people closest to you in 25 years? How do you see the future of your municipality and Latvia in 25 years?**
- These dialogues provide "citizens' voice" to develop Latvia's hierarchically highest long-term development planning document - the Sustainable Development Strategy Latvia 2050



For more information visit Cabinet of Ministers  
website:

[Dialoga aplis par Latvijas nākotni | Ministru kabinets](#)



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LATVIJA =  
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