



## RESULTS FOR LOCAL AND THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS IN LATVIA

**On June 6, 2009, elections to the European Parliament (EP) and local elections were held in Latvia. Official results with names of individuals representing Latvia in the EP are known. The first local government councils convened on July 1, 2009 and the mayors of Latvia's major ('Republic') cities were chosen.**

### The EP Elections

Results include data from all 951 polling districts. In the EP elections 17 political parties competed for 8 out of 736 seats. Voter activity was 53,7% or 797 219 voters. All European Union citizens residing in Latvia were eligible to vote in the EP elections. 6 political parties passed the 5% threshold and will be represented in the EP:

1. Civic Union	24,32%	2 seats	Ms Sandra Kalniete Ms Inese Vaidere
2. Political party alliance "Harmony Centre"	19,57%	2 seats	Mr Alfrēds Rubiks Mr Aleksandrs Mirskis
3. For Human Rights in United Latvia	9,66%	1 seat	Ms Tatjana Ždanoka
4. Latvia's First Party / Latvia's Way	7,49%	1 seat	Mr Ivars Godmanis
5. For Fatherland and Freedom / LNNK	7,45%	1 seat	Mr Roberts Zīle
6. New Era	6,66%	1 seat	Mr Arturs Krišjānis Kariņš

Not all of the parties elected to the EP have yet decided on affiliation to the EP political groups.

### The Local Elections

Overall voter activity in the country was 53,75% or 801 348 voters. This was the first election since administrative territorial reforms were enacted, changing the size and number of local governments. 109 amalgamated municipalities and 9 Republic cities held elections to local governments. Below are results of the local elections in Republic cities.

#### Rīga

At the local elections 17 political parties competed for 60 seats in Riga City Council. 4 political parties passed the 5% threshold:

1. Political party alliance "Harmony Centre"	34,29%	26 seats
2. Civic Union	18,90%	14 seats
3. Latvia's First Party / Latvia's Way	15,11%	12 seats
4. New Era	11,08%	8 seats

A coalition agreement was signed between the political party alliance "Harmony Centre" and Latvia's First Party / Latvia's Way, and together have 38 seats. Mr Nils Ušakovs from "Harmony Centre" was elected as Chairman of the Riga City Council and Mr Ainars Šlesers from Latvia's First Party / Latvia's Way since yesterday is Riga Vice-Mayor.

The coalition agreement envisages reducing the number of Council Committees from 10 to 8, and has reduced the number of Vice-Mayors to one.

### **Jūrmala**

Jūrmala continues to be the most politically diverse city. 10 parties out of 14 passed the threshold for 15 seats in the municipality. They are:

1. Jūrmala – our home	18,15%	3 seats
2. Political party alliance “Harmony Centre”	18,11%	3 seats
3. New Era	9,19%	2 seats
4. For You, Jūrmala	6,05%	1 seat
5. Alliance “Centric Party – Latvian Association of Farmers, Christian Democratic Union, Latvia’s First Party / Latvia’s Way”	5,95%	1 seat
6. For Fatherland and Freedom / LNNK	5,91%	1 seat
7. Our Land	5,57%	1 seat
8. People’s Party	5,37%	1 seat
9. Civic Union	5,12%	1 seat
10. The Society for Other Politics	5,03%	1 seat

Election results in Jūrmala have been challenged, thus the first municipality meeting has been postponed until confirmation of the results.

### **Valmiera**

5 parties out of 9 passed the threshold for 13 seats in Valmiera, which recently acquired the status of Republic city:

1. People’s Party	47,07%	7 seats
2. New Era	17,37%	3 seats
3. Alliance “For Fatherland and Freedom / LNNK and Everything for Latvia”	10,04%	1 seat
4. Latvia’s First Party / Latvia’s Way	6,41%	1 seat
5. Union of Greens and Farmers	5,99%	1 seat

Mr Inesis Boķis from the People’s Party was again unanimously elected Valmiera Mayor.

### **Daugavpils**

4 out of 14 parties took 15 seats in Daugavpils municipality elections:

1. Latvian Social Democratic Workers’ Party	29,83%	5 seats
2. Latvia’s First Party / Latvia’s Way	27,68%	5 seats
3. Political party alliance “Harmony Centre”	18,24%	3 seats
4. Latgalian Nation	11,43%	2 seats

Mr Rihards Eigims from Latvian Social Democratic Worker’s Party after 6 years returned in the position of Chairman of the Daugavpils Council with a slight majority.

### **Rēzekne**

In Rēzekne 4 out of 17 parties run for 13 seats in the municipality:

1. Political party alliance “Harmony Centre”	43,51%	9 seats
2. United Rēzekne	9,61%	2 seats
3. People’s Party	6,85%	1 seat
4. Social Democratic Party	5,52%	1 seat

Harmony Centre has returned to manage the city with Mr Alesandrs Bartaševičs as the Mayor.

## Liepāja

8 parties out of 11 passed the threshold for 15 seats in Liepāja:

1. Liepāja's Party	35,14%	6 seats
2. Political party alliance "Harmony Centre"	17,60%	3 seats
3. Latvia's First Party / Latvia's Way	8,39%	1 seat
4. New Era	7,18%	1 seat
5. People's Party	6,64%	1 seat
6. Osipov Party	6,02%	1 seat
7. The Society for Other Politics	5,61%	1 seat
8. For Fatherland and Freedom / LNNK	5,00%	1 seat

Mr Uldis Sesks from local election list Liepāja's Party was again re-elected Mayor of the city he has headed since 1997.

## Ventspils

3 parties out of 9 running for 13 seats in Ventspils passed the threshold:

1. For Latvia and Ventspils	59,96%	8 seats
2. Political party alliance "Harmony Centre"	18,89%	3 seats
3. Alliance "New Era, The Society for Other Politics, Civic Union"	11,33%	2 seats

Mr Aivars Lembergs was re-elected as Mayor, but election results for his party "For Latvia and Ventspils" have dropped from 10 seats to 8 since the last elections in 2005.

## Jelgava

In Jelgava 6 parties out of 11 have passed the threshold and distributed 15 seats:

1. Union of Greens and Farmers	26,54%	5 seats
2. Political party alliance "Harmony Centre"	17,84%	4 seats
3. New Era	12,33%	2 seats
4. Latvia's First Party / Latvia's Way	11,75%	2 seats
5. Alliance "For Fatherland and Freedom / LNNK and Everything for Latvia"	7,29%	1 seat
6. For Human Rights in United Latvia	6,41%	1 seat

Mr Andris Rāviņš from Union of Greens and Farmers has become the Chairman of the Jelgava Council for the third consecutive term.

## Jēkabpils

Also Jēkabpils recently became a Republican city and 7 parties out of 11 acquired 13 seats in the municipality:

1. Latvia's First Party / Latvia's Way	25,57%	4 seats
2. Political party alliance "Harmony Centre"	16,58%	2 seats
3. Latvian Green Party	13,84%	2 seats
4. New Era	10,84%	2 seats
5. People's Party	9,58%	1 seat
6. Centric Party – Latvian Association of Farmers	7,70%	1 seat
7. For Human Rights in United Latvia	5,05%	1 seat

Previous Mayor of Jēkabpils, Mr Leonīds Salcevičs, retained his position with a slight majority.

---

### THE LATVIAN INSTITUTE

The Latvian Institute (Latvijas institūts) was established by the Latvian state to provide a wide range of information about Latvia, its society, culture and history.

**Contacts:**

Elizabetes 57 (6th floor)  
Riga, LV – 1050, LATVIA  
Phone: (+371) 67503663  
Fax: (+371) 67503669  
E-mail: [info@li.lv](mailto:info@li.lv)  
www: [www.li.lv](http://www.li.lv)