



LATVIA – THE NEXT GREAT INVESTMENT DESTINATION



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International companies choose LATVIA

IKEA

With planned investments EUR 60 million, the furniture store **IKEA** (Paul Mason Properties, Iceland) is scheduled to open on the outskirts of Riga in August 2018.

BGI

BGI (China) is a world-leading genomics organization, with the vision of using genomics to benefit mankind. In a 2000m² laboratory highly qualified biomedicine specialists will be indulged in genome sequencing and other R&D activities.

COGNIZANT

Cognizant is one of the leading companies transforming clients' business, operating and technology models. In Latvia they will start by delivering the service to Tele2 and grow the Riga centre by servicing other clients with IT and related services.



Strong international presence



In addition to a well-developed network in Europe, Russia and the CIS countries, LIAA foreign representative offices have also been opened in Asia. LIAA has expanded its existing network to 19 countries worldwide and recently Latvia launched soft-landing support programme for technology companies and innovative startups in San Francisco Bay Area.

Latvia's economy at a glance

FDI stock in 2017 –
€14.37 bn
53.5%
of GDP

The **largest** foreign investors in **2017**
(% of the total FDI stock):

- Sweden (19%)
- Russia (10%)
- Estonia (9%)
- Cyprus (8%)
- Netherlands (8%)

GDP growth
in **2016 – 2.2%**,
2017 – 4.5%,
the forecast
for **2018 – 4.0%**.
(Ministry of Finance
of The Republic of Latvia)

79.7%
of GDP
generated
by service
sectors
(2017)

Exports equal to
60%
of GDP
(2017)

In **2017**
Latvian foreign trade
turnover amounted to
€32.84 bn,
which was **10.5%**
higher than in 2016
(at current prices), while exports
of by **8.5%**.

Source: Bank of Latvia, CSB,
Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Latvia



Latvijas Investīciju un attīstības aģentūra
Investment and Development Agency of Latvia



Favourable Business Environment

Ranks **19th** in the **Ease of Doing Business Report (2018)**

#1 in Baltics in terms of **Paying taxes**
Source: Doing business report 2018

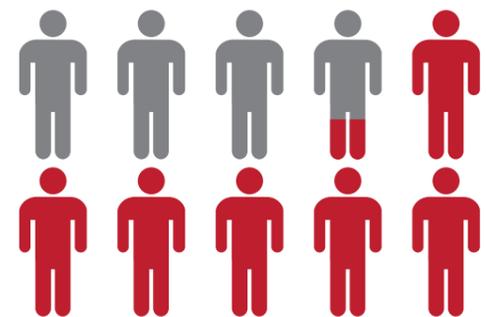
57% of existing investors intend to increase their investments in Latvia
Source: FICIL Sentiment Index 2017

0% tax on reinvested profit



Fast-emerging startup ecosystem with the 3 strongest areas - **fintech, deeptech** and **drones**

Qualified talent pool

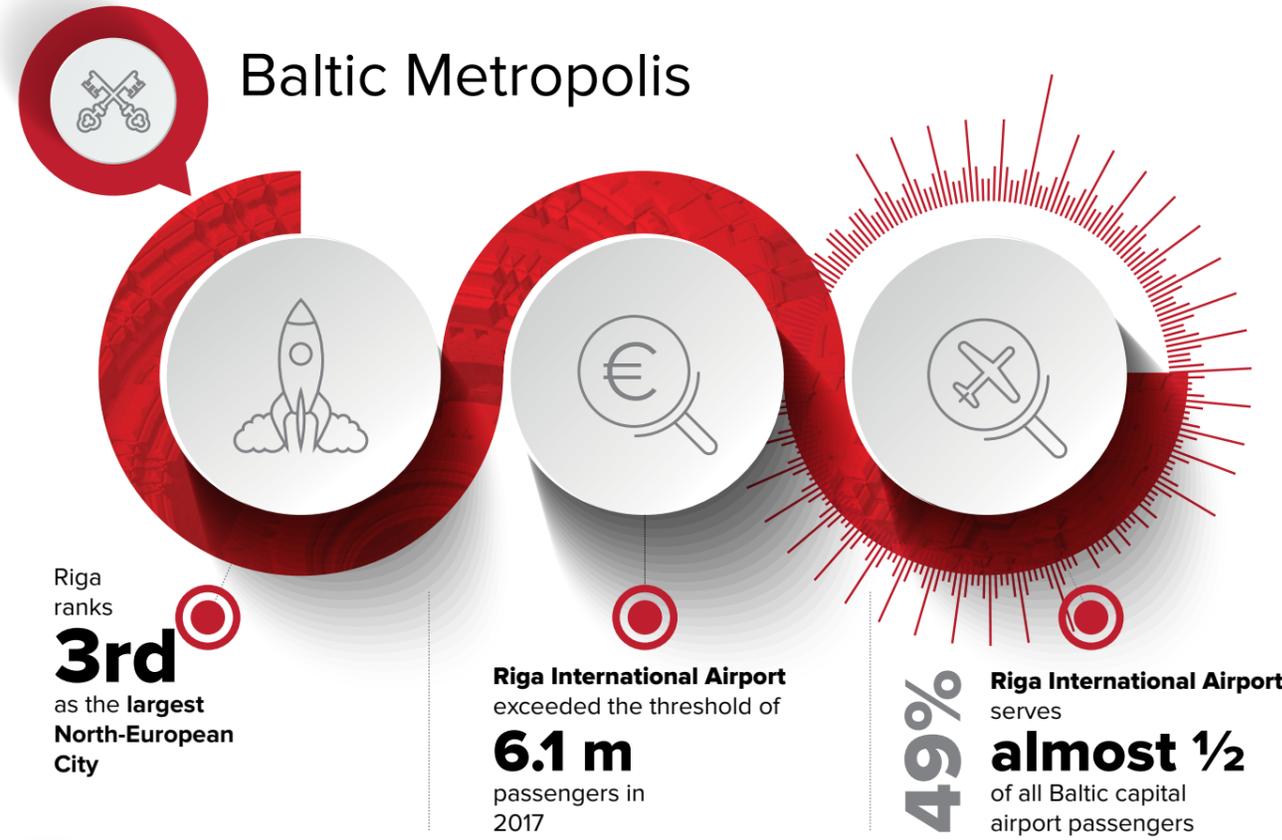


62% of people in the 25 – 34 year old age group know at least **two foreign languages**

High rates of **university attendance (74%, gross enrolment ratio)**

10% Large proportion of **international students**

Source: Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia, Eurostat



Baltic Metropolis

Riga ranks **3rd** as the **largest North-European City**

Riga International Airport exceeded the threshold of **6.1 m** passengers in 2017

49% **Riga International Airport** serves **almost 1/2** of all Baltic capital airport passengers

Building a strong startup ecosystem



Startup law offers 3 support mechanisms: fixed social tax, waived income tax and 45% co-financing of highly qualified labour



Startup visa – a fast track for all non-EU startup founders

Acceleration Fund – EUR 15m made available by financial institution ALTUM for pre-seed and seed investments, managed by 3 highly qualified funds



Fostering innovation and enhancing its economic impact

- Available support for innovation development: **€195.5 million**
- **Technology transfer grants** for public research institutions to turn academic research results into market-ready technologies and products
- **Innovation vouchers** for SMEs to promote innovations and encourage cooperation between research and industry
- **15 Business Incubators** all over Latvia
- LIAA is becoming as “one-stop-shop” for all local and foreign startups and investors