

# **Single Market Scoreboard**

#### Performance per Member State

## Latvia

(Reporting period: 2013 - 2014)



#### Transposition of law

The Latvian transposition deficit relating to the Single Market is steady at 0.6 % (seven directives), which is slightly below the EU average of 0.7 % and significantly below the deficit target of 1 % set by the Member States. Two of the overdue directives relate to the environment. It takes Latvia 5.3 extra months on average to transpose a directive. This is two months shorter than the average of 7.5 months in all Member States and a further improvement to the last assessment.



Concerning the conformity of the transposition measures notified to the Commission, Latvia has a decreasing compliance deficit of only 0.4 %, which is significantly below the EU average of 0.7 % and in line with the deficit target of 0.5 % proposed by the Single Market Act.



#### Evolution of compliance deficit - LV

## Infringements

Latvia has only 12 infringement pending cases relating to Single Market legislation, which is one of the smallest numbers in the EU. This means an increase by one case compared to six months ago, but generally Latvia shows a downward trend in terms of backlog. Across the identified sectors there is no single sector that is especially problematic in terms of the number of cases.

For Latvia the average duration of pending cases is 23.1 months, which is almost five months less than for the EU average and a reduction of 8.1 months compared to November 2013. In addition, Latvia has no cases before the Court.



#### EU Pilot

The average response time of Latvia is currently outside the 70-day benchmark in EU Pilot.

## Internal Market Information System

- The performance of IMI could be improved in Latvia. Even though requests are accepted rather quickly, the time taken to answer them increased significantly since the last Scoreboard.
- Latvia has potential for even better results especially given that it receives few requests.
- More active monitoring of requests would improve satisfaction levels among counterparts.



## EURES

NVA, the State Employment Agency, is the EURES member organisation responsible for providing EURES services in Latvia. There are currently 6 EURES Advisers in Latvia. The overall performance is relatively good, but the number of contacts with jobseekers and employers could be higher.

## Your Europe

Latvia provides information, including in English and Russian, to citizens and enterprises on a national portal. Apart from attendance at one Editorial Board meeting, the country again did not contribute to Your Europe.

Latvia should continue to invest in its national portal and, furthermore, commit itself to cooperate with the Commission services as regards Your Europe by:

- ensuring permanent representation and regular attendance at the Editorial Board meetings organised twice a year;
- providing information on how Latvia applies single market rules when requested via the Editorial Board member;
- raising awareness about Your Europe within the national administrations and among potential end users;
- linking national websites to Your Europe.

## SOLVIT

- Caseload medium
  Submitted cases 31 (7 in 2012)
  Received cases 3 (2 in 2012)
- Resolution rate 66 % (2 of the 3 cases)
- Handling time (Home centre) Reply in 7 days – 100 % – good Cases prepared in 30 days – 90% – good
- Handling time (Lead centre)
  Cases closed in 10 weeks 100 % good
- Staffing Sufficient for current caseload? NO

## **Points of Single Contact**

Point of Single Contact-Latvija.lv

Performance level – poor.

**Results from 2013 user testing (**<sup>(1)</sup>/<sub>(2)</sub> Website since revamped</sub>)

- *Information* poor.
- Online procedures none.
- Accessibility for businesses from other countries low (no online procedures, no foreign languages available on the site, no distinction between procedures for setting up in-country and service provision from abroad).
- Usability- low.

**Planned improvements** (2014) – new online procedures, restructuring and translating information into other languages.

#### **Public procurement**

In 2013, the reporting year,

- the **bidder participation** score was unsatisfactory. Overall, between 2009 and 2013, the score was also unsatisfactory, but had an increasing trend.
- the **accessibility** score was unsatisfactory, amongst the bottom three. Overall, between 2009 and 2013, the score was also unsatisfactory.
- the **procedural efficiency** score was average. Overall, between 2009 and 2013, the score was on the border between a satisfactory and an average score, but had an increasing trend.



The colored lines mark the thresholds for **satisfactory** performance (green) and **unsatisfactory** performance (red). The scores in between are regarded as an **average** performance.

#### **Postal Services**

In the Study on the Main developments in the postal sector (2010 - 2013) carried out by WIK Consult, the European countries are grouped into three clusters. Criteria for this categorisation are the absolute gross domestic product (GDP) per capita and the accession date to the European Union:

- Western Member States: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Sweden and UK;
- Southern Member States: Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal and Spain;
- Eastern Member States: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Croatia.

This methodology was also followed in the Scoreboard.

#### **Evolution of domestic prices in PPPs**

Against the trend seen in other countries, purchasing power parity (PPP) prices in Latvia have fallen from 0.79 PPPs in 2009 to 0.61 PPPs in 2012, putting them in the lower range of the Eastern Member States.

#### **Cross-border price developments in PPPs**

In Latvia, cross-border prices fell from 1.14 PPPs in 2009 to 0.85 PPPs in 2012. Latvia is now among the Eastern Member States with the lowest cross-border prices.

#### Transit time performance:

In Latvia, during the review period, quality of service, in terms of transit time performance, went down from a quality level of 96.30 % in 2009 and 97.30 % in 2010 to 86.90 % in 2011. However, Latvia improved its performance in 2012 up to 90.10 %. Latvia is now an average performer compared to the other Eastern Member States.