

# Frant national contribution to the Fundamental Rights Report – Challenges and achievements in 2025

## Housing crisis and people experiencing homelessness

Latvia

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# 1. Legal framework

*Please briefly elaborate on the legal framework to protect tenants or owners from homelessness and forced eviction. Please include respective provisions in the case of an execution order and in case an eviction takes place. Please consider specific provisions for vulnerable person, legal safeguards which prevent or limit evictions and intervention system in the case of eviction and early interventions before evictions.*

## General

Article 96 of the Constitution guarantees the right to inviolability of one's home and Article 109 of the Constitution enshrines the right to social security.<sup>1</sup> The tenancy relationships and eviction procedures in Latvia are regulated by the Residential Tenancy Law<sup>2</sup> and the Civil Procedure Law.<sup>3</sup> The main legal framework with respect to social support in the area of housing is included in the Law on Social Services and Social Assistance<sup>4</sup> and the Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues.<sup>5</sup>

## Eviction

The Residential Tenancy Law was adopted in 2021<sup>6</sup> with the goal of enhancing housing availability and ensuring a fairer balance between the interests of the landlords and tenants. The previous law<sup>7</sup> that had been in force since the early 1990s and had been adopted at the time of the land reform, was viewed as disproportionately protecting

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<sup>1</sup> Latvia, the Constitution of the Republic of Latvia ([Latvijas Republikas Satversme](#)), 7 November 1922; however, there is no case law of the Constitutional Court addressing the issues of eviction or housing assistance.

<sup>2</sup> Latvia, Residential Tenancy Law ([Dzīvojamu telpu īres likums](#)), 1 May 2021.

<sup>3</sup> Latvia, Civil Procedure Law ([Civilprocesa likums](#)), 1 March 1999.

<sup>4</sup> Latvia, Law on Social Services and Social Assistance ([Sociālo pakalpojumu un sociālās palīdzības likums](#)), 1 January 2003.

<sup>5</sup> Latvia, Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues ([Par palīdzību dzīvokļa jautājumu risināšanā likums](#)), 1 January 2002.

<sup>6</sup> Latvia, Residential Tenancy Law ([Dzīvojamu telpu īres likums](#)), 1 May 2021.

<sup>7</sup> Latvia, On Residential Tenancy ([Par dzīvojamu telpu īri](#)), 1 April 1993, lost force on 1 May 2021.

tenants, which negatively affected the housing market by discouraging investment in the development and limiting the availability of affordable housing.<sup>8</sup>

Under the Residential Tenancy Law, the landlord can seek eviction with respect to any person that does not have the legal ground to use the home, meaning, the tenancy agreement has expired or has never existed.<sup>9</sup> Evictions from informal settlements and evictions of those whose residence has not been legally established also fall under this ground. The landlord can also seek eviction, if the tenants or their family members damage the property, use it in an appropriate manner or violate the terms of the use of the dwelling;<sup>10</sup> fail to make rental or communal payments for two months;<sup>11</sup> or there is a need to renovate the house.<sup>12</sup> If the exploitation of the building has been prohibited the landlord can withdraw from the tenancy agreement but has to pay moving costs and compensate damages.<sup>13</sup> Before filing the eviction claim, the landlord has to warn the tenant about the termination of agreement at least one to three months in advance, depending on the grounds.<sup>14</sup>

With the adoption of the new Residential Tenancy Law several fundamental aspects of the tenancy relationship have been changed – written form of the contracts has been made compulsory;<sup>15</sup> only time-limited tenancy contracts are now allowed;<sup>16</sup> the possibility of extensions has been eliminated, requiring tenants to either move out or to agree to a new contract;<sup>17</sup> the rights of the tenants' family members have been

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<sup>8</sup> Auders, M. (2021), 'Dzīvojamo telpu īres likuma mērķis un izstrādes nepieciešamība', *Jurista Vārds*, 26.10.2021., No. 43 (1205), pp. 10-12; Baltic Institute of Social Sciences (2025), Preparation of a Report on the Implementation of the Residential Tenancy Law and its Impact on the Target Groups (No MK VK 2024/12) ([Ziņojuma izstrāde par Dzīvojamo telpu īres likuma mērķa īstenošanu un ietekmi uz mērķa grupām \(Nr. MK VK 2024/12\)](#)), Rīga, State Chancellery.

<sup>9</sup> Latvia, Residential Tenancy Law ([Dzīvojamo telpu īres likums](#)), 1 May 2021, Arts. 6, 23, 29.

<sup>10</sup> Latvia, Residential Tenancy Law ([Dzīvojamo telpu īres likums](#)), 1 May 2021, Art. 22.

<sup>11</sup> Latvia, Residential Tenancy Law ([Dzīvojamo telpu īres likums](#)), 1 May 2021, Art. 24.

<sup>12</sup> Latvia, Residential Tenancy Law ([Dzīvojamo telpu īres likums](#)), 1 May 2021, Art. 25.

<sup>13</sup> Latvia, Residential Tenancy Law ([Dzīvojamo telpu īres likums](#)), 1 May 2021, Art. 26.

<sup>14</sup> Latvia, Residential Tenancy Law ([Dzīvojamo telpu īres likums](#)), 1 May 2021, Art. 27.

<sup>15</sup> Latvia, Residential Tenancy Law ([Dzīvojamo telpu īres likums](#)), 1 May 2021, Art. 6.

<sup>16</sup> Latvia, Residential Tenancy Law ([Dzīvojamo telpu īres likums](#)), 1 May 2021, Art. 9.

<sup>17</sup> Latvia, Residential Tenancy Law ([Dzīvojamo telpu īres likums](#)), 1 May 2021, Art. 19(1)(1).

reduced;<sup>18</sup> the principle that the new property owner is bound by the tenancy contracts concluded by the previous owner has been removed, the transferability having been retained only with respect to the contracts that have been entered in the Land Register.<sup>19</sup>

The Residential Tenancy Law does not provide for any type of safeguards or limitations with respect to the eviction claims depending the tenant's circumstances, and the courts do not engage in proportionality assessment when examining eviction cases. The situations of vulnerability are addressed through the social support system (see below).

At the time of adoption of the Residential Tenancy Law, also the Civil Procedure Law<sup>20</sup> was amended clarifying the provisions that regulate the enforcement of evictions.<sup>21</sup> For example, under the new regulation, only the tenants are specified in the eviction notice and the family members or other persons residing together with the tenants fall to be notified by the tenants themselves; all persons present at the property are removed during the eviction (unless their rights to use the premises have been entered in the Land Register); the belongings are inventoried and appraised by the bailiff who also appoints a custodian of property.<sup>22</sup>

Additionally, with respect to the tenancy contracts that have been included in the Land Register, a new possibility of using the simplified procedure for enforcement of undisputed obligations has been made possible.<sup>23</sup> This procedure does not envisage

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<sup>18</sup> Latvia, Residential Tenancy Law ([Dzīvojamo telpu īres likums](#)), 1 May 2021, Art. 16.

<sup>19</sup> Latvia, Residential Tenancy Law ([Dzīvojamo telpu īres likums](#)), 1 May 2021, Art. 28; further with respect to the new regulation see: Lapsa, J., (2021), 'Dzīvojamās telpas īres līgums: subjekti, priekšmets, termiņš, forma, īres maksa un saistītie maksājumi', *Jurista Vārds*, 26.10.2021., No. 43 (1205), pp. 13-21; Kronis, I., (2024), 'Dzīvojamo telpu īres likuma darbības joma un Civillikuma piemērošana', *Jurista Vārds*, 20.02.2024., No. 8 (1326), pp. 25-34.

<sup>20</sup> Latvia, Civil Procedure Law ([Civilprocesa likums](#)), 1 March 1999.

<sup>21</sup> Latvia, Civil Procedure Law ([Civilprocesa likums](#)), 1 March 1999, Arts. 620<sup>1</sup>-620<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>22</sup> Latvia, Civil Procedure Law ([Civilprocesa likums](#)), 1 March 1999, Arts. 620<sup>1</sup>, 620<sup>1A</sup>, 620<sup>2</sup>; Berlande, G. (2021), 'Izmaiņas kārtībā, kādā izpildāmi nolēmumi par personu un mantu izlikšanu no telpām', *Jurista Vārds*, 26.10.2021., No. 43 (1205), pp. 78-81.

<sup>23</sup> Latvia, Residential Tenancy Law ([Dzīvojamo telpu īres likums](#)), 1 May 2021, Art. 8(3); Latvia, [Civil Procedure Law](#) ([Civilprocesa likums](#)), 1 March 1999, Arts. 400-406; see further:

adversarial examination of the claim – the judgment is taken within seven days on the basis of documents submitted by the plaintiff. Such judgement takes effect immediately and has the force of an enforcement order. If the defendant (in this case – the tenant) considers that the claim has no grounds, they can bring new proceedings contesting the creditor’s claim, which then is examined in adversarial proceedings.<sup>24</sup> This option has not been widely used with respect to tenancy agreements.<sup>25</sup>

The court orders delivered by both procedures are enforced in the same manner, in accordance with the Civil Procedure Law.<sup>26</sup> There are no specific guidelines (judicial, administrative, institutional or otherwise) that would address enforcement of eviction orders, and there is no express moratorium on evictions during the winter period or for other (e.g. socioeconomic) reasons. At the same time, the court that has issued the judgment can, upon an application by a party to the case and taking into account the financial circumstances of the parties, the rights of children, or other relevant circumstances, adopt a decision to postpone the enforcement of the judgment or to amend the method and procedure of its enforcement.<sup>27</sup> If there are “circumstances that hinder or render impossible the enforcement of a court judgment”, also the bailiff can submit a proposal for the enforcement to be postponed or the procedure of enforcement to be amended.<sup>28</sup>

With the same legislative package also the procedure for entry into possession was amended.<sup>29</sup> This procedure is relied upon to evict: (i) previous owners who occupy the premises (as, generally, there is no restriction for debt recovery against a person’s dwelling, except when the creditor and the debtor have entered into an agreement stipulating that during the natural person’s insolvency proceedings the debtor’s home,

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Berlande, G. (2021), ‘Izmaiņas kārtībā, kādā izpildāmi nolēmumi par personu un mantu izlikšanu no telpām’, *Jurista Vārds*, 26.10.2021., No. 43 (1205), pp. 78-81.

<sup>24</sup> Latvia, Civil Procedure Law ([Civilprocesa likums](#)), 1 March 1999, Arts. 400-406.

<sup>25</sup> Baltic Institute of Social Sciences (2025), Preparation of a Report on the Implementation of the Residential Tenancy Law and its Impact on the Target Groups (No. MK VK 2024/12) ([Zinojuma izstrāde par Dzīvojamo telpu īres likuma mērķa īstenošanu un ietekmi uz mērķa grupām \(Nr. MK VK 2024/12\)](#)), Riga, State Chancellery.

<sup>26</sup> Latvia, Civil Procedure Law ([Civilprocesa likums](#)), 1 March 1999, Arts. 400-406, 620<sup>1</sup>-620<sup>4</sup>;  
Berlande, G. (2021), ‘Izmaiņas kārtībā, kādā izpildāmi nolēmumi par personu un mantu izlikšanu no telpām’, *Jurista Vārds*, 26.10.2021., No. 43 (1205), pp. 78-81.

<sup>27</sup> Latvia, Civil Procedure Law ([Civilprocesa likums](#)), 1 March 1999, Art. 206(1).

<sup>28</sup> Latvia, Civil Procedure Law ([Civilprocesa likums](#)), 1 March 1999, Art. 554(1).

<sup>29</sup> Latvia, Civil Procedure Law ([Civilprocesa likums](#)), 1 March 1999, Arts. 620<sup>5</sup>-620<sup>9</sup>.

which is mortgaged in favour of the secured creditor, will not be sold<sup>30</sup>) or (ii) persons occupying the property following a change in ownership. For example, previously, it had been unclear how to proceed, if the newly acquired property had been occupied by persons claiming to be the new tenants, leading to abuse of this legal uncertainty by both parties.<sup>31</sup> Currently, it is clearly set out that only persons whose rights to use the premises have been entered in the Land Register remain unaffected by the entry into possession.<sup>32</sup>

The previous regulation with many unregulated aspects and disproportionately lengthy and cumbersome eviction procedures was seen as contributing to conflicts at the enforcement stage, both parties sometimes resorting to dubious methods.<sup>33</sup> Also the European Court of Human Rights had found that Latvia had breached its positive obligations to put in place effective regulatory framework protecting individuals from unlawful eviction from their homes.<sup>34</sup> The aforementioned legislative changes were proposed as clarifying the owner-tenant relationships and increasing legal certainty and predictability of enforcement outcomes.<sup>35</sup> The ex post factum assessment of the Residential Tenancy Law indicates that the new legal framework indeed has had a

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<sup>30</sup> Latvia, Insolvency Law (*Maksātnespējas likums*), 1 November 2010, Art. 148.

<sup>31</sup> Latvia, Annotation to the Draft Law “Amendments to the Civil Procedure Law” (*Likumprojekta “Grozījumi Civilprocesa likumā” anotācija*), submitted by the Cabinet of Ministers on 18 February 2021; for more information see the information on the [Parliament’s legislative database](#); Berlande, G. (2021), ‘Izmaiņas kārtībā, kādā izpildāmi nolēmumi par personu un mantu izlikšanu no telpām’, *Jurista Vārds*, 26.10.2021., No. 43 (1205), pp. 78-81.

<sup>32</sup> Latvia, Civil Procedure Law (*Civilprocesa likums*), 1 March 1999, Arts. 620<sup>6</sup>(3).

<sup>33</sup> Berlande, G. (2021), ‘Izmaiņas kārtībā, kādā izpildāmi nolēmumi par personu un mantu izlikšanu no telpām’, *Jurista Vārds*, 26.10.2021., No. 43 (1205), pp. 78-81; Latvia, Annotation to the Draft Law “Amendments to the Civil Procedure Law” (*Likumprojekta “Grozījumi Civilprocesa likumā” anotācija*), submitted by the Cabinet of Ministers on 18 February 2021; for more information see the information on the [Parliament’s legislative database](#).

<sup>34</sup> European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR), *Jansons v. Latvia*, No. 1434/14, 8 September 2022.

<sup>35</sup> [Action report](#) of the Government of the Republic of Latvia “On the execution of the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in the case of Jansons v. Latvia, application no.1434/14, judgment of 8 September 2022”, 22 November 2023, 1483rd meeting, DH-DD(2023)1480, 4 December 2023; Latvia, Annotation to the Draft Law “Amendments to the Civil Procedure Law” (*Likumprojekta “Grozījumi Civilprocesa likumā” anotācija*), submitted by the Cabinet of Ministers on 18 February 2021; for more information see the information on the [Parliament’s legislative database](#).

positive impact.<sup>36</sup> Also a representative from the Ombudsperson's Office submitted that in the years since the adoption of this new regulation complaints about unlawful evictions or other similar actions violating the right to respect for one's home have no longer been received.<sup>37</sup>

### **Vulnerability and support**

The aforementioned legal framework on tenancies and evictions makes no distinction with respect to vulnerable and non-vulnerable groups. Legal safeguards that prevent or limit evictions, as well as mechanisms for intervention in eviction cases and emergencies, are primarily implemented through municipal assistance provided to vulnerable persons, as outlined in the Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues.<sup>38</sup>

This law requires the provision of immediate housing for persons whose homes have been affected by a catastrophe, as well as for persons living in denationalised housing the exploitation of which has been banned.<sup>39</sup> Aside from that, the municipalities have to create two types of lists of persons in need of assistance – persons who have to be offered housing as a matter of priority (the categories stipulated by law) and persons who have to be assisted in accordance with the general procedures (the categories can be determined by the municipality).<sup>40</sup> The priority category includes persons who:

- 1) have been evicted from a rental home or a home they used to own but have lost due to debt and, additionally, are:
  - a. indigent and at a retirement age or have a disability;  
indigent and have a dependant;
  - b. politically repressed persons;
  - c. families supporting a child with a disability;
- 2) children left without parental care (after reaching the adulthood);

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<sup>36</sup> Baltic Institute of Social Sciences (2025), Preparation of a Report on the Implementation of the Residential Tenancy Law and its Impact on the Target Groups (No. MK VK 2024/12) ([Ziņojuma izstrāde par Dzīvojamu telpu īres likuma mērķa īstenošanu un ietekmi uz mērķa grupām \(Nr. MK VK 2024/12\)](#)), Riga, State Chancellery.

<sup>37</sup> Interview with a representative from the Ombudsperson's Office, 14 October 2025.

<sup>38</sup> Latvia, Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues ([Par palīdzību dzīvokļa jautājumū risināšanā likums](#)), 1 January 2002.

<sup>39</sup> Latvia, Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues ([Par palīdzību dzīvokļa jautājumū risināšanā likums](#)), 1 January 2002, Art. 13.

<sup>40</sup> Latvia, Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues ([Par palīdzību dzīvokļa jautājumū risināšanā likums](#)), 1 January 2002, Arts. 8(3), 14, 15.

- 3) repatriates who left Latvia before May 4, 1990;
- 4) indigent politically repressed persons;
- 5) indigent former prisoners;
- 6) other categories of indigent persons determined by the municipality;
- 7) persons living in denationalised housing, if so determined by the municipality.<sup>41</sup>

Several problematic issues have been identified concerning the restrictive interpretation of the said legal provisions, particularly with respect to children having been left without the parental support (after reaching adulthood) and persons re-entering society after the imprisonment.<sup>42</sup> However, the biggest problem in providing housing assistance in Latvia is the insufficiency of the housing stock, meaning that that people included in the aforementioned lists may need to wait several years, with the longest waiting lines affecting children who have been left without parental support (after reaching adulthood) and persons whose rented place has been declared unfit for permanent residence.<sup>43</sup>

The ex post factum assessment of the Residential Tenancy Law indicates that the new legal framework has contributed to the development of the rental market and to the construction of new rental houses in Latvia.<sup>44</sup> At the same time, the insufficiency of affordable housing and the depleted quality of the existing housing stock have been

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<sup>41</sup> Latvia, Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues ([\*Par palīdzību dzīvokļa jautājumū risināšanā likums\*](#)), 1 January 2002, Art. 14.

<sup>42</sup> Latvia, Ombudsperson's Office, letter No. 1-5/77 to the local governments of the Republic of Latvia, for the attention of: the Public Administration and Local Government Committee of Parliament, the Ministry of Economics 'On municipal assistance in the field of housing' ([\*Par pašvaldību palīdzību mājokļu jomā\*](#)), 2 April 2025; Baltic Institute of Social Sciences (2025), Preparation of a Report on the Implementation of the Residential Tenancy Law and its Impact on the Target Groups (No. MK VK 2024/12) ([\*Ziņojuma izstrāde par Dzīvojamo telpu īres likuma mērķa īstenošanu un ietekmi uz mērķa grupām \(Nr. MK VK 2024/12\)\*](#)), Riga, State Chancellery.

<sup>43</sup> Baltic Institute of Social Sciences (2025), Preparation of a Report on the Implementation of the Residential Tenancy Law and its Impact on the Target Groups (No. MK VK 2024/12) ([\*Ziņojuma izstrāde par Dzīvojamo telpu īres likuma mērķa īstenošanu un ietekmi uz mērķa grupām \(Nr. MK VK 2024/12\)\*](#)), Riga, State Chancellery; Interview with a representative from the Ombudsperson's Office, 14 October 2025.

<sup>44</sup> Baltic Institute of Social Sciences (2025), Preparation of a Report on the Implementation of the Residential Tenancy Law and its Impact on the Target Groups (No. MK VK 2024/12) ([\*Ziņojuma izstrāde par Dzīvojamo telpu īres likuma mērķa īstenošanu un ietekmi uz mērķa grupām \(Nr. MK VK 2024/12\)\*](#)), Riga, State Chancellery.

identified as the primary issues in the Latvia's housing sector.<sup>45</sup> This problem equally affects those in need of the social housing and the rest of the population. According to the data collected, in Latvia, most households live in housing that is outdated, energy inefficient, and does not meet modern requirements. New dwellings account for 0.27% of the total number of dwellings (compared to the 1% of the OECD average) and the household purchasing power is approximately 70% of the average European household purchasing power.<sup>46</sup> Out of the 39,500 multi-apartment residential buildings in Latvia at least 26,600 are in need of renovation; however, so far only about 4% of those have been renovated.<sup>47</sup> Furthermore, Latvia has one of the lowest shares of social housing among OECD countries, with only 2% of the total housing stock allocated to social housing. In addition to the small size of the social housing sector, the technical condition of the existing stock is alarmingly poor, exacerbating the housing challenges faced by low-income and vulnerable groups.<sup>48</sup>

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<sup>45</sup> OECD (2020), [Policy Actions for Affordable Housing in Latvia](#); Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Order No. 739 of 8 November 2023 "On the Housing Availability Guidelines for 2023–2027" (*Ministru kabineta 2023. gada 8. novembra rīkojums Nr. 739 "Par Mājokļu pieejamības pamatnostādņēm 2023.–2027. gadam"*), 8 November 2023; Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Order No. 1054 of 9 December 2024 "Implementation plan for the 2023–2027 Housing Availability Guidelines for 2024–2027" (*Ministru kabineta 2024. gada 9. decembra rīkojums Nr. 1054 "Mājokļu pieejamības pamatnostādņu 2023. – 2027. gadam īstenošanas plāns 2024. – 2027. gadam"*), 9 December 2024; Latvia, Ombudsperson's Office, letter No. 1-12/4 to the local governments of the Republic of Latvia, for the attention of: the Public Administration and Local Government Committee of Parliament, the Ministry of Economics 'Report on the availability and quality of housing offered within the framework of municipal assistance' (*Ziņojums par pašvaldības palīdzības ietvaros piedāvāto mājokļu pieejamību un kvalitāti*), 20 March 2025.

<sup>46</sup> Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Order No. 1054 of 9 December 2024 "Implementation plan for the 2023–2027 Housing Availability Guidelines for 2024–2027" (*Ministru kabineta 2024. gada 9. decembra rīkojums Nr. 1054 "Mājokļu pieejamības pamatnostādņu 2023. – 2027. gadam īstenošanas plāns 2024. – 2027. gadam"*), 9 December 2024; see also OECD (2020), [Policy Actions for Affordable Housing in Latvia](#).

<sup>47</sup> Latvia, The State Audit Office (*Valsts kontrole*), '[Tikai 4 % daudzdzīvokļu māju renovētas: Valsts kontrole atklāj šķēršļus un piedāvā risinājumus](#)', press release, 9 December 2025.

<sup>48</sup> Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Order No. 1054 of 9 December 2024 "Implementation plan for the 2023–2027 Housing Availability Guidelines for 2024–2027" (*Ministru kabineta 2024. gada 9. decembra rīkojums Nr. 1054 "Mājokļu pieejamības pamatnostādņu 2023. – 2027. gadam īstenošanas plāns 2024. – 2027. gadam"*), 9 December 2024; Latvia, Ombudsperson's Office, letter No. 1-12/4 to the local governments of the Republic of

Some Governmental measures have been devised to address these problems and others are still planned. Currently, there is:

- 1) a housing support programme ALTUM that facilitates the payment of the initial down payment for a mortgage loan – a Development Finance Institution “ALTUM” issues and administers a state provided guarantee (for a period of up to 10 years) to a person who lives with and supports at least one minor child; the extent of the guarantee depends on the number of children in the family; since 2025 the programme also envisages the issuing of mortgage loans for purchasing a home in regions;<sup>49</sup>
- 2) A one-time subsidy "Balsts" that is intended for families with three or more children or families raising a child with a disability (regardless of the number of children in the family) to reduce the initial down payment on a bank loan for the purchase or construction of a home;<sup>50</sup> the demand for this subsidy continues growing – loans issued in 2025 amounted to EUR 59.7 million, which is 53% more than in the corresponding period last year.<sup>51</sup>

Currently, EU funding is used for:

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Latvia, for the attention of: the Public Administration and Local Government Committee of Parliament, the Ministry of Economics ‘Report on the availability and quality of housing offered within the framework of municipal assistance’ ([Zinojums par pašvaldības palīdzības ietvaros piedāvāto mājokļu pieejamību un kvalitāti](#)), 20 March 2025.

<sup>49</sup> Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 95 of 20 February 2018 “Regulations Regarding the State Assistance in Purchase or Construction of Residential Space” (*Ministru kabineta 2018. gada 20. februāra noteikumi Nr. 95 “[Noteikumi par valsts palīdzību dzīvojamās telpas iegādei vai būvniecībai](#)”*), 1 March 2018; Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 609 of 14 October 2025 “Regulations on loans for the purchase of housing in the regions” (*Ministru kabineta 2025. gada 14. oktobra noteikumi Nr. 609 “[Noteikumi par aizdevumiem mājokļa iegādei reģionos](#)”*), 17 October 2025; for more information, see the Ministry of Economics [webpage entry on the housing support](#), 7 March 2025.

<sup>50</sup> Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 95 of 20 February 2018 “Regulations Regarding the State Assistance in Purchase or Construction of Residential Space” (*Ministru kabineta 2018. gada 20. februāra noteikumi Nr. 95 “[Noteikumi par valsts palīdzību dzīvojamās telpas iegādei vai būvniecībai](#)”*), 1 March 2018; for more information, see the Ministry of Economics [webpage entry on the subsidy “Balsts”](#), 7 May 2024.

<sup>51</sup> Latvia, Ministry of Economics (*Ekonomikas ministrija*) (2025), ‘Budžets 2026: daudzbērnu ģimenēm programmas “Balsts” ietvaros piešķirs 5.5 milj. EUR’ <https://www.sif.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/majoklis-vispirms-izmeginajumprojekta-pieskirtaja-majokli-turpina-dzivot-94-sadarbibas-personu>, press release, 23 December 2025.

1) programmes financing the development of affordable rental housing<sup>52</sup> – implemented since November 2022, the support programme enables municipalities, in cooperation with real estate developers, to promote the construction of low-rent housing in the regions; the programme offers real estate developers a loan with a 30-year repayment term and a low interest rate (0.69% per year), as well as a capital rebate of up to 30% to partially write off the principal of the loan; the programme envisages restrictions on rental fees and granting of rental rights to those households that meet specific income thresholds, reviewed annually; currently, 8 loan agreements have been concluded for construction projects (a total of 476 apartments), 2 projects have been approved (for the construction of 200 apartments), and 9 projects have been submitted and are under evaluation (for the construction of 734 apartments); in October 2025, a project for the construction of 120 apartments was completed and put into operation in Valmiera and in the near future one building (part of a two-building project) will be put into operation in Jelgava; given the high demand for funding under the low-rent housing construction programme, the initially available allocation of EUR 42 million has been increased to EUR 84.4 million<sup>53</sup>; and

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<sup>52</sup> Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Order No. 1054 of 9 December 2024 “Implementation plan for the 2023–2027 Housing Availability Guidelines for 2024–2027” (*Ministru kabineta 2024. gada 9. decembra rīkojums Nr. 1054 “Mājokļu pieejamības pamatnostādņu 2023. – 2027. gadam īstenošanas plāns 2024. – 2027. gadam”*), 9 December 2024; Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 459 of 14 July 2022 “Regulations on support for the construction of residential rental housing under the European Union Recovery and Resilience Facility Plan 3.1. Reform and Investment Direction “Regional Policy” 3.1.1.4. i. investments “Establishment of a financing fund for the construction of low-rent housing” and 3.1.1.7.i. investments “Loans to real estate developers for the construction of low-rent housing” (*Ministru kabineta 2022. gada 14. jūlija noteikumi Nr. 459 “Noteikumi par atbalstu dzīvojamo īres māju būvniecībai Eiropas Savienības Atveseļošanas un noturības mehānisma plāna 3.1. reformu un investīciju virziena “Reģionālā politika” 3.1.1.4.i. investīcijas “Finansēšanas fonda izveide zemas īres mājokļu būvniecībai” un 3.1.1.7.i. investīcijas “Aizdevumi nekustamā īpašuma attīstītājiem zemas īres maksas mājokļu būvniecībai” ietvaros*”), 20 July 2022.

<sup>53</sup> E-mail from the Ministry of Economics, 21 October 2025; for more information see the Ministry of Economics [webpage entry on the programme](#), 29 April 2025 and on the [allocation of additional funding](#), 2 September 2025.

- 2) programmes financing the construction or renovation of social housing<sup>54</sup> – with the EUR 70.2 million available from the ERDF, it is planned that at least 1,952 social housing units will be renovated or newly built across Latvia by the end of 2029; support is available to municipalities in the form of a grant, with an aid intensity of 85%; under the first round of the support programme, 30 projects were selected in 2024 and are currently being implemented in 25 municipalities, aiming to renovate more than 900 apartments; under the second round of the support programme, until 10 December 2025 projects were under evaluation for the construction of 8 residential buildings in eight Latvian municipalities, planning to build more than 400 new apartments, as well as projects that foresee the renovation of more than 600 existing apartments in 19 Latvian municipalities.<sup>55</sup>

The Government's plan to address housing availability issues also includes drafting a new law, which would expand the categories of individuals eligible for housing

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<sup>54</sup> Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Order No. 1054 of 9 December 2024 "Implementation plan for the 2023–2027 Housing Availability Guidelines for 2024–2027" (*Ministru kabineta 2024. gada 9. decembra rīkojums Nr. 1054 "Mājokļu pieejamības pamatnostādņu 2023. – 2027. gadam īstenošanas plāns 2024. – 2027. gadam"*), 9 December 2024; Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 358 of 19 September 2023 "Implementation rules for the measure 4.3.1.3. "Renovation of social housing or construction of new social housing" of the specific support objective 4.3.1. "Promote the social and economic integration of socially excluded communities, low-income households and disadvantaged groups, including people with special needs, through integrated actions, including the provision of housing and social services" of the European Union Cohesion Policy Program for 2021–2027" (*Ministru kabineta 2023. gada 19. septembra noteikumi Nr. 358 "Eiropas Savienības kohēzijas politikas programmas 2021.–2027. gadam 4.3.1. specifiskā atbalsta mērķa "Veicināt sociāli atstumto kopienu, māsajaimniecību ar zemiem ienākumiem un nelabvēlīgā situācijā esošo grupu, tostarp cilvēku ar īpašām vajadzībām sociāli ekonomisko integrāciju, īstenojot integrētas darbības, tostarp nodrošinot mājokli un sociālos pakalpojumus" 4.3.1.3. pasākuma "Sociālo mājokļu atjaunošana vai jaunu sociālo mājokļu būvniecība" īstenošanas noteikumi"*), 23 September 2023.

<sup>55</sup> E-mail from the Ministry of Economics, 21 October 2025; for more information see the Ministry of Economics [webpage entry on the programme and the allocation of additional funding](#), 20 May 2025.

assistance.<sup>56</sup> Though initially planned for 2025, the drafting of this law has been moved to 2026.<sup>57</sup>

## Homelessness and prevention

With regard to the issue of homelessness, a study of the situation is currently being conducted in order to determine the specific support measures for homelessness in the future. It is considered that an inter-sectoral approach will be required covering the issues of housing accessibility, healthcare, social assistance, and other support measures.<sup>58</sup> The open competition "Assessment of the legal and substantive framework of homelessness and proposals for specific support measures to address homelessness" has now been concluded.<sup>59</sup>

Additionally, in October 2025 the University of Latvia, supported by several governmental and municipal institutions, participated in the international project "European Homelessness Counts" with the purpose of accounting for and understanding the situation of homeless in Riga.<sup>60</sup> The initial assessment points to a large prevalence of long-term (more than five years) homelessness and insufficiency of exit measures, particularly with respect to persons who do not have disability.<sup>61</sup>

The obligation to provide temporary shelters and night shelters to homeless persons is generally placed on the municipalities, which then exercise this function in accordance to their local regulations.<sup>62</sup>

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<sup>56</sup> Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Order No. 1054 of 9 December 2024 "Implementation plan for the 2023–2027 Housing Availability Guidelines for 2024–2027" (*Ministru kabineta 2024. gada 9. decembra rīkojums Nr. 1054 "Mājokļu pieejamības pamatnostādņu 2023. – 2027. gadam īstenošanas plāns 2024. – 2027. gadam"*), 9 December 2024.

<sup>57</sup> E-mail from the Ministry of Economics, 21 October 2025.

<sup>58</sup> E-mail from the Ministry of Welfare, 15 October 2025.

<sup>59</sup> E-mail from the Ministry of Welfare, 15 October 2025; for further information on the [open competition for the assessment see the Ministry of Welfare webpage](#), 22 June 2025.

<sup>60</sup> Interview with a representative from the Ombudsperson's Office, 14 October 2025, for more information see the University of Latvia [webpage entry on the project](#), 11 July 2025.

<sup>61</sup> Interview with a representative of the University of Latvia, 9 December 2025.

<sup>62</sup> Latvia, Law on Social Services and Social Assistance (*Sociālo pakalpojumu un sociālās palīdzības likums*), 1 January 2003, Art. 9(1)<sup>1</sup>(5); interview with a representative from the Ombudsperson's Office, 14 October 2025; interview with a representative from the Ministry of Economics, 17 October 2025.

As a support measure that is aimed at preventing evictions and homelessness one can note the housing allowance under the Law on Social Services and Social Assistance, the payment of which is also the responsibility of the municipalities. It is calculated on the basis of the household's income and covers part of the housing costs and costs of the connected services.<sup>63</sup> The Ministry of Welfare informs that the number of recipients of the housing allowance is as follows:<sup>64</sup>

Year	Recipients of the housing allowance (persons/households)
2021	59 854/39 932
2022	73 103/48 576
2023	79 889/52 819
2024	67 759/48 144

Additionally, the municipalities can, on the basis of their own local regulations and on the basis of their resources, provide:

- one-time allowance to repair a dwelling that has been damaged as a result of a terrorist act, natural disaster, accident, or other catastrophe;<sup>65</sup>
- one-time allowance for vacating residential premises (in specific narrowly defined situations, the law provides that the Government may envisage a targeted subsidy for this purpose).<sup>66</sup>

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<sup>63</sup> Latvia, Law on Social Services and Social Assistance ([Sociālo pakalpojumu un sociālās palīdzības likums](#)), 1 January 2003, Art. 35; for more information see the Ministry of Welfare [webpage entry on the housing allowance](#), 17 June 2021; see also a similar regulation with respect to housing allowance specifically for children who have lost parental support (upon reaching adulthood) – Latvia, [Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues](#) ([Par palīdzību dzīvokļa jautājumu risināšanā likums](#)), 1 January 2002, Art. 25<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>64</sup> E-mail from the Ministry of Welfare, 17 October 2025.

<sup>65</sup> Latvia, Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues ([Par palīdzību dzīvokļa jautājumu risināšanā likums](#)), 1 January 2002, Art. 26.

<sup>66</sup> Latvia, Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues ([Par palīdzību dzīvokļa jautājumu risināšanā likums](#)), 1 January 2002, Arts. 26<sup>1</sup>-26<sup>2</sup>.

Another measure aimed at helping retain property to vulnerable persons is a tax relief for immovable property tax payers – 90% tax reduction to indigent persons and 50% for families with three or more children.<sup>67</sup>

No other nation-wide early intervention systems to prevent evictions (such as debt regulations, targeted legal and other advice services, financial relief funds and mediation) or interventions systems for cases of eviction (such as “housing first” approaches, rapid rehousing, compensation in case of eviction due to legitimate interest) have been devised in Latvia. Some additional measures are carried out by municipalities, either on a project basis or as permanent initiatives. For example, in 2022, the Society Integration Fund launched a pilot project funded by the European Social Fund to implement a “Housing First” rehabilitation programme in Riga, Liepāja, and Valmiera.<sup>68</sup> It has continued as a municipality-funded programme in Riga and is currently available to 25 people,<sup>69</sup> a number that falls short of meeting the actual demand.<sup>70</sup>

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<sup>67</sup> Latvia, Law on Immoveable Property Tax ([Par nekustamā īpašuma nodokli](#)), 1 January 1998, Art. 5; e-mail from the Ministry of Welfare, 17 October 2025.

<sup>68</sup> Latvia, Society Integration Fund (*Sabiedrības integrācijas fonds*) (2023), [“Mājoklis vispirms” izmēģinājuma projekta piešķirtajā mājoklī turpina dzīvot 94% sadarbības personu](#), press release, 28 March 2023.

<sup>69</sup> Information on the webpage of Latvian Samaritan Association on the [‘Housing first’ service](#).

<sup>70</sup> Lagzdina, L.A. (2025), [‘Ieguldījums izaugsmei. Pielikt punktu diskriminācijai’](#), *Latvijas Avīze*, 11 June 2025.

## 2. Major developments in 2025

**Table 1 – Major legislative/policy measures on eviction and homelessness in 2025**

	Reference/name/weblink	Short description and reference to the paragraph / page in the referenced document	Authorities responsible to implement
a) Legislative act / Policy measure	Measure 4.3.1.3. "Renovation of social housing or construction of new social housing" under the EU Cohesion policy <sup>71</sup>	Building and renovating social housing that significantly increases the available social housing stock and reduces the waiting time for the municipality provided social housing. The measure is ongoing, with additional funding allocated in 2025 (EUR 70.2 million available from the ERDF; 1,952 social housing units are planned to be renovated or newly built by the end of 2029). <sup>72</sup>	Ministry of Economics, local governments

<sup>71</sup> Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 358 of 19 September 2023 "Implementation rules for the measure 4.3.1.3. "Renovation of social housing or construction of new social housing" of the specific support objective 4.3.1. "Promote the social and economic integration of socially excluded communities, low-income households and disadvantaged groups, including people with special needs, through integrated actions, including the provision of housing and social services" of the European Union Cohesion Policy Program for 2021–2027" (*Ministru kabineta 2023. gada 19. septembra noteikumi Nr. 358 "Eiropas Savienības kohēzijas politikas programmas 2021.–2027. gadam 4.3.1. specifiskā atbalsta mērķa "Veicināt sociāli atstumto kopienu, māsaimniecību ar zemiem ienākumiem un nelabvēlīgā situācijā esošo grupu, tostarp cilvēku ar īpašām vajadzībām sociāli ekonomisko integrāciju, īstenojot integrētas darbības, tostarp nodrošinot mājokli un sociālos pakalpojumus" 4.3.1.3. pasākuma "Sociālo mājokļu atjaunošana vai jaunu sociālo mājokļu būvniecība" īstenošanas noteikumi"*), 23 September 2023.

<sup>72</sup> Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 289 of 20 May 2025 "Amendments to the Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 358 of 19 September 2023 "Implementation rules for

	Measure 4.1.1.7i “Loans to real estate developers for the construction of low-rent housing” under the EU Cohesion policy <sup>73</sup>	Construction of residential rental housing with the aim of promoting the availability of low-rent housing that meets construction standards and energy efficiency requirements for households that cannot afford housing at market conditions. The measure is ongoing, with additional funding allocated in 2025 (8 loan agreements have been	Ministry of Economics
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the measure 4.3.1.3. "Renovation of social housing or construction of new social housing" of the specific support objective 4.3.1. "Promote the social and economic integration of socially excluded communities, low-income households and disadvantaged groups, including people with special needs, through integrated actions, including the provision of housing and social services" of the European Union Cohesion Policy Program for 2021–2027” (*Ministru kabineta 2025. gada 20. maija noteikumi Nr. 289 “[Grozījumi Ministru kabineta 2023. gada 19. septembra noteikumos Nr. 538 “Eiropas Savienības kohēzijas politikas programmas 2021.-2027. gadam 4.3.1. specifiskā atbalsta mērķa “Veicināt sociāli atstumto kopienu, mājsaimniecību ar zemiem ienākumiem un nelabvēlīgā situācijā esošo grupu, tostarp cilvēku ar īpašām vajadzībām sociāli ekonomisko integrāciju, īstenojot integrētas darbības, tostarp nodrošinot mājokli un sociālos pakalpojumus” 4.3.1.3. pasākuma “Sociālo mājokļu atjaunošana vai jaunu sociālo mājokļu būvniecība” īstenošanas noteikumi”](#)”*), 22 May 2025; for more information see the Ministry of Economics [webpage entry on the programme and the allocation of additional funding](#), 20 May 2025, interview with a representative from the Ministry of Economics, 17 October 2025; e-mail from the Ministry of Economics, 21 October 2025.

<sup>73</sup> Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 459 of 14 July 2022 “Regulations on support for the construction of residential rental housing under the European Union Recovery and Resilience Facility Plan 3.1. Reform and Investment Direction “Regional Policy” 3.1.1.4. i. investments “Establishment of a financing fund for the construction of low-rent housing” and 3.1.1.7.i. investments “Loans to real estate developers for the construction of low-rent housing” (*Ministru kabineta 2022. gada 14. jūlija noteikumi Nr. 459 “[Noteikumi par atbalstu dzīvojamo īres māju būvniecībai Eiropas Savienības Atveseļošanas un noturības mehānisma plāna 3.1. reformu un investīciju virziena “Reģionālā politika” 3.1.1.4.i. investīcijas “Finansēšanas fonda izveide zemas īres mājokļu būvniecībai” un 3.1.1.7.i. investīcijas “Aizdevumi nekustamā īpašuma attīstītājiem zemas īres maksas mājokļu būvniecībai” ietvaros](#)”*), 20 July 2022.

		concluded (for the construction of a total of 476 apartments), 2 projects have been approved (200 apartments), and 9 projects are under evaluation (734 apartments); in October 2025, a project for the construction of 120 apartments was completed and put into operation; the initially available allocation of EUR 42 million has been increased to EUR 84.4 million). <sup>74</sup>	
	Mortgage lending programme for home purchases in the regions <sup>75</sup>	A new mortgage lending program that will ensure the availability of mortgage loans to	Ministry of Economics

<sup>74</sup> Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 534 of 2 September 2025 “Amendments to the Regulations on support for the construction of residential rental housing under the European Union Recovery and Resilience Facility Plan 3.1. Reform and Investment Direction “Regional Policy” 3.1.1.4. i. investments “Establishment of a financing fund for the construction of low-rent housing” and 3.1.1.7.i. investments “Loans to real estate developers for the construction of low-rent housing” (*Ministru kabineta 2025. gada 2. septembra noteikumi Nr. 534 “Grozījumi Ministru kabineta 2022. gada 14. jūlija noteikumos Nr. 450 “Noteikumi par atbalstu dzīvojamo īres māju būvniecībai Eiropas Savienības Atveseļošanas un noturības mehānisma plāna 3.1. reformu un investīciju virziena “Reģionālā politika” 3.1.1.4.i. investīcijas “Finansēšanas fonda izveide zemas īres mājokļu būvniecībai” un 3.1.1.7.i. investīcijas “Aizdevumi nekustamā īpašuma attīstītājiem zemas īres maksas mājokļu būvniecībai” ietvaros*”), 9 September 2025; for more information see the Ministry of Economics [webpage entry on the programme](#), 29 April 2025 and on the [allocation of additional funding](#), 2 September 2025; interview with a representative of the Ministry of Economics, 17 October 2025; e-mail from the Ministry of Economics, 21 October 2025.

<sup>75</sup> Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 609 of 14 October 2025 “Regulations on loans for the purchase of housing in the regions” (*Ministru kabineta 2025. gada 14. oktobra noteikumi Nr. 609 “Noteikumi par aizdevumiem mājokļa iegādei reģionos*”), 17 October 2025; Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers (2025), ‘A new mortgage lending program for home

		individuals for the purchase of housing in the regions addressing the insufficient availability of mortgage loans in the regions and promoting home purchases in those regions of Latvia where mortgage lending has been less active to date. <sup>76</sup>	
	Amendments to the Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues <sup>77</sup> allowing the municipalities sell some of its housing stock. <sup>78</sup>	Amendments allowing the municipalities the freedom to assess the feasibility of maintaining certain dwellings in its housing stock and sell them, with the tenants having a priority. <sup>79</sup>	Local governments
	Amendments to the Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues <sup>80</sup> allowing the government to participate in the	In order to contribute to the creation of affordable housing stock that is available for rent, legal regulation had to be amended allowing the	Ministry of Economics

purchases in the regions has been developed’ ([‘Izstrādāta jauna hipotekārās kreditēšanas programma mājokļu iegādei reģionos’](#)), 14 October 2025.

<sup>76</sup> Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers (*Ministru kabinets*) (2025), [‘Izstrādāta jauna hipotekārās kreditēšanas programma mājokļu iegādei reģionos’](#), press release, 14 October 2025; Latvia, Cabinet of Ministers Order No. 1054 of 9 December 2024 “Implementation plan for the 2023–2027 Housing Availability Guidelines for 2024–2027” (*Ministru kabineta 2024. gada 9. decembra rīkojums Nr. 1054 “Mājokļu pieejamības pamatnostādņu 2023. – 2027. gadam īstenošanas plāns 2024. – 2027. gadam”*), 9 December 2024.

<sup>77</sup> Latvia, Amendments to the Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues ([Grozījumi likumā “Par palīdzību dzīvokļa jautājumu risināšanā”](#)), 6 March 2025.

<sup>78</sup> Latvia, Annotation to the Draft Law “Amendments to the Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues” (*Likumprojekta “Grozījumi likumā “Par palīdzību dzīvokļa jautājuma risināšanā” anotācija*), submitted by a Parliamentary Committee on 9 October 2024; for more information see the information on the [Parliament’s legislative database](#).

<sup>79</sup> Latvia, Amendments to the Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues ([Grozījumi likumā “Par palīdzību dzīvokļa jautājumu risināšanā”](#)), 6 March 2025.

<sup>80</sup> Latvia, Amendments to the Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues ([Grozījumi likumā “Par palīdzību dzīvokļa jautājumu risināšanā”](#)), 3 July 2025.

	exercise of the local government's function of providing housing assistance. <sup>81</sup>	Government to participate in the exercise of the local government's autonomous function of providing the housing support. The new regulation allows the Government to participate in public-private partnership agreements in construction of a new housing stock. <sup>82</sup>	
b) Developments of safeguards to limit or prevent evictions	-		
c) Protection of vulnerable groups and intervention mechanism	-		

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<sup>81</sup> Latvia, Annotation to the Draft Law "Amendments to the Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues" (*Likumprojekta "Grozījumi likumā "Par palīdzību dzīvokļa jautājuma risināšanā" anotācija*), submitted by the Cabinet of Ministers on 3 March 2025; for more information see the information on the [Parliament's legislative database](#) and the [Cabinet of Ministers' Draft Law database](#).

<sup>82</sup> Latvia, Annotation to the Draft Law "Amendments to the Law on Assistance in Resolving Housing Issues" (*Likumprojekta "Grozījumi likumā "Par palīdzību dzīvokļa jautājuma risināšanā" anotācija*), submitted by the Cabinet of Ministers on 3 March 2025; for more information see the information on the [Parliament's legislative database](#) and the [Cabinet of Ministers' Draft Law database](#).

### 3. Number of execution orders and actual evictions for private households

*Please provide data or estimates for 2025 or published in 2025, and as available for different categories (tenants/owners and as outlined in 2b and 2c) and any trends. Please indicate data limitations and justification for the choice of source(s) or lack of data*

The data on the number of execution orders and of actual evictions is not being collected.<sup>83</sup> As an approximate indication of the situation, the Ministry of Welfare has provided the data on the services provided by the shelters and night shelters:<sup>84</sup>

Year	Clients who have received shelter and night shelter services - total (number of persons)
2021	5 644
2022	5 997
2023	6 151
2024	5 971

The Court Administration informed that, according to the information included in the Enforcement Case Register, the following number of cases concerning the eviction of a person and their property from premises and cases concerning the entry into possession have been registered in 2024 and 2025 (this data does not provide a breakdown on how many private households have been affected):<sup>85</sup>

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<sup>83</sup> E-mail from the Ministry of Welfare, 15 October 2025; interview with a representative from the Ombudsperson’s Office, 14 October 2025; interview with a representative from the Ministry of Economics, 17 October 2025; interview with a representative from the University Latvia, involved in the research on homelessness, 9 December 2025, noting that collecting such information will be one of their recommendations.

<sup>84</sup> E-mail from the Ministry of Welfare, 17 October 2025.

<sup>85</sup> Latvia, Court Administration, letter No. 1-18.2/822 to the Baltic Human Rights Society, 11 November 2025; e-mail from the Court Administration of 19 January 2026.

Year	<b>Registered</b> cases - eviction of a person and their property from premises	<b>Enforced</b> cases - eviction of a person and their property from premises	<b>Registered</b> cases - entry into possession	<b>Enforced</b> cases - entry into possession
2024	243	197	86	76
2025	327	231	80	76

## Annex – Promising practice

Promising practice	
Title (original language)	Īslaicīgās uzturēšanās mītne "Burtnieks" un krīzes centrs "Burtnieks"
Title (EN)	Short-term accommodation facility "Burtnieks" and crisis centre "Burtnieks"
Organisation (original language)	Biedrība "Latvijas Sarkanais Krusts"
Organisation (EN)	Latvian Red Cross
Government / Civil society	Civil society
Funding body	Local government, service fees
Reference (incl. URL, where available)	<a href="https://www.redcross.lv/par-mums/socialie-centri/iu-burtnieks/">https://www.redcross.lv/par-mums/socialie-centri/iu-burtnieks/</a> <a href="https://www.redcross.lv/par-mums/socialie-centri/krizes-centrs-burtnieks/">https://www.redcross.lv/par-mums/socialie-centri/krizes-centrs-burtnieks/</a>
Indicate the start date of the promising practice and the finishing date if it has ceased to exist	12 February 1993 to date
Type of initiative	Temporary housing assistance complemented with assistance from other specialists (social workers, healthcare workers, legal assistance, psychological support) in solving social problems with the aim of finding permanent housing for the person or family.
Main target group	Homeless persons, persons facing crisis situation
Indicate level of implementation: Local/Regional/National	Local (Riga municipality)
Brief description (max. 1000 chars)	Short-term accommodation facility "Burtnieks" and crisis centre "Burtnieks" (with the capacity of 48 places each) <sup>86</sup> offer a combination of services to support persons facing homelessness or crisis situations.

<sup>86</sup> Latvia, Riga State City Municipality, Welfare Department, 'Yearbook. Social System and Healthcare in Riga in 2024' (*'Sociālā sistēma un veselības aprūpe Rīgā 2024. gadā'*), Riga, 2025, p. 18.

	<p>At the crisis centre, aside from accommodation and social care services, a person can receive individual consultations and support from social worker, social rehabilitator, group activities and psychological interventions, that include psychodiagnostics assessments, consultations, therapy.</p> <p>In the crisis situations (including violence, separation, circumstances rendering the person homeless, etc.) the service is offered by the municipality without assessing the income of the person.</p> <p>Also, the short-term accommodation service, which is run next to the crisis centre, offers a variety of services (including medical psychological, legal), individual consultations and practical support aimed at resolving the problems and, if necessary, obtaining a more permanent support (like social housing).</p> <p>At the crisis centre, in 2024, 230 persons were accommodated. In 2025, 186 persons were accommodated. At the short-term accommodation facility, in 2024, 68 persons were accommodated, in 2025, 66 persons were accommodated.<sup>87</sup></p>
<p>Highlight any element of the actions that is transferable (max. 500 chars)</p>	<p>The transferable element of the practice is its comprehensive approach towards the problem the persons are facing and the range of support they require.</p> <p>Similar models function well and offer better results in relation of a variety of problems, like <a href="#">Barnahus</a><sup>88</sup> with respect to children having suffered from violence.</p> <p>Also, persons facing homelessness or acute crisis situations are likely to need a broad range of services, support and guidance to successfully reintegrate or receive the most appropriate social service for their situation.</p>
<p>Give reasons why you consider the practice as</p>	<p>Through its comprehensive experience and wide variety of services the Latvian Red Cross offers, it has built the know-how in</p>

<sup>87</sup> E-mails from the short-term accommodation facility ‘Burtnieks’ of 12 December 2025 and 19 January 2026; in 2024, in the two short term accommodation centres in Riga (together ensuring 68 places), the service was offered to 147 persons, of whom 37% resolved their housing situation – Latvia, Riga State City Municipality, Welfare Department, ‘Yearbook. Social System and Healthcare in Riga in 2024’ ([‘Sociālā sistēma un veselības aprūpe Rīgā 2024. gadā’](#)), Riga, 2025, p. 156.

<sup>88</sup> For more information see the webpage of the [Barnahus network](#).

sustainable (as opposed to 'one off activities')	working with the available support systems and combining them for the benefit of the customer.
Give reasons why you consider the practice as having concrete measurable impact	In the absence of the data about the number of persons assisted on a yearly basis, the very existence of a crisis centre and a short-term accommodation facility that offers a comprehensive support to homeless persons and persons in crisis situations is crucial. It is even more so in Riga where the demand for the housing support is the greatest in the country and the waiting periods for social housing can reach several years. The functioning of the facility was also commended by the representative of the Ombudsperson Office. <sup>89</sup>
Give reasons why you consider the practice as transferable to other settings and/or Member States?	A comprehensive approach towards crisis situations is important in a variety of contexts, as people facing crises are usually impacted in a variety of ways (physically, psychologically, legally, etc.).  As <a href="#">Barnahus</a> <sup>90</sup> example has shown, such models can be implemented in different Member States.
Explain, if applicable, how the practice involves beneficiaries and stakeholders in the design, planning, evaluation, review assessment and implementation of the practice	In this particular case, the practice is based on a comprehensive and competent support system that can accommodate a variety of needs of the beneficiaries who are individually consulted and assisted.

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<sup>89</sup> Interview with a representative from the Ombudsperson's Office, 14 October 2025.

<sup>90</sup> For more information see the webpage of the [Barnahus network](#).