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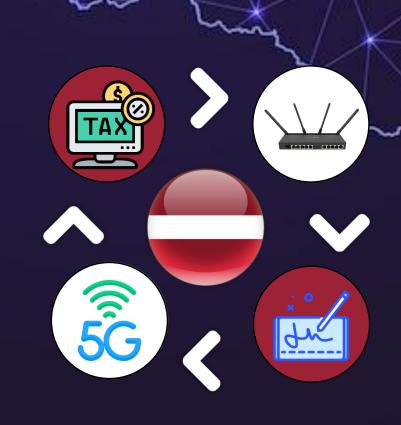
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Al & Partners defends and extends the digital rights of users at risk around the world. By combining direct technical support, comprehensive policy engagement, global advocacy, grassroots professional services, regulatory interventions, and participating in industry groups such as Al Commons, we fight for fundamental rights in the artificial intelligence age.

This report was prepared by Sean Donald John Musch and Michael Charles Borrelli. For more information visit https://www.ai-and-partners.com/.

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Who Are We

Al That You Can Trust

Why Us?

Stay on the right side of history. At AI & Partners, we believe AI should unlock potential—not cause harm. We've seen the fear and fallout when teams lose control of AI, but also the trust and innovation that follow when it's handled responsibly. That's why we exist: to help you build AI you can trust and stand behind—for the long run.

What Do We Do?

We enable safe Al usage—for your organization and your clients. Unknown Al adoption leads to confusion, risk, and reputational damage. We help you take control with tools to identify, monitor, and govern all Al systems—so you're not reacting to Al, you're leading it.

How Do We Do It?

Do you know what Al systems you have? Identify all known and unknown Al systems (algorithms, LLMs, prompts, and models) from all internal and external Al vendors, automated by generating your inventory. Overall, 80% of Al inventory is unknown to our clients.

How do you guarantee ongoing safe Al use? Continuously monitor deployed Al systems for performance drift, anomalies or failures, real-world impacts, and emerging risks (e.g. data poisoning). Any malfunction of an Al system has severe implications for organisations (e.g. inability to assess online misinformation that leads to widespread public mistrust), so monitoring becomes a matter of urgency.



Al Discovery & Al Inventory

Automatically detect all AI systems, including models, algorithms, and prompts, and maintain a live, always-updated register for full visibility and compliance.



Responsible AI

Embed fairness, transparency, and control into every stage of AI use—aligning with the EU AI Act and building 'Trustworthyby-Design'.



Model Monitoring

Continuously track your Al models after deployment to detect drift, bias, or failure—so you stay in control and prevent harm before it happens.

80%

of AI systems are unknown





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Overview

-Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping economies and governance worldwide, and Latvia is establishing itself as an EU-aligned advocate for ethical and secure AI development within the European Union. Anchored in the EU's evolving regulatory landscape, Latvia has adopted a path that emphasizes national legislative efforts, fostering innovation, and ensuring responsible AI. Rather than introducing standalone, sweeping AI legislation, Latvia is leveraging its national AI strategy and a new law specifically aimed at AI development to promote trustworthy AI.

At the heart of Latvia's evolving AI governance strategy is its commitment to the direct implementation of the EU AI Act, which came into force on August 1, 2024. The Ministry of Environmental Protection Regional Development (VARAM) is designated as the authority responsible for overseeing and enforcing this EU legislation in Latvia. A distinctive feature of Latvia's approach is the introduction of the "Artificial Intelligence Centre Law" adopted on March 6, 2025. This law aims to establish a framework comprehensive legal for collaboration among public, private, and academic sectors, focusing explicitly on ethical, responsible, and secure AI applications.

Latvia's governance model is underpinned by a commitment to public-private-academic partnerships to foster AI development. While specific details on a multi-actor institutional architecture akin to the Netherlands' Digital Regulation Cooperation Platform are not available, the emphasis on collaboration and the designated role of VARAM for EU AI Act implementation indicate a structured approach to embedding AI governance within national goals.

Latvia also shows strong commitment to international standards. As an EU Member State, it directly aligns with EU-wide strategies like the European AI Act, demonstrating its contribution to broader European AI governance. While specific participation in global soft-law initiatives beyond EU alignment is not detailed in the provided information, Latvia ensures its domestic practices remain interoperable and globally relevant through its strong ties to the EU framework.

Aligned with its National Al Strategy from February 2020, Latvia is targeting the broader economy and public administration for Alenabled transformation. The strategy emphasizes raising Al awareness and fostering partnerships, crucial for cultivating more talent in the field and building a skilled, future-ready workforce.



Latvia's data and infrastructure capabilities are also crucial for its AI readiness. The Artificial Intelligence Centre aims to establish a legal framework that supports ethical, responsible, and secure AI applications, inherently relying on robust data and infrastructure. As an EU member, Latvia operates within the broader EU context of data governance, including instruments like the GDPR, which are fundamental for trustworthy AI systems and data ecosystems.

Through this combination of EU-aligned oversight, national legislative initiatives for ethical and secure AI development, and a focus on partnerships, Latvia is building a comprehensive, adaptive model of AI governance. By prioritizing ethical considerations, responsible development, and strategic adoption, Latvia is charting a pragmatic course toward AI that is both innovative and aligned with democratic values.





Specific Al Governance or Law

Latvia relies on the EU AI Act, effective August 2024, and introduced a national AI Bill in January 2025 to promote ethical, secure AI across sectors. The law supports collaboration among public, private, and academic actors. Latvia's 2020 AI strategy prioritizes adoption in public administration; further enforcement details remain pending.

Specific Al Governance in Latvia

Rather than adopting sweeping standalone legislation, Latvia is committed to implementing the EU AI Act directly. The European AI Act came into effect on August 1, 2024. On March 6, 2025, Latvia adopted introduced the "Artificial Intelligence Centre Law". This national law aims to establish a legal framework for AI collaboration among public, private, and academic sectors, with a focus on ensuring ethical, responsible, and secure AI applications. Latvia's AI strategy, released in February 2020, promotes AI adoption across the economy, particularly in public administration. Further details on specific responsible government authorities for overseeing and enforcing compliance with EU fundamental rights legislation in the context of AI, specific deadlines for compliance, the use of regulatory sandboxes, or the development of long-term supervisory capacity reports (like the Dutch RDI report) are not available at this time.



Al Ethics Guidelines and Sectoral Governance Tools

Information regarding specific AI ethics guidelines, detailed policy frameworks, or sector-specific instruments (such as those for the financial or insurance sectors, or platforms for digital regulation cooperation like the SDT in the Netherlands) unique to Latvia is not available. However, the Cabinet of Ministers Policy Planning Document - 04.02.2020. Information Report "On the Development of Artificial Intelligence Solutions" does emphasize ethical, responsible, and secure AI applications, aligning with the EU AI Act's principles. Latvia also participates in international soft-law standards and initiatives related to AI governance, similar to the Netherlands.

Proposed Al Regulatory Authority and Future Outlook

While Latvia is actively developing its AI regulatory framework, specific details on proposed AI supervisory authorities, their roles, or a detailed future outlook similar to the Dutch RDI's report are not available. However, the country's proactive legislative steps indicate a commitment to establishing a robust governance structure for AI in line with EU requirements





Discussion: Latvia's National Al Strategy

Latvia's AI governance approach is grounded in an EU-aligned framework that combines national legislative initiatives, public sector leadership, and a commitment to ethical and secure AI development. Through instruments like its National AI Strategy and the newly proposed "Law on the Development of Artificial Intelligence," Latvia fosters responsible AI deployment aimed at promoting innovation while safeguarding fundamental principles.

Raising the awareness of and competences in Al across society through education reforms

Promoting the adoption and development of AI in the public and private sector Actively engage in national and international cooperation

Developing an appropriate legal and ethical framework for Al

Unleashing the benefits of a well-developed data ecosystem Investing in a digital and telecommunication infrastructure to support AI developments

Analysis

Latvia's AI governance model is built on foundational principles of ethical, responsible, and secure AI applications—values strongly aligned with EU guidelines. While the EU AI Act provides the overarching legislative framework that Latvia is committed to implementing, Latvia's approach complements this through its national AI strategy, released in February 2020, and new national legislation. This approach promotes national cohesion and interoperability within the EU.



A defining trait of Latvia's model is its emphasis on establishing a clear legal framework and fostering collaboration. The introduction of the "Artificial Intelligence Centre Law" adopted on March 6, 2025 explicitly aims to establish a legal framework for Al collaboration among public, private, and academic sectors. This law and the Latvian National Artificial Intelligence Centre aim to ensure ethical, responsible, and secure Al applications. The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development (VARAM) is specifically tasked with the implementation of the EU Al Act, demonstrating clear governmental responsibility.

Latvia also adopts a context-aware stance by focusing on promoting AI adoption across its economy, particularly within public administration. The national AI strategy from 2020 underscores this prioritization of societal benefits and economic growth. While the provided information does not explicitly detail "AI Sandboxes," the focus on fostering innovation within a secure and ethical framework suggests a similar underlying intention to promote responsible development.

The strategy advocates for embedding AI governance into both public administration and broader economic sectors. Latvia's AI strategy from 2020 highlights the promotion of AI adoption across the economy, especially in the public sector, indicating a state-led coordination in the responsible deployment of AI.

Capacity building and fostering partnerships are also central to Latvia's framework. The national AI strategy focuses on developing a robust legal and ethical framework and fostering partnerships, aligning with broader efforts to enhance AI capabilities and ensure a supportive innovation ecosystem. Finally, Latvia's approach is dynamic. The ongoing legislative process and the continuous efforts to align with and implement the EU AI Act demonstrate Latvia's structured and evolving path toward AI maturity.





Latvia's Approach to Al Regulation and Governance

Latvia is directly bound by the EU AI Act and is enhancing its national AI framework. The "Artificial Intelligence Centre Law" introduced in March 6 2025 supports ethical AI collaboration across sectors. Latvia's 2020 AI strategy promotes adoption, though details on oversight bodies, sandboxes, or funding remain unclear.

Specific Al Governance in Latvia

Rather than adopting sweeping standalone legislation, Latvia, as an EU Member State, is directly bound by the EU AI Act, which came into force on August 1, 2024, and will apply as of August 2, 2026. The EU AI Act seeks to define AI systems using a risk-based approach, ranging from low-risk to prohibited systems. Latvia is actively advancing its regulatory framework for Artificial Intelligence... On March January 6, 2025, Latvia adopted the "Artificial Intelligence Centre Law". This law aims to establish a legal framework for AI collaboration among public, private, and academic sectors, ensuring ethical, responsible, and secure AI applications. Latvia's AI strategy, released in February 2020, focuses on promoting AI adoption across the economy, particularly in public administration. Information regarding specific government authorities responsible for overseeing and enforcing compliance with EU fundamental rights legislation, detailed deadlines for compliance, the use of regulatory sandboxes, or specific funding initiatives for AI research projects is not readily available in the provided source.



Al Ethics Guidelines and Sectoral Governance Tools

Information regarding specific AI ethics guidelines, detailed policy frameworks, or sector-specific instruments for various industries (such as financial services or transportation) unique to Latvia is not comprehensively detailed in the provided source. However, the Cabinet of Ministers Policy Planning Document - 04.02.2020. Information Report "On the Development of Artificial Intelligence Solutions" does emphasize ethical, responsible, and secure AI applications, aligning with the EU AI Act's principles. Specific details on Latvia's approach to intellectual property rights for AI systems, data privacy concerns, or civil and criminal liability for AI-related incidents are not available in the provided content. However, as an EU member state, Latvia is subject to existing EU and national laws on data protection (such as GDPR), and general civil and criminal liability frameworks.

Proposed Al Supervisory Authority and Future Outlook

While Latvia is actively developing its AI regulatory framework, specific details on proposed AI supervisory authorities, their roles, or a detailed future outlook are not explicitly stated in the provided information. However, the country's proactive legislative steps, such as the introduction of the ""Artificial Intelligence Centre Law" indicate a clear intention to establish a robust governance structure for AI in line with EU requirements and national strategic goals. As the AI Act's adoption approaches, Latvia, like other EU member states, will need to ensure its legal framework keeps pace with technological advancements, necessitating ongoing dialogue with national and international stakeholders to balance effective AI regulation with fostering growth and innovation.





Latvia's Approach to Fostering Al Innovation

Latvia's comprehensive approach to AI governance, deployment, and innovation is rooted in an EU-aligned framework that combines national legislative initiatives and a commitment to ethical and secure AI development. The National AI Strategy, released in February 2020, and the "Artificial Intelligence Centre Law" outline strategic objectives aimed at promoting AI adoption across the economy, particularly in public administration. Latvia's implementation aligns with the EU AI Act, enabling responsible AI adoption and long-term societal benefits.

Unlocking Economic Value through Targeted AI Deployment

Latvia's AI strategy, released in February 2020, focuses on promoting AI adoption across the economy, particularly in public administration. This aims to leverage AI to enhance productivity and improve public services. The strategy emphasizes raising AI awareness and fostering public-private-academic partnerships to drive AI adoption. Specific details on targeted AI deployments in particular sectors like transport or detailed citizen services projects, beyond a general focus on public administration, are not explicitly detailed in the provided information.

Catalysing Innovation through Strategic Clustering and Ecosystems

Latvia's AI strategy emphasizes fostering public-private-academic partnerships, which encourages the co-creation and implementation of AI technologies. The establishment of the Latvian National Artificial Intelligence Centre under the "Law on the Development of Artificial Intelligence" is designed to create a legal framework for AI collaboration. While specific funding bodies or research initiatives akin to Malta's MDIA AI Applied Research Grant or collaborations with international tech companies like Microsoft are not detailed in the provided content, the focus on partnerships suggests a commitment to strengthening the innovation ecosystem.

Enabling Trusted and Responsible Data Use

Latvia emphasizes responsible AI, integrating ethical considerations with data security. The Cabinet of Ministers Policy Planning Document - 04.02.2020. Information Report "On the Development of Artificial Intelligence Solutions" explicitly aims to ensure ethical, responsible, and secure AI applications. While the provided content does not detail a specific "Ethical AI Framework" or a dedicated ethics committee, the overarching commitment to the EU AI Act and national legislation underscores the importance of trusted and responsible data use, including addressing potential risks and promoting ethical standards. As an EU member state, Latvia is subject to the GDPR, which governs data privacy.

Scaling AI in the Public Sector

The Latvian government promotes digital transformation through AI integration in public administration, as highlighted in its February 2020 AI strategy. The strategy specifically focuses on promoting AI adoption within the public sector to enhance efficiency and effectiveness. While the provided text does not detail specific AI projects in public services like those mentioned for Malta (e.g., utility data analysis, tourism authority uses), the strategic emphasis on public administration indicates a strong commitment to scaling AI in this domain.







Advancing Compute and Research Infrastructure

Latvia's AI strategy from February 2020 includes developing a robust legal and ethical framework for AI, which implicitly supports the advancement of necessary research and compute infrastructure. The emphasis on fostering partnerships also suggests a collaborative approach to building the foundational elements for a competitive AI ecosystem. However, specific investments in R&D infrastructure or compute resources are not explicitly detailed in the provided information.

Empowering SMEs and Startups

While the provided content does not offer specific initiatives or programs aimed at empowering SMEs and AI startups (like Malta Enterprise's collaboration with Microsoft), Latvia's general AI strategy's focus on promoting AI adoption across the economy and fostering public-private partnerships would inherently support the broader business ecosystem, including smaller enterprises.

Developing a Future-Ready Workforce

Latvia's AI strategy emphasizes raising AI awareness, which is a crucial step towards developing a future-ready workforce capable of working with AI. While specific initiatives on education and skills development are not detailed, the strategic goal of promoting AI adoption across the economy would necessitate efforts to cultivate local talent and improve AI capabilities within the workforce.

Aligning AI Innovation with Sustainability Goals

While the term "Al for Planetary Resilience" is not used, Cabinet of Ministers Policy Planning Document - 04.02.2020. Information Report "On the Development of Artificial Intelligence Solutions" Latvia's "Law on the Development of Artificial Intelligence" aims to ensure ethical, responsible, and secure Al applications. The broader national Al strategy focuses on promoting Al adoption for the economy and public administration, implying an alignment with long-term societal well-being. This suggests a balanced approach that considers the broader impact of Al innovation, including potentially sustainability goals.

Building Public Trust and Ethical Al

Latvia's AI governance framework is strongly committed to building public trust and ensuring ethical AI. The "Cabinet of Ministers Policy Planning Document - 04.02.2020. Information Report "On the Development of Artificial Intelligence Solutions" Law on the Development of Artificial Intelligence" explicitly focuses on ethical, responsible, and secure AI applications. As an EU member state, Latvia is directly bound by the EU AI Act, which itself is designed with human-centric values and trustworthiness at its core, including addressing issues like bias and discrimination.

Shaping Global AI Governance and Standards

Latvia, as an EU Member State, is directly bound by the EU AI Act, demonstrating its strong commitment to aligning with and contributing to global AI governance and standards set at the European level. The ongoing efforts to implement the EU AI Act and introduce national legislation signify Latvia's proactive approach to evolving with international norms and standards in AI governance.







Figure 1: Areas of Latvia's National AI Strategy



Human Capital

- Latvia prioritizes improving AI-related skills to boost AI deployment and development.
- Al topics will be integrated into all levels of the general education system.
- Public awareness of Al will be increased, especially among students, researchers, and professionals.
- •Latvia plans to create an Al Elements-style online course for expert and management-level specialists.
- •A National Research Programme and education system reform are also part of the strategy.



From Lab to Market

- Building on the Italian AI research ecosystem
- •Launching the Italian AI research data and software platform
- •Creating Italian AI research chairs
- Creating AI-PRIN curiositydriven initiatives
- Promoting mutidisciplinary AI national champions



Networking

- •Making AI a pillar that supports enterprises' transition 4.0
- Supporting the growth of innovative spinoffs and start-ups
- Promoting the go-tomarket of AI technologies
- •Supporting enterprises in Al product certification
- Promoting Al information campaign for enterprises



Regulation

- •Making AI a pillar that supports enterprises' transition 4.0
- Supporting the growth of innovative spinoffs and start-ups
- Promoting the go-tomarket of AI technologies
- Supporting enterprises in Al product certification
- Promoting Al information campaign for enterprises



Infrastructure

- Making AI a pillar that supports enterprises' transition 4.0
- Supporting the growth of innovative spinoffs and start-ups
- Promoting the go-tomarket of AI technologies
- •Supporting enterprises in Al product certification
- Promoting Al information campaign for enterprises





Digital Decade 2025: Country Report

Al adoption in Latvia experienced significant growth over the past year, with usage rates nearly doubling—from 4.5% in 2023 to 8.83% in 2024. Despite this strong momentum, the country still falls short of its national targets for AI development. On the investment side, OECD data shows that venture capital funding for AI in Latvia surged substantially, rising from EUR 7.83 million in 2023 to EUR 19.36 million in 2024—nearly a threefold increase.

At the policy level, progress was made in December 2024 when Latvia's Cabinet of Ministers approved a draft law titled On the Development of AI. This legislation aims to establish a robust AI technology ecosystem, define a legal framework for collaboration among universities, government, and industry, and set out the objectives and responsibilities of the Latvian National Centre for Artificial Intelligence.

Further supporting this agenda, a memorandum of cooperation on AI was signed in 2024 by the Latvian government, its agencies, and Microsoft. This agreement is intended to foster the adoption of AI and digital tools within public sector operations, contributing to the modernization of administrative processes.

Latvia was advised to continue, expand, and accelerate both public and private investment in AI adoption. While some progress has been made—particularly through legislative and cooperative efforts—the overall level of investment in AI uptake remains insufficient to meet national ambitions.

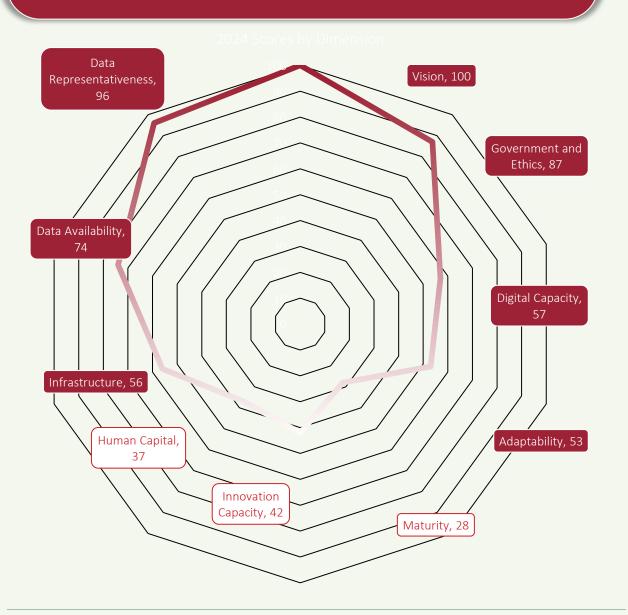






Government AI Readiness by Oxford Insights

'Western Europe ranks as the highest-performing region in this year's Government AI Readiness Index, with five countries in the global top 10. France leads the regional ranking with a score of 79.36, narrowly ahead of the United Kingdom (78.88), followed closely by the Netherlands (77.23), Germany (76.90), and Finland (76.48). With an average regional score of 69.56, Western Europe outperforms the global average (47.59) across all three pillars of Government, Technology, and Data & Infrastructure. The region's standout strength is the Data & Infrastructure pillar, where it averages 81.91, more than 21 points above the global benchmark (59.62), reflecting its advanced digital infrastructure and high-quality data environment. Although a few microstates such as San Marino, Liechtenstein, and Andorra fall slightly below the global average in the Government pillar, Western Europe's dominance at the top of the index underscores its continued leadership in AI readiness.









Government

Latvia scores 74.46 in the Government pillar, reflecting its structured approach to Al governance. Latvia has opted to align closely with the European Union's regulatory framework, most notably the EU AI Act, which came into force on August 1, 2024. The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development (VARAM) is responsible for its implementation in Latvia. On March 6 January 21, 2025, Latvia adopted "Artificial Intelligence Centre Law" introduced the "Law on the Development of Artificial Intelligence" (Bill No. 811/Lp14) to Parliament, aiming to establish a comprehensive legal framework for AI collaboration and ensure ethical, responsible, and secure AI applications. Latvia's AI strategy, released in February 2020, also emphasizes promoting AI adoption, particularly in public administration.

Technology Sector

Latvia's score of 35.72 in the Technology pillar indicates a developing AI innovation environment. While specific details on technology transfer or specialized segments are not available, Latvia's AI strategy from February 2020 focuses on fostering public-private-academic partnerships and raising AI awareness, which are crucial for developing technological capacity. The establishment of the Latvian National Artificial Intelligence Centre under the new law also aims to support this ecosystem. This score highlights the ongoing need for further investment in technological capacity and innovation to unlock Latvia's full AI readiness potential.



Data & Infrastructure Sector

With a score of 75.43, Latvia performs strongly in the Data & Infrastructure pillar. This reflects the recognition of robust data infrastructure as a foundational element for AI development and deployment within Latvia's strategic vision. The region (Eastern Europe, where Latvia is located) also performs exceptionally well in this pillar, ranking third globally, underscoring the strong digital foundations.

With a total score of 61.87, Latvia is a strong performer in the Government AI Readiness Index. Its high governance and infrastructure scores reflect robust institutional engagement and solid digital foundations. The ongoing legislative efforts, particularly the "Artificial Intelligence Centre Law"" and the commitment to the EU AI Act, combined with its strategic vision, position Latvia as a capable actor in shaping the future of AI in Europe





Conclusion

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping economies and governance worldwide, and Latvia is establishing itself as an EU-aligned advocate for ethical and secure AI development within the European Union. Anchored in the EU's evolving regulatory landscape, Latvia has adopted a path that emphasizes national legislative efforts, fostering innovation, and ensuring responsible AI. Rather than introducing sweeping standalone AI legislation, Latvia is leveraging its national AI strategy and a new law specifically aimed at AI development to promote trustworthy AI. At the heart of Latvia's evolving AI governance strategy is its commitment to the direct implementation of the EU AI Act, which came into force on August 1, 2024. The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development (VARAM) is designated as the authority responsible for overseeing and enforcing this EU legislation in Latvia. A distinctive feature of Latvia's approach is the introduction of the "Artificial Intelligence Centre Law", adopted on March 6, 2025. This law aims to establish a comprehensive legal framework for AI collaboration among public, private, and academic sectors, focusing explicitly on ethical, responsible, and secure AI applications. The establishment of the Latvian National Artificial Intelligence Centre contributes to this strategic framework. While the provided information does not explicitly detail the use of regulatory sandboxes, the focus on responsible deployment and fostering collaboration suggests a practical approach to AI development.

Latvia's governance model is underpinned by a commitment to public-private-academic partnerships to foster AI development. While specific details on a multi-actor institutional architecture akin to the Netherlands' Digital Regulation Cooperation Platform are not available, the emphasis on collaboration and the designated role of VARAM for EU AI Act implementation indicate a structured approach to embedding AI governance within national goals, particularly the promotion of AI adoption in public administration as outlined in its February 2020 AI strategy. Latvia also shows strong commitment to international standards. As an EU Member State, it directly aligns with EU-wide strategies like the European AI Act, demonstrating its contribution to broader European AI governance. While specific participation in global soft-law initiatives beyond EU alignment is not detailed in the provided information, Latvia ensures its domestic practices remain interoperable and globally relevant through its strong ties to the EU framework. Aligned with its National AI Strategy from February 2020, Latvia is targeting the broader economy and public administration for AI-enabled transformation. The strategy emphasizes raising AI awareness and fostering partnerships, crucial for cultivating more talent in the field and building a skilled, future-ready workforce. Specific strategic clusters or policy instruments beyond the new law and strategy are not detailed in the provided content.

Latvia's data and infrastructure capabilities are also crucial for its AI readiness. The Cabinet of Ministers Policy Planning Document - 04.02.2020. Information Report "On the Development of Artificial Intelligence Solutions" " aims to establish a legal framework that supports ethical, responsible, and secure AI applications, inherently relying on robust data and infrastructure. As an EU member, Latvia operates within the broader EU context of data governance, including instruments like the GDPR, which are fundamental for trustworthy AI systems and data ecosystems. Specific investments in high-quality digital and intelligent connectivity and computing power are not detailed in the provided content, but are implied by its strong performance in the Data & Infrastructure pillar.

Through this combination of EU-aligned oversight, national legislative initiatives for ethical and secure AI development, and a focus on partnerships, Latvia is building a comprehensive, adaptive model of AI governance. By prioritizing ethical considerations, responsible development, and strategic adoption, Latvia is charting a pragmatic course toward AI that is both innovative and aligned with democratic values.







Appendix A: Expert Vignettes



Cyril Golub







With EU AI Act implementation and the proposed Finnish—Latvian cross-border AI Gigafactory delivering renewable-powered, sovereign compute, Latvia can be the Baltic launchpad for trustworthy AI. From LatBAN's side, we co-invest with Baltic/Nordic funds and back auditable, language-aware AI in fintech, ecommerce, healthtech, and manufacturing. Our filter: repeatable value, security-by-design, EU compliance, and early revenue. We help founders secure compute credits, data partnerships, and first pilots—then scale regionally. Results, not vanity metrics, anchor valuations.

Biography

Cyril Golub is a Riga-based AI-tech entrepreneur and angel investor; Board Member at LatBAN and cofounder of LitBAN and Angels Band. Latvia's Business Angel of the Year (2023). Former CEO and cofounder of Aheadworks (exited 2019). He has invested in 20+ CEE startups, focusing on B2B SaaS, DeepTech, e-commerce/retail AI, fintech, and healthtech.





Uldis Karlovs-Karlovskis Zen IS







While some statistics suggest Latvia lags in AI, I disagree. Our strength has always been engineering excellence. With a stronger national strategy, new AI leadership, and growing expertise, 2025 is the right time to expand AI capacity through Latvia.

"

Biography

Uldis Karlovs-Karlovskis is an IT coach and Co-founder/CTO @Zen IS. He is the board chairman of the DevOps & Al Latvia community, and a Software Engineering lecturer at the Riga Technical University and Riga Business School







Elina Egle





FSDI Latvia encourages Latvia's defense and internal security sectors to identify applications for artificial intelligence technologies and develop an appropriate strategy for developing defense capabilities and implementing security functions using and mobilising the relevant public and private resources in a timely manner. In this way, Latvia will make an increasingly competitive contribution not only with its military capabilities, but also with its industrial and research competences, ensuring appropriate access to AI solutions, improving and protecting the physical infrastructure and cyberspace of Latvia, the EU and NATO.

Biography

Elina Egle has more than 20 years' experience in leadership of national and sub-sectoral business organisations. Since 2013 Elīna Egle is Co-Founder and Chairperson of the Board of Federation of Security and Defence Industries of Latvia (FSDI Latvia), Member of the Board of the competence centre "DefInno" and of NATO DIANA Accelerator an expert Programme. Before that she was Adviser to State President on Economics, Entrepreneurship and Employment in Chancery of the State President of Latvia and General Director of Employers Confederation of Latvia. Corporate experience is gained working with corporate affairs and public relations at Aldaris (part of Carlsberg Group). Currently, E. Egle's responsibilities include representation defence and security industries in negotiations with national stakeholders, NATO Industry Advisory Group and cooperation with the European Commission's Directorate-General for Defence Industry and Space, the European Defence Agency and partner organisations abroad. International experience was gained working in International Labour Organisation of United Nations. E.Egle has been Member of Executive Committees of International Organization of Employers, Business and Industry Advisory Committee to OECD and BusinessEurope for many years. She is a member of Society of Political Scientists of Latvia, co-founder and Member of the Board of Women for Security, co-founder of CSR Latvia and Chairperson of the Council of Business Union of Latvia. More information is available on the website www.elinaegle.lv and www.federacija.lv







Vita Liberte BDO Latvia







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Biography

Vita Liberte is the Managing Partner and Chairman of the Board at BDO Latvia, as well as a sworn attorney-at-law with over 20 years of experience in professional advisory services. She leads the firm's legal and tax practice, specializing in international commercial law, EU law, and dispute resolution. Vita provides strategic advice across multiple sectors, including financial services, real estate, manufacturing, technology, and public administration. Recognized by IFLR1000 for her "lightning-quick responses," she is known for her practical approach, international perspective, and commitment to helping clients navigate complex legal and regulatory environments







Indriķis Liepa COBALT Legal







Although there is still Wild west feeling in AI practical use, Latvia is stepping onto the AI regulation stage with a sharp legal lens, aligning EU standards with its own strategic ambitions. Based on EU AI Act the proposed framework will balance innovation with accountability, emphasizing transparency, liability, and ethical use. This approach will clearly put Latvia among few countries providing clear and business friendly AI application rules aimed for growth.



Biography

Indriķis Liepa leads the IP & Tech of practice of <u>COBALT</u> with authority, standing out as a top name in technology and pharma regulation. With 20+ years of experience, he's advised major local and international players across this field. His sharp legal insight and deal-making skills have shaped landmark VC transactions and high-impact investment projects in Latvia.







Linda Sarāne-Reneslāce

Sorainen







Biography

Linda Sarāne-Reneslāce, is a partner at a pan-Baltic law firm Sorainen and co-leads the Competition and Regulatory practice in Latvia, as well as the Technology, Media and Telecommunications sector group. She specializes in intellectual property, data protection, and regulatory matters related to Al, cybersecurity, and emerging technologies. Linda advises clients on the legal use and distribution of Al tools, ensuring compliance with EU and local regulations.





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