

**Law of the Republic of Latvia "On the Border of the Republic of Latvia"**

**PART 1**  
**General Conditions**

**Paragraph 1.**  
**The boundary of the Republic of Latvia**

The boundary of the Republic of Latvia is the line and the vertical surface coincident with this line, which divides the territory of the Republic of Latvia on dry land and on the waters, the underground and airspace of this land from the neighbouring countries and from the neutral waters in the Baltic Sea.

**Paragraph 2.**  
**The determination of the boundary of the Republic of Latvia, and its guarding and security.**

The State boundary of the Republic of Latvia is determined by the international treaties the Republic of Latvia entered into and ratified by 16 June 1940, and later by the bilateral treaties entered into with neighbouring countries on the renewal of the boundary.

the Republic of Latvia, shall be marked:

- (1) On dry land - according to characteristic contours and clearly visible landmarks and reference points;
- (2) In the Baltic sea - along the outer edge of the territorial waters of the Republic of Latvia;
- (3) In the Irbe Strait and in the Gulf of Riga - in accordance with bilateral agreements with the Republic of Estonia;
- (4) Along navigable rivers - along the middle of the main river shipping channel; along non-navigable rivers (streams) - along their middle or along the middle of the main side branch of the river; in lakes and other still bodies of water - along a straight line, which joins two points, where the border of the Republic of Latvia exits the banks of this lake or other body of water.

The State border of the Republic of Latvia which goes along a river, stream, lake or other body of water shall not be moved if there is a change in the configuration of the coastline, or in the river or stream bed;

- (5) On bridges and other structures, which span the boundary as it has been marked on water - along the middle of these

**Paragraph 5.**  
**The inland waters of the Republic of Latvia.**

The inland waters of the Republic of Latvia are the following:

- (1) Harbour waters, which are marked by a straight line, which join concrete hydrotechnical or other structural points on opposite sides of the harbour, which are located the furthest towards the sea.
- (2) In the Irbe Strait and in the Gulf of Riga - the waters from the middle of the base, which go between the southern part of the cliff of the Horn of Loade, the Horn of Ovisi and the end point of the border on dry land on the Republic of Latvia on the eastern coast of the Gulf of Riga. The configuration of the boundary line in the waters of the Gulf of Riga shall be determined by international treaty.
- (3) The waters of those gulfs and bays, the coasts of which fully belong to the Republic of Latvia.
- (4) The waters of those rivers, lakes and other bodies of water, the coasts and banks of which fully belong to the Republic of Latvia.

**CHAPTER II**  
**The Regime of the State Border of the Republic of Latvia**  
**and its Border Areas**

**Paragraph 6.**  
**The regime of the State border of the Republic of Latvia.**

**Paragraph 10.**  
**Crossing the State border of the Republic of Latvia.**

Railroad, automobile, sea, river, air and other traffic across the border of the Republic of Latvia shall take place at the border-crossing points determined by the Government of the Republic of Latvia - in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Latvia and the international treaties entered into by the Republic of Latvia. At the border crossing points there shall be installed border-guard control points.

Sea and river ships, warships and other floating objects shall cross the State border of the Republic of Latvia in accordance with this law and other legislative acts and regulations of the Republic of Latvia, which are to be published according to specified procedure.

Aeroplanes and other aircraft engaged in air traffic shall cross the State border of the Republic of Latvia along air traffic corridors specified for border crossings in accordance with legislative acts and regulations of the Republic of Latvia, which are to be published according to specified procedure.

**Paragraph 11.**  
**The departure and arrival of aircraft engaged in air traffic in the Republic of Latvia.**

The departure of airplanes and other aircraft engaged in air traffic from the Republic of Latvia and their arrival after enteri



border and its customs control, there shall be organized a system for guarding the State border of the Republic of Latvia on land, water and in the air.

**Paragraph 20.**  
**The border guard.**

The guarding of the State border of the Republic of Latvia is the province of the Department of the Border Guard created for this purpose, and its subordinate units, thus making up the system of the Border Guard Service.

**Paragraph 21.**  
**The regulation of the duties of border guard.**

The duties of the Border Guard Service are regulated by this law, other legislative acts of the Republic of Latvia and international treaties, as well as normative acts issued by the competent institutions of the Republic of Latvia.

**Paragraph 22.**  
**The main duties of the border guard.**

The main duties of the border guard of the Republic of Latvia are:

- (1) To guard the border, the boundary markers which have been placed there and other border structures, to foil any and all illegal attempts to change the placement of the State border of the Republic of Latvia;
- (2) To prevent that persons or vehicles, cargoes and other goods cross the State border of the Republic of Latvia outside of the (designated) border crossing points or in any other illegal manner, (and) to discover and to detain those violating the State border of the Republic of Latvia;
- (3) To maintain specified order at the border crossing points, to organize the work at the border crossing points and allow to cross the State border of the Republic of Latvia persons, as well as vehicles, cargoes and other goods, if the documents necessary for crossing the border have been obtained and are in order;
- (4) In accordance with proper procedure, independently or together with the customs services and consulting specialists, to prevent the illegal transfer of explosives, radioactive and narcotic materials, weapons, ammunition and other prohibited objects and contraband across the State border of the Republic of Latvia;
- (5) Together with the police (militia) to ensure that the (prescribed) regime of the border areas will be observed;
- (6) To ensure that the international treaties which the Republic of Latvia has entered into as regards having to do with the State border will be fulfilled;
- (7) To control that ships and other floating objects will observe the specified procedure as to movement and staying within the territorial waters and the inland waters of the Republic of Latvia in border areas, as well as in the Latvian part of border rivers, lakes and other bodies of water;
- (8) To provide to specially accredited institutions of the Republic of Latvia all necessary help to ensure that regulations for the preserving of natural resources, and for the regulation of economic activity, for the protection of the environment against pollution, for the fighting of fires, and for the liquidation of the consequences of natural disasters in the border areas are being observed.

**Paragraph 23.**  
**The basic rights of the border guard.**

Fulfilling the functions of the State border guard of the Republic of Latvia, the employees of the border guard along the State border, in the territory of the border zone, in the territorial and inland waters of the Republic of Latvia which are contiguous to the border and in the Latvian part of border rivers, lakes and other bodies of water have the following rights:

- (1) To place border-guard posts; fulfilling official duties, to move along all areas of the border zone; to check documents; to examine vehicles and their cargoes, and in case of necessity to escort vehicles;

