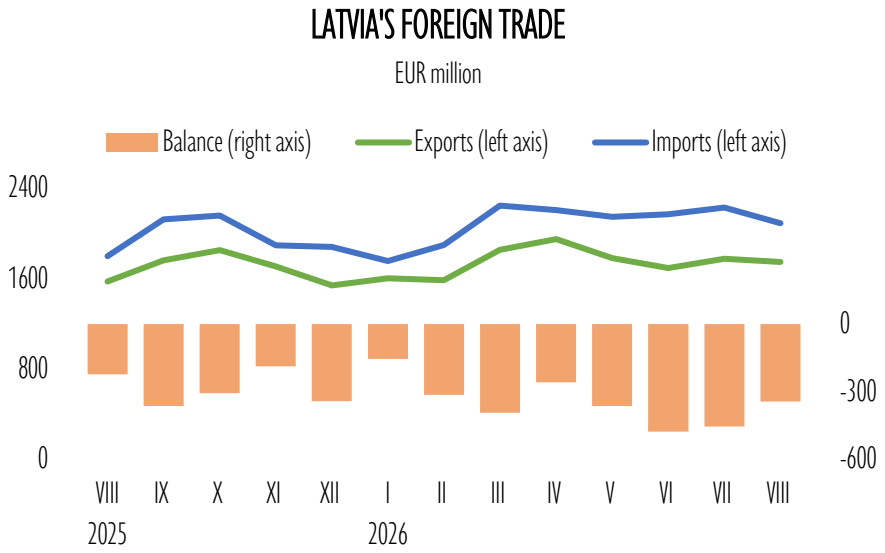
On Latvia's Foreign Trade in August 2026

Both goods exports and imports continued to grow rapidly in August

Growth in goods exports continued in August, with their value at current prices increasing by 10.9% year-on-year - thus maintaining double-digit growth for the third consecutive month. The main driver remained export growth to EU countries, indicating a gradual strengthening of external demand in the EU market.



The value of exports to EU countries increased by 11.6% year-on-year in August, driven by higher exports to Lithuania (vehicles, pharmaceutical products), Finland (mineral products, wood), the Netherlands (mineral products, organic chemicals), Estonia (wood) and Poland (mineral products).

Exports to CIS countries increased by 10.9% year-on-year in August, mainly driven by an increase in the value of pharmaceutical product exports to Russia (by EUR 4.5 million).

The value of Latvia's exports to countries outside the EU and CIS also increased by 8.7%. This was significantly influenced by higher exports of cereals to the United Arab Emirates and Kenya, as well as increased exports of mineral products to Senegal and an increase in the value of iron and steel exports to Turkey. Meanwhile, exports of wood to the United Kingdom declined in August.

In August, the value of goods imports also increased sharply, by 16.2% year-on-year. Imports from EU countries and countries outside the EU and CIS increased, while imports from CIS countries continued to decline, falling by 33%.

A significant share of the increase in import value in August continued to be driven by imports of mineral products. Imports of electrical machinery and equipment, vehicles, as well as plastics and articles thereof, also grew rapidly.

Overall, in the first eight months of the year, Latvia's goods exports at current prices increased by 7.9%, with particularly rapid growth in exports of mineral products, machinery and equipment, as well as food industry products. Meanwhile, imports increased by 9.2% over the same period, largely driven by increases in the import value of mineral products and machinery and equipment.

Export growth in the coming months of the year will depend mainly on developments in external demand in the EU market and the performance of the manufacturing sector, and developments over the past three months indicate that export growth has become more sustained and broad-based. At the same time, downside risks remain elevated – tensions in the Middle East have not eased, and oil prices have

remained above USD 100 per barrel for several months, keeping production costs high and maintaining uncertainty in the external environment. Latvia's exports are predominantly oriented towards the EU market, so the direct impact of the conflict is limited. However, more rapid import growth indicates that high energy prices are increasingly being reflected in the foreign trade balance.