Weekly News Update



December 18, 2023 - January 8, 2024

FINANCING AND DEBT

♦ On January 10, 2024 the Treasury will offer in a competitive multi-price auction 3.875 per cent. Notes due 2033 (to be consolidated and form a single series with the existing EUR 800,000,000 3.875 per cent. Notes due 2033) under the Global Medium Term Note Programme of the Republic of Latvia, acting through the Treasury (RĪGA, Jan 8, Treasury)

CREDIT RATING

- On December 15, 2023, **S&P Global Ratings has affirmed Latvia's credit rating at A+ level, outlook remained negative.** (RĪGA, Dec 18, <u>Treasury</u>)
- ♦ On December 18, 2023, **Japanese credit rating agency R&I has affirmed Latvia's credit rating at A level with stable outlook.** (RĪGA, Dec 18, <u>Treasury</u>)

BANKING SECTOR

- ♦ Latvian monetary financial institutions (mainly banks) earned EUR 657.2 million in aggregate profit in the first 11 months of 2023, which is a 2.2 times increase against the respective period in 2022, the Bank of Latvia reports. (RĪGA, Jan 2, BoL)
- ♦ Amendments to the Corporate Income Tax Law that come into force on January 1, 2024, introduce a 20 percent advance income tax for banks and nonbank lenders, payable from their previous year's profit. (RĪGA, Jan 2, MoF)

MACROECONOMICS

- ♦ Central Statistical Bureau (CSB) estimates show that in November 2023 actual unemployment rate in Latvia was 6.4 % and it has risen by 0.1 percentage points over the month. Over the year actual unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage points. (RĪGA, Dec 20, CSB)
- ◆ Data of the Central Statistical Bureau show that in November 2023, compared to November 2022, the level of construction costs in Latvia increased by 1.7 %. In November 2023, compared to October, the level of construction costs rose by 0.3 %. (RĪGA, Dec 29, <u>CSB</u>)
- ♦ From January 1, 2024 the minimum monthly wage in Latvia increases from EUR 620 to EUR 700. (RĪGA, Jan 2, MoF)

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Republic of Latvia A- positive

A- positive (Fitch)/ A+ negative (S&P) / A3 stable (Moody's)/ A stable (R&I)

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