



Federation of European Accountants  
Fédération des Experts comptables Européens

# **FEE Qualification and Market Access Working Party**

## **Structure and Organisation of the Accountancy Profession**

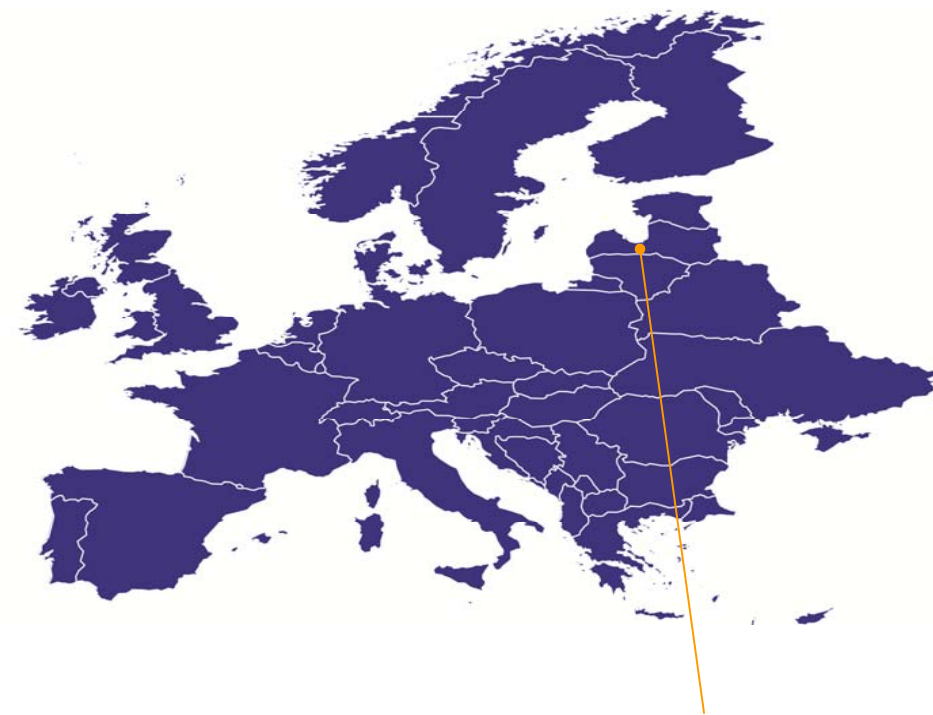
### **Key features**

### **Latvia**

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*Standing for trust and integrity*



**LZRA**  
LATVIJAS ZVĒRINĀTU REVIDENTU ASOCIĀCIJA

**Flag:**



**Population:** approx. 2,000,000

**Capital:** Riga

**Languages:** Latvian

**In the EU since:** 2004

<b>Professions</b>	<b>Sworn (certified) auditor (zverinats revidents)</b>
<b>Protected title</b>	YES
<b>Reserved activities</b>	Statutory audit and other activities regarding the issuance of (financial) statements.
<b>Included authorisations</b>	Comprises the authorisation to provide (advisory) services on taxation, valuation, financial and business management.

	Sworn auditors
No. of qualified professionals	157
No. of new trainees per year	~5-6

	<b>Sworn auditors</b>
<b>Regulated profession</b>	YES
<b>Supervision</b>	YES
<b>Competent authority</b>	<i>Ministry of Finance (state supervision); Audit Consultative Board (public oversight)</i>

	<b>Sworn auditor</b>
<b>General initial education steps (without possible exemptions)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Age of 25 years</li> <li>➤ Higher education (bachelor) in economics, finance or management;</li> <li>➤ 3 years practical training</li> <li>➤ Final examinations</li> </ul>

# Market access

## *resident professionals*

	<b>Sworn auditor</b>
<b>Registration required</b>	YES
<b>Competent authority for registration</b>	Latvian Association of Certified Auditors
<b>Cost of appointment/ registration</b>	65 EUR
<b>Oath required</b>	NO
<b>Insurance required</b>	YES, for statutory audit
<b>Professional address required</b>	NO

# Market access

## *professionals from other EU Member States*

### Temporary provision of non-audit services\*

<b>Pro-forma declaration</b>	NO
<b>Requested data</b>	N/a
<b>Requested documents</b>	N/a
<b>Competent authority</b>	N/a
<b>Factual checks</b>	N/a
<b>Standard form</b>	N/a
<b>Compliance with host Member State rules</b>	N/a

\* Not relevant for statutory audit services



# Market access

## *professionals from other EU Member States*

### Establishment of Statutory Auditors

<b>Required procedure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Must have profesional qualification obtained in that other country, which is equivalent to the Latvia's certified auditor's qualification;</li> <li>➤ Must present documents evidencing the professional qualification (i.e., authorisation to perform statutory audits in that other country);</li> <li>➤ Has passed the 2 exams set by Latvian Association of Certified Auditors – in tax and in business law.</li> </ul>
<b>Infrastructure</b>	<p>Sworn auditor can practice either as a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Self-employed person;</li> <li>➤ Employee of a certified audit company (registered in Latvia).</li> </ul>
<b>Professional address</b>	No
<b>Competent authority</b>	Latvian Association of Certified Auditors

# Market access

## *professionals from other EU Member States*

### Establishment of Statutory Auditors

<b>Aptitude test</b>	
<b>Competent authority</b>	Latvian Association of Certified Auditors
<b>Frequency</b>	One session of exams per year
<b>Form</b>	2 written examinations: tax and business law
<b>Main subjects</b>	Tax and business law
<b>Language</b>	Latvian
<b>Repetition</b>	Unlimited, however the passed exam is valid for 5 years.
<b>Statistics</b>	No applicants so far.

# Market access

## *professionals from other EU Member States*

### Establishment of other accountants not providing statutory audit

<b>Compensation measure</b>	N/a
<b>Competent authority</b>	N/a
<b>Procedure</b>	N/a

# Market access

## *professionals from Third Countries*

### Establishment of Statutory Auditors

<b>Required procedure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Must have profesional qualification obtained in that foreign country, which is equivalent to the Latvia's certified auditor's qualification;</li> <li>➤ Must present documents evidencing the professional qualification (i.e., authorisation to perform statutory audits in that other country);</li> <li>➤ Has passed the 2 exams set by Latvian Association of certified Auditors – in tax and in business law.</li> </ul>
<b>Infrastructure</b>	<p>Sworn auditor can practice either as a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Self-employed person;</li> <li>➤ Employee of a certified audit company (registered in Latvia).</li> </ul>
<b>Professional address</b>	<p>No</p>
<b>Competent authority</b>	<p>Latvian Association of Certified Auditors</p>

# Market access

## *professionals from Third Countries*

### Establishment of Statutory Auditors

Aptitude test	
<b>Competent authority</b>	Latvian Association of Certified Auditors
<b>Frequency</b>	One session of exams per year
<b>Form</b>	2 written examinations:
<b>Main Subjects</b>	Tax and business law
<b>Language</b>	Latvian
<b>Repetition</b>	Unlimited, however the passed exam is valid for 5 years.
<b>Statistics</b>	No applicants so far.

# Market access

## *professionals from Third Countries*

### Establishment of accountants not providing statutory audit

<b>Compensation measure</b>	N/a
<b>Competent authority</b>	N/a
<b>Procedure</b>	N/a

# Professional Bodies

	<b>Sworn (certified) auditors</b>
<b>Professional bodies</b>	Latvian Association of Certified Auditors

	<b>LZRA (Latvian Association of Certified Auditors)</b>
<b>Membership</b>	Mandatory
<b>No. of members</b>	157 members – sworn (certified) auditors; 144 associated members – certified audit companies
<b>Institute staff</b>	2 (executive director and receptionist) and elected bodies: the Board (10 members) and 4 committees (Ethics, Quality, Examination, Education)
<b>Date of establishment</b>	1994
<b>Local branches</b>	None
<b>Subject to public oversight</b>	YES
<b>Oversight authority</b>	Audit Consultative Board (public); Ministry of Finance (State)



## Involvement in Qualification and Market Access

	LZRA
Initial education	NO
Examination	YES
Approval and registration	YES
Continued Professional Development	Partly (control over CPD and a subsidiary company – training center which offers professional training)

## Activities

	LZRA
Standard setting	NO ➤ ISAs are mandatory, Clarified ISAs are applicable from 1 September 2011. ➤ IFAC Code of Ethics must be observed; 2010 Handbook of the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants must be observed from 1 September 2011
Quality assurance	YES, supervised by Ministry of Finance
Disciplinary measures	YES, supervised by Ministry of Finance
Representation of interests	YES