



LATVIJAS REPUBLIKAS ĀRLIETU MINISTRIJA

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA

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H.E. Ms Federica Mogherini

**High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
Vice-President of the European Commission**

Dear Federica,

On the 11th of May, the OECD member states unanimously agreed to invite Latvia to become the 35th Member of the organization. In a few weeks, during the annual OECD Ministerial Council Meeting, an Accession Agreement will be signed between Latvia and the OECD at a special ceremony on June 2nd. On the occasion of Latvia's accession to the OECD, I would like to offer you my most sincere gratitude for your efforts and support in facilitating this process.

Membership in the OECD has been Latvia's ambition for two decades. The decision of the OECD Council on 30 May 2013 provided an opportunity to start the accession negotiations for the OECD membership. Throughout the three-year long accession process, Latvia has undergone a comprehensive review of its policies and practices. We have undertaken a number of reforms and improvements on the basis of OECD best practices and expertise that will improve our economic performance in the longer term and that puts us on par with OECD member standards in fields as diverse as trade, investment, competition policy, international financial transactions and anti-bribery standards.

Bringing all forces to bear, we have covered a distance that could be compared to a marathon and, with your able guidance and support, we have earned our right to belong to an organisation which the OECD Secretary-General Angel Gurría appropriately called the "house of best practices".

As an OECD member state, we look forward to working together with you in addressing common global challenges such as climate change, migration, environmental degradation and inequality, thus actively contributing to the OECD's goal of creating "better policies for better lives" for our citizens.

Yours sincerely,

Edgars Rinkēvičs

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Minister of Foreign Affairs

I truly appreciate your support!