



## LATVIA

Name of Regulatory Authority National Electronic Media Council of Latvia  
Address Doma laukums 8A Riga LV-1939 Latvia  
Phone + 371 6722 1848  
Fax + 371 6722 0448  
E-mail [neplpadome@neplpadome.lv](mailto:neplpadome@neplpadome.lv)  
Homepage [www.neplpadome.lv](http://www.neplpadome.lv)

### Basis for operation

Legal framework Electronic Mass Media Law  
General remit  TV  radio  networks and infrastructures  
 Others – cable operators

Funding mechanisms <sup>i</sup>  licence fee  industry fee  state budget  
 mixed funding (please specify):  
X other – income from fee for participation in contest for broadcasting licenses

### Composition

Number of members: 5 Term of office: 5 years Re-election possible: X  
Proposal of members: *Proposed by the Commission of Human Rights and Public Affairs of the Saeima upon consultation with associations and foundations active in the fields of the mass media, education, culture, science and human rights*

Appointment of members: *Elected by the Saeima (parliament)*

Revocation of mandate possible: X based on: *The Electronic Mass Media Law, Article 59, Section 3: The Saeima shall dismiss a member of the Council from office, if:*  
1) *The member of the Council resigns of his or her own free will;*  
2) *The member of the Council has not participated in the work of the Council, including absence from more than half of the Council meetings without*

*justification, or cannot fulfil the duties of their office due to illness or other reasons for more than six months in succession;*

- 3) *Circumstances are established that prohibit the person concerned from being a member of the Council according to the regulatory enactments..*

Number of staff: 10

Chairman: **Mr Ivars Āboliņš**

Vice-Chairperson: **Ms Aurēlija Ieva Druviete**

### Competences

		national	regional	local
Granting of licences	terrestrial analogue broadcasters	X	X	X
	terrestrial digital broadcasters	X	X	X
	satellite analogue broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	satellite digital broadcasters	X	X	X
	cable analogue broadcasters	X	X	X
	cable digital broadcasters	X	X	X
	Others (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

In the areas where your authority is not competent to grant licences, please specify the authority in charge:

Please add any other relevant information:

Granting of registrations	terrestrial analogue broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	terrestrial digital broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	satellite analogue broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	satellite digital broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	cable analogue broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	cable digital broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Others (please specify): On-demand Electronic Mass Media Services	X	X	X

In the areas where your authority is not competent to grant declarations, please specify the authority in charge: All broadcasters are registered as companies with the Company Register of Latvia. The Council issues and registers only the broadcasting licenses, as well as keeping a register of broadcasters.

Please add any other relevant information:

Frequency allocation X (the Council organises competitions for free frequencies, as determined by the Electronic

Communications Office)

Supervision of	private broadcasters	X	X	X
	public broadcasters	X	X	X
	others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Handling complaints	X			
Sanctioning	X issue warning	X impose fine	<input type="checkbox"/> demand to broadcast announcement	
	X revoke licence	X suspend licence	<input type="checkbox"/> reduction in the licensing period	
	<input type="checkbox"/> suspend a programme / broadcast			
	<input type="checkbox"/> other (please specify):			
Rule making	<input type="checkbox"/> codes	X rules (please specify):	Responsible for drafting national strategy for the development of the electronic mass media sector every 5 years; the strategy is an external normative act.	
	X other:	decisions on counting of advertising amounts, assessing degree of violence, etc.		
Consultative powers	X please specify the areas covered: Parliament, Cabinet of Ministers. The Council has established the Public Advisory Council with the task of ensuring the participation of the public in the process of elaboration of the public service remit and the national strategy for the development of the electronic mass media sector.			
Power of nomination (e.g. chairman of PSB)	X please specify: Appointment and dismissal of the Boards of the public electronic mass media.			
Monitoring	x programming			
	x financial performance of PSB			
	<input type="checkbox"/> others (please specify):			
Others	<input type="checkbox"/> Please specify:			

Please add any information you deem important:

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<sup>i</sup> By "licence fee" we refer to the public service licence fee usually paid by the entire population, whereas the term "industry fee" implies all those funding mechanisms based on a contribution from broadcasters themselves, including, for example, licensing fees (i.e. an amount of money that is paid by the broadcaster for it to be able to carry out its broadcasting operations) and frequency taxes.