

Latvia - 2024 Biennial report on the implementation of the Child Guarantee

This summary provides key highlights from the first Biennial report on the Child Guarantee implementation in Latvia. It is not exhaustive or evaluative.

Roll-out of key services

Early childhood education and care: Investments in expanding and improving pre-primary infrastructure through state loans and EU funds, including the creation of new places in municipal pre-primary schools. Municipal support is also provided when a municipal kindergarten place is unavailable, and the child attends a private kindergarten.

Education and school-based activities: Reforms to improve inclusive and quality education. Measures include support to reduce early school leaving, especially through the former PuMPuRS project and the new *Skola kopienā* initiative, which focuses on individualised support, cooperation with families, and early diagnosis of risks. Latvia is also taking steps to address violence in schools through clearer response systems and cross-sectoral cooperation.

Healthy meal each school day: School-based food provision and support through the *Milk and fruit for school* programme, as well as food support through the *Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived*.

Healthcare: Measures to strengthen primary healthcare and better integrate social services, including pilot projects with municipalities.

Healthy nutrition: The *Ministry of Health* promotes healthy eating habits through school food guidelines, obesity prevention programmes, and the promotion of breastfeeding.

Adequate housing: The *Law on Assistance in Solving Apartment Matters* establishes the types of aid available to address housing issues.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Coordination is embedded in the Children's Affairs Cooperation Council, a consultative body bringing together relevant ministries, the Child Protection Centre, the State Chancellery, local government representatives, and civil society.

A dedicated subgroup on the Child Guarantee was also established. NGOs and other stakeholders are involved through inter-institutional working groups, including in health, disability accessibility, and demographic policy.

Funding to implement the Child Guarantee

Implementation is financed through a combination of state budget, municipal resources, and EU funds. Examples include ERDF support for pre-primary school infrastructure and ESF+ support for childcare services. Broader future financing needs to be discussed during national budget preparation.

Target groups

The target groups have been listed in the National Action Plan and Eurochild's overview.

Lessons learnt and further development

The report highlights the need to further strengthen preventive and rehabilitative measures, especially to address the needs of families at risk. Planned next steps include new services under EU-funded projects, a 2025 campaign on non-violent parenting, a study on families at risk, and continued efforts to improve the effectiveness of benefits and social support in order to reduce child poverty and social exclusion by 2027. The report also signals that children with behavioural disorders still do not have sufficiently equal access to support across the country.

Relevant trends

- At the end of 2023, 9,372 children with disabilities were registered in Latvia.
- The number of children in alternative care dropped from 5,798 in 2022 to 5,341 in 2024.
- The number of child victims receiving social rehabilitation services increased from 1,611 in 2022 to 1,692 in 2024.

Resources

- [Full Biennial Report on the implementation of the Child Guarantee](#)
- [Latvia's Child Guarantee National Action Plan – Eurochild overview](#)
- [Eurochild Latvia Country Profile 2025](#)