

## **Amendment to the Immigration Act**

To be made in the Immigration Law (Reporter of the Parliament of the Republic of Latvia and the Cabinet of Ministers, 2002, no. 24; 2003, no. 16; 2004, no. 10; 2005, no. 14; 2006, 1., 5., 9. no.; 2007, no. 5, 15; 2008, No. 13; 2010, No. 74; 2013, No. 98 No. 2016, No. 123; 2017, 242, 2019, 123, 2022, 70, 185; 2023, 69.A, 116., 180.A no.; 2024, no. 110) of the following amendment:

To supplement the transitional provisions with paragraphs 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73 and 74 in the following wording:

"67. For a citizen of the Russian Federation who has received a permanent residence permit in accordance with Article 23.1 of the Law "On Entry and Residence of Foreigners and Stateless Persons in the Republic of Latvia" , the permanent residence permit is valid until:

- 1) July 15, 2025, if the documents necessary for requesting the status of a permanent resident of the European Union have not been received by the Administration by June 30, 2025;
- 2) by November 17, 2025, in respect of a person who requires a certificate of mastering the national language in order to request the status of a permanent resident of the European Union, if the Administration has received information by June 30, 2025 that this person by June 16, 2025 has passed the national language proficiency test at least once by June and has registered for a repeat test until 2025 on September 30, but the documents necessary for requesting the status of a permanent resident of the European Union have not been received by the Administration by October 31, 2025;
- 3) on the day when the final decision in the case of requesting the status of a permanent resident of the European Union comes into force, if the necessary documents for requesting this status have been submitted.

68. The application referred to in clauses 1 and 2 of paragraph 67 of these transitional regulations for requesting the status of a permanent resident of the European Union shall be considered by the Administration within one year from the date of its receipt.

69. In relation to the application referred to in clauses 1 and 2 of paragraph 67 of these transitional regulations, the lowest state fee is applicable, which is intended for the examination of the documents submitted by a foreigner to request the status of a permanent resident of the European Union in the Republic of Latvia, and the mastery of the national language is also confirmed by passing the national language proficiency test in the naturalization process.

70. For the person referred to in Clause 67 of these transitional regulations, the pension granted to the person is also a sufficient means of subsistence for requesting the status of a permanent resident of the European Union.

71. A citizen of the Russian Federation whose permanent residence permit expires in accordance with Clause 67, Clause 1 or 2 of these transitional provisions, has the right to request a new permanent residence permit based on Clause 7 of the first part of Article 24 of this Law, if this a person is:

- 1) passed the national language proficiency test in accordance with the requirements of the fifth part of Article 24 of this law or paragraph 69 of these transitional provisions;
- 2) has passed the national language proficiency test in accordance with the requirements of the fifth part of Article 24 of this law or the requirements of paragraph 69 of these transitional regulations, but the status of a permanent resident of the European Union cannot be obtained either because the period specified for absence from the Republic of Latvia has been exceeded, or because of financial means due to insufficiency.

72. In the case provided for in Clause 71 of these transitional regulations, a citizen of the Russian Federation can also submit an application for a permanent residence permit together with the necessary documents within the departure deadline provided for in the regulatory acts. The application and documents for requesting a permanent residence permit must be submitted no later than October 31, 2025. When submitting an application, a state fee of 100 *euros* is payable . The Board examines the application within four months.

73. When considering the application of a citizen of the Russian Federation to request a permanent residence permit (in the case provided for in paragraph 71 of these transitional regulations), the following provisions are significant:

- 1) none of the conditions mentioned in the first part of Article 36 of this Law has occurred;
- 2) means of subsistence actually at the disposal of a person shall be considered as sufficient financial means.

74. A citizen of the Russian Federation whose permanent residence permit expires in accordance with Clause 1 or 2 of Paragraph 67 of these Transitional Regulations and whose actual place of residence is in the Republic of Latvia, until the day when the final decision in the case regarding the permanent residence permit enters into force, has the right :

- 1) stay in the Republic of Latvia, as well as the right to employment without restrictions in the Republic of Latvia, if the person's declared place of residence is in the Republic of Latvia;
- 2) within the framework of the state compulsory health insurance, to receive the same health care services as, in accordance with legal norms, are intended for the holder of a permanent residence permit, if the person's declared place of residence is in the Republic of Latvia;
- 3) receive the same services administered by the State Social Insurance Agency and the State Employment Agency, unemployment status, disability expertise and support services for mitigating the consequences of disability, municipal social assistance benefits and social services, which are provided for the holder of a permanent residence permit in accordance with legal norms, if persons the declared place of residence is in the Republic of Latvia."

The law was adopted by the Saeima on June 20, 2024.

*D. Mieriņa,*

Speaker of the Saeima, instead of the President