

**Manuscript**  
**The Parliament in Latvia**  
**TVMV, Denmark**

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Riga, Latvia

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Kristine Kamenscikova, Riga.

Johannes Lebech, Vice-president of the ELDR - the coalition of Liberal Parties in Europe, Denmark

Andris Berzins, former Prime minister of Latvia

Kaspars Ruklis, Riga.

# **Translation**

## **The Parliament in Latvia**

### **TVMV, Denmark**

0.01

As the Lets voted yes to join The European Union - they also agreed to have a brand new parliament. A whole new chapter in the Latvian history must be written. In this programme we will review how it should be written - we have spoken to European politicians and to the Let on the street.

0.17

Interview Kristine Kamenscikova:

"I think that people in Latvia are quite interested in this process so I think if there will be enough information I think it will be no problem to vote for the parliament not for Latvian voters too!"

0.39

However the experience from the current members of the EU shows that it is extremely difficult to maintain the interest of the voters about the parliament. The new members will have to be consistent in their information of the citizens.

0.52

Interview Johannes Lebech:

"They will have to underline that the Parliament do make a lot of important decisions. Decisions that influence their daily life; consumers policy, environmental policy, the future of agriculture - as a matter of fact a lot of daily life issues are taken care of in the Parliament."

1.13

The Latvian politicians acknowledge the problem. There have to be a significant connection between the work in Brussels and the daily life in Latvia.

1.22

Interview Andris Berzins:

"of course discussions about big policy about Europe's future is not subject number one for normal voters here in Latvia but we try to show the relations between the big general policy and that practical life here."

1.46

Latvia has a history of charismatic politicians who have lead the way since the time of the Soviets. Now they have to apply this tradition to the European parliament.

1.59

Interview Kristine Kamenscikova:

"so you think it is very important that you get some good politicians in Brussels?"

off course, it is very important - charismatic personalities that is very important I think!"

2.06

Interview Andris Berzins:

"I think it is very important, but I think that we have quite strong personalities on the top of the list, those who knows the language and those who knows the countries , those who have their opinions and are ready to show their opinions. For Latvia it is important to get experienced people, who knows the subjects, who knows what is Latvia national interests and how to show it in the European Parliament."

2.38

It is the Latvian voters who decide which politicians they want in the parliament. Johannes Lebech is a candidate in Denmark. He believes that it should not only be a team of stars but also include workers.

2.50

Interview Lebech:

"I am certain that to do a good job in the Parliament it is not always the great personalities who will be the best suitable. It has to be drudges, people who will work with ordinary problems. Maybe the stars will be to busy pushing their own agenda and career."

3.08

The new Latvian members of the Parliament will be almost inexperienced in European politics. Despite of that the Lets feel confident that their politicians will do a good job in Brussels.

3.19

Interview Kaspars Ruklis:

"of course we have a little less experience than the European politicians do, but at the same time we can bring a new perspective to Europe, we can bring new exiting ideas that people in the established democracies probably have not thought about before"

3.40

Interview Johannes Lebech:

"They will add a considerably degree of readiness to adapt. For example the Estonian politicians have been able to look at the world in a new way, they are far more ready to adapt than most West European politicians.!"

4.05

The melting pot of the new European Parliament is beginning to simmer - only time will show if the final result will satisfy the taste of Lets.

## **Translation (Danish)**

### **The Parliament in Latvia**

#### **TVMV, Denmark**

Da letterne sagde ja til medlemskab af EU, sagde de også ja til at få et helt nyt parlament.

Et helt nyt kapitel i den lettiske historiebog skal skrives. I dette indslag ser vi på hvordan det skal skrives - vi har talt med europæiske politikere og talt med den menige lette om deres nye parlament.

sync. Kristine Kamenscikova:

23.23

I think that people in Latvia are quite interested in this process so I think if there will be enough information I think it will be no problem to vote for the parliament not for Latvia voters too!

23.44 (21)

Men erfaringer fra de nuværende EU-lande viser, at det er meget svært at beholde vælgerens interesse for arbejdet i parlamentet. De nye lande skal være vedholdende i deres information af borgerne.

Johannes Lebech:

9.56 (om synlighed)

det de skal gøre som vi andre også burde gøre noget mere, det er at fortælle at i eu-parlamentet besluttet der efterhånden ret så mange ting, der har indflydelse på hverdagen, kemikaliepolitik, forbrugerpolitik, landbrugets fremtid, miljøpolitik, faktisk en række ganske almindelige dagligdagspolitiske punkter skal besluttet i parlamentet!

10.18 (22)

De lettiske politikere er bevidste om problemet. Der skal skabes en klar forbindelse mellem arbejdet i Bruxelles og hverdagen i Letland.

Andris Berzins:

8.48

of course discussions about big policy about Europe's future is not subject number one for normal voters here in Latvia but we try to show the relations between the big general policy and that practical life here.

9.12 (24)

Letland har en historie af karismatiske politikere, der har ført landet videre siden sovjettiden.

Nu skal man forsøge at overføre denne tradition til det europæiske parlament.

sync. Kristine Kamenscikova:

22.35 (politikere i parlamentet)

so you think it is very important that you get some good politicians in Brussels?

of course, it is very important - charismatic personalities that are very important I think!

22.45 (10)

9.35 (31)

I think it is very important, but I think that we have quite strong personalities on the top of the list, those who know the language and those who know the countries, those who have their opinions and are ready to show their opinions. For Latvia it is important to get experienced people, who knows the subjects, who knows what is Latvia national interests and how to show it in the European Parliament.

10.06

Det er vælgerne der sætter letternes hold i parlamentet. Johannes Lebech der selv er kandidat i Danmark, mener at man ikke kun skal gå efter stjerner, der skal også være vandbærere.

Lebech:

12.37

for at lave et godt stykke arbejde i parlamentet, der er jeg ikke sikker på at det er de store personligheder, der altid er de bedst egnede, det er arbejdsheste, der er folk der vil arbejde med de hverdagsproblemer der rent faktisk er og der er jeg ikke sikker på at det altid er stjernerne der bliver valgt, der er de bedste, de har måske lidt travlt med at fremme en anden politisk dagsorden og en karriere de har igang samtidig.

12.57 (20)

Letternes nye medlemmer af EU-parlamentet kommer uden den store erfaring i europæisk politik. Alligevel så har indbyggerne i Letland stor tillid til at deres politikere vil gøre det godt i Bruxelles.

Kaspars Ruklis:

31.30

of course we have a little less experience than the European politicians do, but at the same time we can bring a new perspective to Europe, we can bring new exiting ideas that people in the established democracies probably haven't thought about before

31.45 (15)

Johannes Lebech:

13.47

de kan bidrage med en langt højere grad af omstillingsparathed, jeg har lige været til en konference om konkurrenceevnen i Eu, hvor man sammenlignede med Estland, og man kunne på en række punkter påvise hvordan estiske politikere har været villige til at se på verden med helt nye øjne, en langt højere grad af omstillingsparathed end vesteuropæiske politikere ofte har!

14.11 (24)

Det nye EU-parlaments gryde af nye og gamle politikere er så småt begyndt at simre - kun tiden vil vise om det endelige resultat vil tilfredsstillende letternes smag.