



## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Prime Minister: The Riga Summit will be a signal that the EU continues to expand the cooperation with Eastern Partnership countries**

Extending the invitation to the EU Heads of State and Government to attend the Eastern Partnership Summit on May 21-22, in Rīga, L.Straujuma emphasized that the Riga Summit will be a signal that the European Union consistently continues to develop closer cooperation with the countries in the East of the European Union in accordance with expectations, achievements and the pace of reforms of each partner country.

Continuing the debates that began yesterday, the EU Heads of State and Government today paid attention to growth in Europe and the economic development issues. L.Straujuma noted that until March the Latvian Presidency held discussions on the Annual Growth Report, containing the reforms and activities to improve business environment that need to be implemented in each EU Member State in order to promote economic growth.

During the European Council, the further implementation of structural reforms was approved, as well as the need to modernize public administration.

L.Straujuma stressed that in order to ensure growth in Europe, it is essential to establish a well-functioning, secure Digital Single Market; and the Latvian Presidency expects that the European Commission will come up with a strategy for the Digital Single Market in early May.

The EU Heads of State and Government reaffirmed their support to the Commission to conclude the negotiation process with the government of the United States in December 2015.

Discussing the situation in Greece, it was reiterated that a list of reforms must be submitted by Greece in the near future, and it has to comply with the conditions and the action plan set by the Eurogroup and approved by Greece on February 20.

The EU Heads of State and Government expressed serious concerns about the current situation in Libya and called on all parties to the conflict to agree on immediate cease-fire, by launching a political dialogue and forming the national unity government. Latvia joined the EU's pledge to support the implementation of the agreement reached.

The European Council condemned the act of terrorism that happened this week in Tunisia, by extending condolences to all the families of the victims. The Heads of State and Government decided to strengthen the EU's cooperation with Tunisia, by working together on counter-terrorism, as well as by expanding contacts in strengthening democracy, the economy and social sphere.

Aiva Rozenberga  
Press Secretary to the Prime Minister  
Phone: +371 29462451  
E-mail: [Aiva.Rozenberga@mk.gov.lv](mailto:Aiva.Rozenberga@mk.gov.lv)