

MEDIA RELEASE

Prime Minister and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom: EU's four fundamental freedoms are non-negotiable

Today, Prime Minister Laimdota Straujuma held a meeting with David Cameron, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, welcoming him in Rīga after re-election to the post. L.Straujuma expressed gratitude to D.Cameron for the UK support to the Latvian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, and informed about the most important tasks to be performed during the presidency – the Strategic Investment Plan, work on the Digital Agenda, the European Security Strategy and other issues.

D.Cameron praised the Latvian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, assessing it as “very successful”, as well as congratulated for the successful organization of the Riga Summit.

Discussing bilateral relations between Latvia and the United Kingdom, the Heads of Government of the two countries expressed satisfaction over excellent and intense bilateral relations. The officials mentioned the opportunities for future cooperation provided by the Northern Future Forum, as well as international cooperation frameworks.

The Prime Minister expressed gratitude to D.Cameron for the UK involvement in strengthening security of the Baltic States, by taking part in regular air patrols and military exercises.

According to L.Straujuma, constant presence of NATO in the Baltic States is a long-term objective and necessity. She informed D.Cameron about the Latvian government's objective to spend 2% of GDP on defence. The European Union also needs to strengthen the area of strategic communication.

Discussing the conflict settlement in Ukraine, both parties were of the opinion that full implementation of the provisions of the Minsk ceasefire is a prerequisite for termination of sanctions against Russia.

L.Straujuma listened to D.Cameron's vision of holding a referendum in the UK on the EU issue that was addressed during Cameron's electoral process. The two parties were in a full agreement that "the EU's four fundamental freedoms are completely non-negotiable; they are and should remain in the EU framework agreement.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/valstskanceleja/sets/72157653257362665>

Aiva Rozenberga,
Press Secretary to the Prime Minister
Phone: +371 29462451
e-mail: Aiva.Rozenberga@mk.gov.lv