

Latvia Weekly:

Transportation restrictions and ties with Russia

Latvia | Week 32 | Month 8
April 8th - April 15th, 2024

New observations this week: 6
Main channels: Facebook, Tiktok

Main keywords:

**Israel, Iran, Gaza, Russia, Transit, Ports, Migrants,
European Union, Vaccines, Estonia**

Main narratives:

- Media coverage of regional conflicts highlights selective events without full context, potentially skewing public perception;
- Economic concerns related to transportation restrictions and their impact on Latvia's economy;
- Challenges in integrating culturally and ethnically diverse migrants into Latvian society;
- Allegations of EU influence on national health policies and concerns about governmental transparency regarding economic health;
- Portrayals in media that potentially minimise the impacts of armed conflicts influence public understanding.

Overview:

In the examined week, the content, in comparison to prior weeks, was not strictly limited to domestic issues, including such topics as continuing certain economic ties with Russia, the drone attacks by Iran and migration to the European Union. Most notably, a member of the opposition party expressed an anti-European Union view in relation to potential migrants in Latvia. The video's author, referring to third-world countries, different ways of living and different skin tones, implied that such people should not be welcome in Latvia. Regarding content, TikTok remains the platform that can garner the most significant engagement, similarly in prior weeks, the engagement remains considerably low on Facebook and very low on Twitter.