



DEFENCE, INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND CORRUPTION PREVENTION COMMITTEE

The Defence, Internal Affairs and Corruption Prevention Committee (hereinafter Committee) is one of the standing committees of the Saeima referred to in Article 149 of the Rules of Procedure of the Saeima. Pursuant to the Constitution of the Republic of Latvia, the Rules of Procedure and other legal acts, the Committee fulfils legislative functions, ensures parliamentary scrutiny, maintains international relations, cooperates with non-governmental organisations, as well as considers submissions and letters filed by private and legal entities.



■ Juris Rancāns, Chairman of the Defence, Internal Affairs and Corruption Prevention Committee

FUNCTIONS

LEGISLATION

On the grounds of a decision by the Saeima, the Committee considers draft laws that have been submitted to the Saeima by the Cabinet of Ministers, the Committee itself or that have been initiated by the President of Latvia pursuant to the procedure set forth in Article

47 of the Constitution. Besides draft laws, the Committee also considers and prepares for further consideration by the Saeima draft policy planning documents and resolutions.

The Committee is responsible for laws relating to the following areas:

- national security: National Security Law, Law on National Security Agencies, Law on the Constitution Protection Bureau, Law on Emergencies and Contingencies, Law on Official Secrets, Law on the Security of Information Technologies
- national defence: Law on the National Armed Forces, Military Service Law, National Guard of the Republic of Latvia Law, Mobilisation Law, Law on Participation of the National Armed Forces of Latvia in International Operations, Law on the Status of Foreign Armed Forces in the Republic of Latvia
- internal affairs: Law on Police, Law on the State Border of the Republic of Latvia, Border Guard Law, Fire Safety and Firefighting Law, Law on the Career Course of Service of Officials with Special Service Ranks Working in Institutions of the System of the Ministry of the Interior and the Prisons Administration, Law on Disciplinary Liability of Officials with Special Service Ranks

CHAIRPERSONS OF THE COMMITTEE

Convocation	Name	Tenure
5 th Saeima	Ivars Silārs	26.07.1993 – 09.01.1995
	Andris Līgotnis	09.01.1995 – 06.11.1995
6 th Saeima	Dainis Turlais	16.11.1995 – 23.01.1996
	Kārlis Jūlijs Druva	23.01.1996 – 02.11.1998
7 th Saeima	Jānis Ādamsons	12.11.1998 – 31.08.1999
	Dzintars Kudums	09.09.1999 – 04.11.2002
8 th Saeima	Arnolds Laksa	15.11.2002 – 11.12.2003
	Ēriks Jēkabsons	16.12.2003 – 18.03.2004
	Juris Dalbiņš	17.03.2004 – 06.11.2006
9 th Saeima	Juris Dalbiņš	17.11.2006 – 02.11.2010
10 th Saeima	Ainars Latkovskis	04.11.2010 – 17.10.2011
11 th Saeima	Ainars Latkovskis	20.10.2011 – 04.11.2014
12 th Saeima	Ainars Latkovskis	06.11.2014 – 06.11.2018
13 th Saeima	Juris Jurašs	21.11.2018 – 05.02.2019
	Juris Rancāns	Since 05.02.2019

Working in Institutions of the System of the Ministry of the Interior and the Prisons Administration, Immigration Law, Punishment Register Law, Law on Development and Use of the National DNA Database

- justice: Law on the Prosecutor's Office, Sentence Execution Code of Latvia, Law on Recovery of Damages Caused by Illegal or Unjustified Actions of a Certifying Authority, Prosecutor's Office or Court, Prisons Administration Law, State Probation Service Law, Law on Prevention of Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing
- prevention of corruption: Law on the Corruption Prevention and Combatting Bureau
- policy planning documents: National Security Concept, State Defence Concept, State Defence Plan

The Committee is also responsible for the following resolutions:

- resolution on Participation of the National Armed Forces in Peacekeeping Operations
- resolution on the Approval or Dismissal of the Commander of the National Armed Forces Proposed by the President of Latvia

PARLIAMENTARY SCRUTINY

Article 27 of the Constitution authorises the Saeima to exercise parliamentary scrutiny:

The Saeima shall have the right to submit to the Prime Minister or to an individual Minister requests and questions which either they, or a responsible government official duly authorised by them, must answer. The Prime Minister or any other Minister shall furnish the relevant documents and enactments requested by the Saeima or by any of its committees.

This right is further reinforced by Article 172 of the Rules of Procedure of the Saeima:

A committee shall have the right, without the Presidium's mediation, to directly request the information and explanations necessary for its work from the respective Minister and the institutions subordinated to or supervised by him/her, as well as from local governments. The committee itself may sum-



■ Meeting of the Defence, Internal Affairs and Corruption Prevention Committee

mon the appropriate officials to provide the required comments.

The Committee carries out parliamentary scrutiny over the following public institutions.

- The Ministry of Defence and its subordinate institutions
- The Ministry of the Interior and its subordinate institutions
- The Ministry of Justice and its subordinate institutions
- Other public institutions

The Committee, together with the State Audit Office, supervises the use of the state budget.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The Committee is involved in the following international activities.

- Cooperation with NATO institutions on issues pertaining to Latvia's participation in the collective defence system
- Cooperation with the European Parliament on issues relating to the Common Foreign and Security Policy, as well as the justice and home affairs policy of the European Union
- Participation in the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on Europol
- Bilateral cooperation with the EU and NATO member states
- Bilateral cooperation with third countries in the framework of NATO and the European Neighbourhood Policy
- Participation in international conferences, symposiums and seminars

COOPERATION WITH NGOS

The Committee involves representatives of NGOs in the preparation and adoption of draft laws by considering suggestions and proposals submitted in writing, as well as by inviting representatives of NGOs to take part in Committee meetings.

The Committee discusses topical issues on security and public order with representatives of NGOs and involves them in debates on draft policy planning documents.

The Committee considers submissions, complaints and proposals filed by private and legal entities in accordance with the procedure set forth in relevant legal acts.

SUBCOMMITTEES

The Committee has established two subcommittee – the Comprehensive National Defence Subcommittee and the Strategic Communication Subcommittee.

FOLLOW THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

The agendas of the Committee meetings and other information about issues considered by the Committee are available on the Committee's website <http://aizsardziba.saeima.lv/>.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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