

# XV.LATVIA

Population: 2,357,600

Membership OSCE: 10/09/91 - Helsinki Final Act: 14/10/91 - Charter of Paris: 06/12/91

Membership Council of Europe: 10/02/95 - Membership U.N.:17/09/91

## A. CONSTITUTION

### Constitution (1998)

**Art. 99.** Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. The church shall be separate from the State.

**Art. 116.** The rights of persons set out in Articles ninety-six, ninety-seven, ninety-eight, one hundred, one hundred and two, one hundred and three, one hundred and six, and one hundred and eight of the Constitution may be subject to restrictions in circumstances provided for by law in order to protect the rights of other people, the democratic structure of the State, and public safety, welfare and morals. On the basis of the conditions set forth in this Article, restrictions may also be imposed on the expression of religious beliefs.

## B. LEGISLATION

The Education Law

## C. CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION

Law on Military Service (1997).

Law on Alternative Service (1990).