

President of Latvia: I discussed the mobility and movement of goods through Poland to Latvia with President of Poland

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Today, President of Latvia Egils Levits met with the Foreign Minister Edgars Rinkēvičs in the Riga Castle. Meeting mostly focused on repatriation of Latvian nationals from abroad due to the spreading of the Coronavirus COVID-19. After the meeting, President of Latvia said that 'this is the biggest repatriation mission in the history of Latvia'.

President Levits and Minister Rinkēvičs also talked about the common policy of the European Union towards the current situation.

Egils Levits mentioned his today's conversation with President of the Republic of Poland Andrzej Duda. Presidents of both countries discussed the movement of goods across the Polish borders. President of Poland confirmed opening of two new border crossing points on the German-Polish border to reduce queues on the border.

After the meeting, Foreign Minister said that 'basically, we have managed to resolve the issue of Polish-German border quite well right now. Cars can cross it without problems. It is cargo lorries that we are concerned about, we need to get critical goods across, especially the medical items, medical goods. President Levits and the President of Poland also discussed ways of finding quick common solutions to these problems. We are currently trying to find ways of increasing flight frequency'.

According to the Minister of Foreign Affairs Edgars Rinkēvičs, ministry staff has identified Latvian nationals who need repatriation and could fill the planes on their way back to Latvia. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Transport are currently exchanging information on specific dates and then flights will be open for booking. Updated information on flights will be released in due time. 'What I am saying, of course, is that you must remember that repatriation support will not be endless. You cannot postpone your return and decide when it is best to return for you. This is an emergency, a crisis. As I already said – ten days, two weeks starting from Sunday is the best that we can give. We will bring those who have booked their return first. That is our top priority,'

said the Minister.



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