

## Address by President of Latvia Egils Levits at the Festive Occasion Hosted by airBaltic to Mark the 30th Anniversary of the Baltic Way

Published more than 5 years ago

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Dear Mr Gauss,

Dear Audience, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I

For Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania, August is the month of freedom and our special shared destiny of the Baltics. Thirty years ago, the chain of people from Tallinn through Riga to Vilnius together reminded the world of the Baltic aspirations for independence. In Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and everywhere in the world, almost every Baltic person joined the Baltic Way in their hearts and minds at that time by striving for the freedom of their relatives and themselves and the independence of all three Baltic States.

It only took two years for the dream to become a reality. It is exactly today that we celebrate the restoration of independence de facto based on legal continuity and our Constitution in Latvia. Our partners in shared destiny in Estonia and Lithuania also regained their freedom and independence together with us.

II

Festive gifts usually inspire and encourage you to dream far.

I extend my gratitude to airBaltic for the beautiful and creative idea of painting three new aircrafts into the flag colours of Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania, the national colours of our nations.

I know what the colours of their flag mean to every citizen in Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania, and they mean a lot. I am sure these aircrafts are already beloved in every country, and we can expect many images on social media with each one published proudly for their flag and their country.

AirBaltic reminds the world of the colours of our flags in a very special way. At every airport these aircrafts will reach, their colouring will be an opportunity to tell the story of our countries, our nations and our very special shared destiny.

III

Nowadays, no country is small as it has airspace and can reach many destinations in Europe and the world.

AirBaltic helps you travel the world and return back home. AirBaltic allows the world to visit us in the Baltics – Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania – and make new friends.

May airBaltic have a great opportunity for all of us in Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania to enjoy the restored freedom and openness to the world!

I wish all of us had many wonderful and inspiring flights together!

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