

## President of Latvia Raimonds Vējonis pays a working visit to Afghanistan

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On 27 November 2018, President of Latvia Raimonds Vējonis met with Vice President of Afghanistan Mr Muhammad Sarwar Danish during his working visit to Afghanistan.

"We support the efforts of the Afghan government to ensure the country's long-term security, stability, development, and efforts to bring peace with the Taliban," stressed the President of Latvia.

"We recognise the need to maintain the involvement and support of the international community in stabilising Afghanistan and the role of the Geneva Conference in this context," stated Raimonds Vējonis. The President of Latvia also emphasised the significance of democratic elections for Afghanistan's long-term development.

Latvia contributes to Afghanistan by participating in NATO's training mission "Resolute Support" and providing financial support for the Afghan armed forces to help stabilise Afghanistan and improve the security situation in the country.

About 12,000 soldiers from the NATO Member States and their partner countries participate in the international training mission "Resolute Support", which is not a combat mission, but it focuses on training and supporting Afghanistan's army and police forces in the fight against Taliban rebels. Its support is mainly directed to the Afghan authorities, ministries and other institutions, as well as to the top level of the Afghan security forces.

Mission "Resolute Support" started on 1 January 2015. The Latvian troops consisting of about 40 soldiers have been stationed in the Camp Marmal in Mazar-i-Sharif in the northern part of the country, while a small part of the troops is also stationed in Kabul, where they hold the positions of Advisers and various levels of staff officers and instructors.

President of Latvia Raimonds Vējonis will pay a working visit to Afghanistan until November 29. During the visit, the President of Latvia will meet with the Latvian troops in Afghanistan, as well as the leadership of the NATO training mission “Resolute Support”.



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