

The President of Latvia met with representatives of the Employers' Confederation of Latvia on priorities for a new Prime Minister

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On Friday, 12 October 2018, President of Latvia Raimonds Vējonis met representatives of the Employers' Confederation of Latvia (ECL) in the Riga Castle to discuss the ECL's vision of priorities for a new Prime Minister.

During the meeting, the representatives of the ECL pointed out that sustainable development of Latvia would depend on the ability of the 13th convocation of the Saeima to balance the interests of the public welfare and economic growth. It is essential that the new Prime Minister and the Government as a whole continue to pursue an active social dialogue. On the other hand, investing in the continuity of the reforms that have been initiated so far in tax policy, healthcare, education, and public administration must be among the priorities of the new government and the 13th Saeima. Reducing the shadow economy and promoting the availability of skilled labour, as well as improving the financial sector should be continued as well.

The parties agreed that Latvia should continue to maintain its current foreign policy course changeless by promoting closer integration with the European Union and international organisations while ensuring the advocacy of Latvia's interests at the same time. "Latvia must become a part of an active Europe that works closely with its partners in Europe. We must continue strengthening the security of our country by maintaining defence spending at 2% of GDP. I expect the Prime Minister and potential minister nominees to meet with the social partners to present their vision of the priorities in each sector and actions to implement those priorities," emphasised the President of Latvia.

As reported, the President of Latvia has already met with representatives of the Council of the Latvian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) on Thursday, 11 October 2018.

On 18 and 19 October 2018, the President of Latvia will initiate consultations with all the political parties elected to the Saeima on

the priorities of each political party, and he would find out their vision on potential partners with whom to achieve those goals.



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