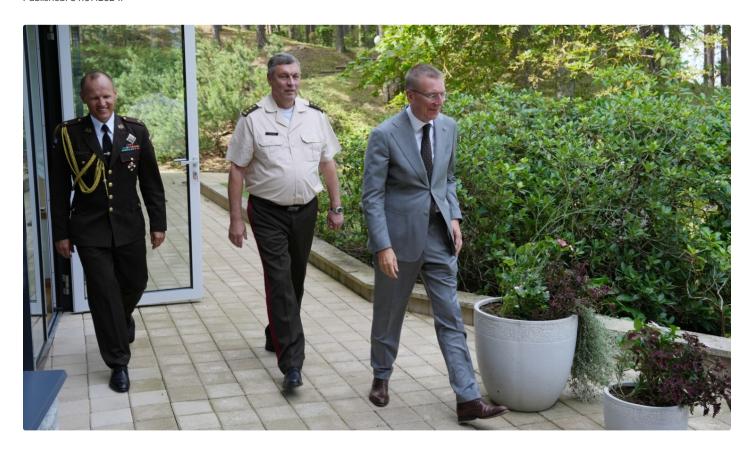
## President of Latvia welcomes the National Armed Forces development plan for the next 12 years

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On 31 July, President Edgars Rinkēvičs met with the Commander of the National Armed Forces (NBS), Lieutenant General Leonīds Kalniņš, at the Jūrmala residence. During the meeting, the parties discussed the National Armed Forces development plan for the next 12 years, the development of the State Defence Service, as well as issues related to crisis management issues.

The President of Latvia welcomed the NAF development plan for 2025-2036 developed by the Ministry of Defence. This plan outlines the long-term and medium-term development vision that reflects the current threat level and potential changes. "Latvia must develop its military capabilities and infrastructure with determination over the coming years. It is essential to continue work on the establishment of the Sēlija military training ground to ensure that Latvia is able to provide host nation support to NATO allies," emphasised E. Rinkēvičs.

The President of Latvia expressed his gratitude for the contributions of the National Armed Forces and the National Guard in addressing the aftermath of the storm and floods on 29 July. Additionally, President Rinkēvičs stressed the importance of effective coordination and communication in crisis management.

The President also received a report from the Commander of the National Armed Forces on the future development of the State Defence Service.



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