

Principles

The Principles of the political party “PROGRESĪVIE” (PROGRESSIVES)

Our goal is a country and society that are characterized by justice, freedom of thought, openness, equality, and solidarity. The achievement of these values will allow Latvia and all its inhabitants to live in prosperity.

We advocate social responsibility, active citizen participation and co-responsibility for the state of affairs in the country, as well as loyalty towards the integrity of Latvian statehood. We support the implementation of the Nordic welfare model which entails solidarity between all members of society.

We believe that:

- A progressive tax system must be implemented in Latvia which posits that all types of income should be subject to the same progressive tax rates. Taxes and fees must be reduced for the middle-class and low-income groups. The tax burden must be shifted from the workforce to consumption, thus facilitating growth of production;
- The Latvian economy must be rooted in a green and responsible use of resources in all economic activity. The impact on the environment and social aspects must be taken into consideration in all political, social and economic decision-making processes;
- Knowledge-based economic activity based on cooperation and collective use of resources must be encouraged in Latvia;
- The shadow economy must be reduced by establishing economic and tax policies that motivate entrepreneurs to work legally instead of using repressive methods against them. The work of politicians and the government must demonstrate that taxes are not misused but directed towards collective interests;
- Prevention and combatting of corruption and transparent and honest politics are the bedrock, ensuring that taxpayer money is not wasted but spent on the development of the country;
- The state must be active in maintaining and developing the economy. Privatization of strategically important national businesses is not acceptable. The state should not be afraid of establishing new businesses. Any such activities need to careful deliberation and must correspond to the long-term interests of the state and its citizens as a whole;
- The point of reference for Latvia's achievements and developments should be the inhabitants' well-being, a happiness index, not the growth of the gross domestic product;

- Latvia must become a country in which all individuals can receive state-funded education,, including retraining, lifelong learning and professional development -- so as to fully realize their skills and contribute to the development of the economy;
- Education must be novella modern and cutting edge priority state sector that is adequately reflected in the state budget;
- The country must achieve a positive demographic trajectory. We will invest all our energy to ensure that new families have a chance to grow;
- All citizens must be provided with equal opportunities and rights regardless of their material situation, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, religious or political beliefs, in order to facilitate formation of a cohesive society;
- Latvia must adopt a law that provides unmarried couples the right to register their partnership, thus becoming legally recognized as a family;
- Every child born to parents who reside in Latvia permanently must be granted citizenship automatically;
- The right to vote in municipal elections must be granted to every resident who has lived in the given municipality for at least five years and has reached the age of 16;
- Healthcare and public medical institutions must be accessible to all individuals living in Latvia;
- The state must foster equal involvement of both genders in public administration. Equal pay for equal work must be secured for all employees;
- The state must encourage self-organization and active engagement in public administration. This includes: unions, parties, foundations, trade unions;
- Political parties must be funded by the state, thus strengthening independence of the state and municipalities from the influence of oligarchs;
- The use of modern technologies must be immediately implemented in public administration, and these benefits should contribute to economic development, societal participation, and lessening the burden of bureaucracy;
- The center of the political power must reside in parliament; the decision-making process must be transparent and in the public interest;
- Involvement in cultural and sports activities must be encouraged;
- Respect for the Latvian language and enhancing its role is at the very core of existence and endurance of the Latvian state;
- As a full-fledged member of the UN, EU, and NATO, Latvia must act in a way that strengthens and promotes the shared interests of Latvia, Europe and the world as a whole.