**Latvia**

**Institutional Framework for migration and asylum**

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
  - www.mfa.gov.lv/en
  - Visa and relations with third countries

- Ministry of Interior
  - www.iem.gov.lv/eng
  - Immigration policy, asylum policy, EU funds
  - Leading state administration institution on migration and asylum

- State Border Guard
  - www.rs.gov.lv
  - Border control, visas, EU funds, irregular migration, removal, detention, statistics
  - Initial asylum procedure, relations with third countries
  - Implementation of the state border control and state immigration control

- State Security Service
  - National security
  - Check applicants who may pose a risk for national security

- Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs
  - www.pmlp.gov.lv/en
  - Immigration policy, asylum policy, visas, residence permits, citizenship, EU funds, asylum applications, irregular immigration, unaccompanied minors, admission, statistics
  - Implementation of the state immigration and asylum policy
  - Issuance of person’s identification and travel documents, including passports and personal identification documents
  - Issuance of residence permits and visas inside the country
  - Issuance of work permit
  - Confirmation of invitations and written requests
  - Issuance of voluntary return decisions and removal orders
  - Determination of legal status
  - Asylum procedure and organization of reception and services for asylum seekers
  - Maintaining the population record
  - EMN National Contactpoint

- Non-Govermential and International Organizations
  - Practical and informational aid, language courses assisted voluntary return and reintegration assistance
  - The Society «Shelter «Safe House» ensures Latvian language courses
  - Latvian Red Cross ensures social-economic inclusion of asylum seekers
  - Assisted voluntary return and reintegration is implemented by International Organization for Migration

- Legal Aid Administration
  - www.jpa.gov.lv
  - Legal Aid
  - Ensures legal aid to persons with insufficient financial means

- Ministry of Culture
  - www.km.gov.lv/en
  - Integration
  - Leading state administration institution on integration of asylum seekers and third-country nationals

- Ministry of Education and Science
  - www.zsm.gov.lv/en
  - Education
  - Ensures education to persons aged 5 to 18

- Ministry of Health
  - www.vm.gov.lv/en
  - Health care
  - Ensures primary and emergency health care for asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection

- State Employment Agency
  - www.nva.gov.lv
  - Employment
  - Ensures courses, including Latvian language courses, and consultations for beneficiaries of international protection
  - Employers recruit migrant workers only after having made every reasonable effort to recruit local workers (registering vacancy in SEA)

- Society Integration Fund
  - www.sif.gov.lv
  - Integration of asylum seekers
  - Provision of a socio-economic inclusion program for asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection

- Ministry of Welfare
  - www.lm.gov.lv
  - Social security
  - Ensures social security for beneficiaries of international protection

- Municipalities
  - Social security, especially for vulnerable persons
  - Social security for beneficiaries of international protection with low level of income

- Orphan’s and Custody Courts
  - Representation of unaccompanied minor interests
  - Appoints a guardian or empower Head of Child Care Institution to represent the unaccompanied minor interests.

- Immigration
  - Senate of the Supreme Court
  - Administrative Court
  - Administrative Regional Court
  - Ensure control over decision taken
  - Make decision on detention

- Asylum
  - Administrative Regional and District Court
  - Ensure control over decision taken
  - Make decision on detention

**Legend:**

- Cooperation
- Coordination
- Other input

*Please note that this institutional chart provides an indicative overview of the asylum and migration system in the MS concerned on February 2019.*