



SWEDISH CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE IN LATVIA

ACTIVITY REPORT 2023

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SCCL GENERAL FACTS

SWEDISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN LATVIA / ABBREVIATION SCCL

SCCL

- an independent, non-profit member organization/society
- established on June 19, 1996
- one of the largest foreign chambers in Latvia
- unites individuals and corporations that represent Swedish and European companies
- member of Swedish Chambers International/SCI and Foreign Investors' Council in Latvia / FICIL

MISSION

- to strengthen cooperation between Sweden and Latvia
- to serve as a social and business network for Swedish and Latvian entrepreneurs
- to encourage and expand trade and investments between Sweden and Latvia
- to promote the interests of its Members by offering various seminars, briefings and meetings

SCCL STATUTES [here](#)

SCCL LOGO , available [here](#)

SCCL membership logo



MEMBER OF
SWEDISH CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE IN LATVIA



SCCL CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Dear friends and member of our community,

Another busy and interesting year comes to a close, filled with events and activities. With a troubled world around us, with more wars and destruction than we could ever imagine, the Swedish Chamber has worked hard to stay up-to date of current trends and developments within our areas of business, interest, and expertise. We have met to discuss the economy, new business trends, resilient approaches, sustainable solutions for our industries as well as to enjoy each other's company and network.

The last year shows that the business is rapidly picking up as we move further away from the pandemic years. Our board members have had busy schedules, which has given us fewer opportunities to meet as much as we would have liked.

Nevertheless, the board has conducted both in-person and remote recorded, as well as preparatory, board meetings and maintained an ongoing dialogue through our WhatsApp group and emails.

Throughout the year, we were delighted to extend a warm welcome to several new members joining the Chamber. This increase in our membership reflects our positive and steady progress.

WELCOME TO THE SCCL

- Baltreiss,
- Hotel Jūrmala Spa & Conference Center,
- Mentor Latvia,
- Hilton Garden Inn Riga Old Town,
- Orkla Biscuit Production,
- Project Plus,
- Radisson Blu Daugava Hotel Riga,
- Schwenk Latvija,
- SI Alumni Network,
- Vita Balode Andrews



SCCL CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS



In 2023 we arranged or co-arranged 21 different events.

The content covers a variety of issues, including regional resilience and investment security discussed at the Nordic Baltic Business Forum, as well as tax and macro trends. We also had several Meet the Member

company visits and round table discussions on labor market topics and bilateral cooperation. Additionally, we hosted two Female Focus lunches in collaboration with the Norwegian Chamber. Furthermore, we organized several networking events, such as the Traditional Crayfish party, tennis tournaments, and Christmas party.

Throughout the year, we have fostered a strong and productive partnership with the Swedish Embassy in Riga. Ambassador Karin Höglund has consistently provided invaluable support to SCCL. We are truly grateful to Karin for her unwavering enthusiasm and friendship!



SCCL CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

This was my third and last term as Chairperson of the SCC Board. It is now time for me to step down and pass the torch to a new and dedicated board member. It has been a very exciting time for me personally, and I am thankful to my fellow board members, our executive director and our members for their support and trust throughout this time.

Just like in previous years, I would like to thank the SCCL Membership - our active members and participants in the SCCL wide spectrum of activities, the dedicated and active board members, and last but not least, our wonderful Executive Director, Ilze Neparte-Salieniece. The Swedish Chamber of Commerce would not be what it is today without her.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer, and, most importantly, peace in the world.



Linda Freimane
Chairperson of the SCCL Board
Riga, May 2024



SCCL HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

The Swedish Chamber of Commerce in Latvia has had a dynamic and eventful year. In 2023, we have maintained our 27-year legacy of connecting people, businesses, and investments between Sweden and Latvia. Despite the challenges posed by Russia's unprovoked war on Ukraine and the resulting threats to European democratic integrity, we have remained strong and united. Looking forward, we are committed to fostering greater regional collaboration and supporting new trade relations between Latvia and Sweden alongside our stakeholders and partners.



SCCL AGM 2023.



SCCL HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

In a world of geopolitical uncertainty and economic challenges, we are pleased to provide a platform for information exchange, education facilitation, and new business links for a diverse and successful community of businesses and organizations that make significant contributions to Latvia's economy. Sweden remains the top investor in Latvia, and business development continues to show some growth. We are ready to contribute through our network new investment possibilities both locally and from abroad. We are also inspired to see our members pursuing new heights and actively developing new projects, offering a hopeful vision for the future!



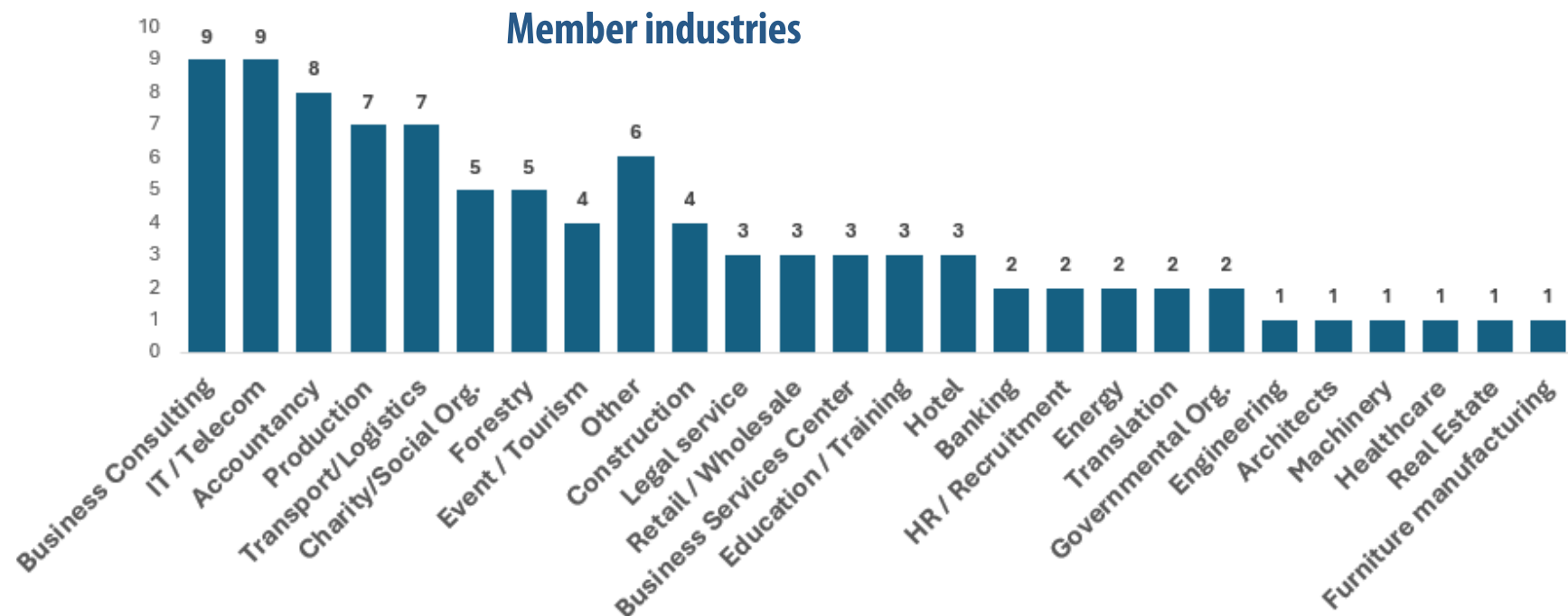
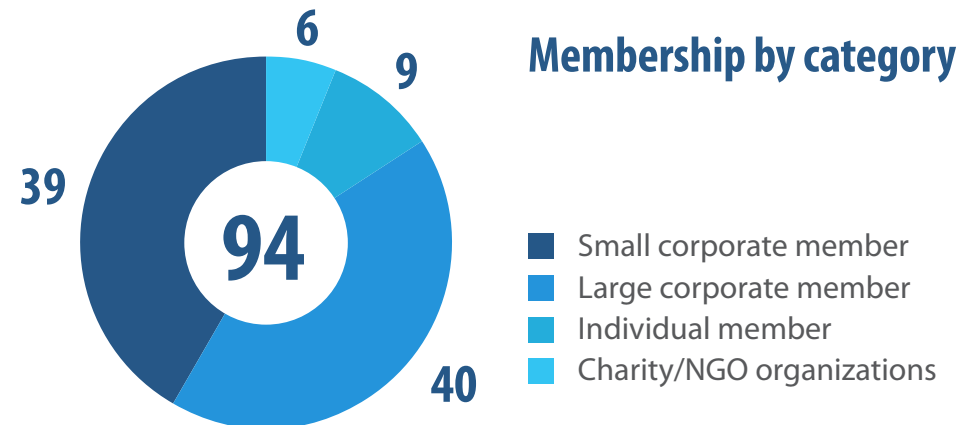


SCCL MEMBERSHIP IN FIGURES



94 members

+ 9 new members **+ 1 renewed membership**





SCCL ACTIVITY IN 2023

Social media followers



1k+



1,1k+

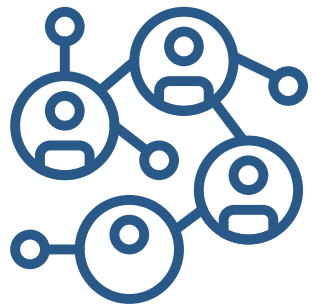


35%

**Monthly Newsletter
opening**

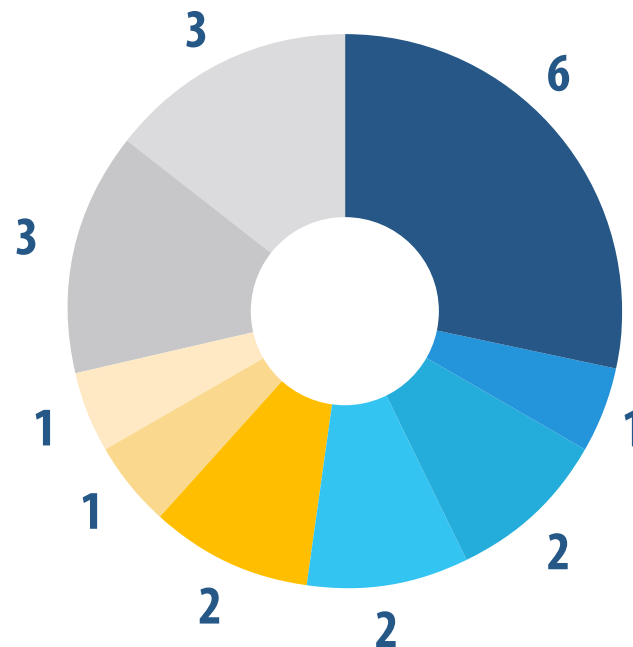


21
events



1300
People
engaged

Event distribution by type



Distribution by Type | JAN-DEC 2023

Events

- 6 Topic related seminars
- 1 NBBF
- 2 Female Focus events
- 2 Sports events
- 2 Social & signature events
- 1 Topic related webinar
- 1 Round table seminar
- 3 Meet the Member events
- 3 Swedish Chambers International Joint online events



SCCL FOCUS

During year 2023 we offered a meaningful business event program to the Chamber's network, primarily aiming to promote various industries and Nordic brands, focusing on strengthening regional cooperation and investment security. We persistently strive to focus on matters related to labor force accessibility & mobility, macroeconomic insights and cross-border collaborations.



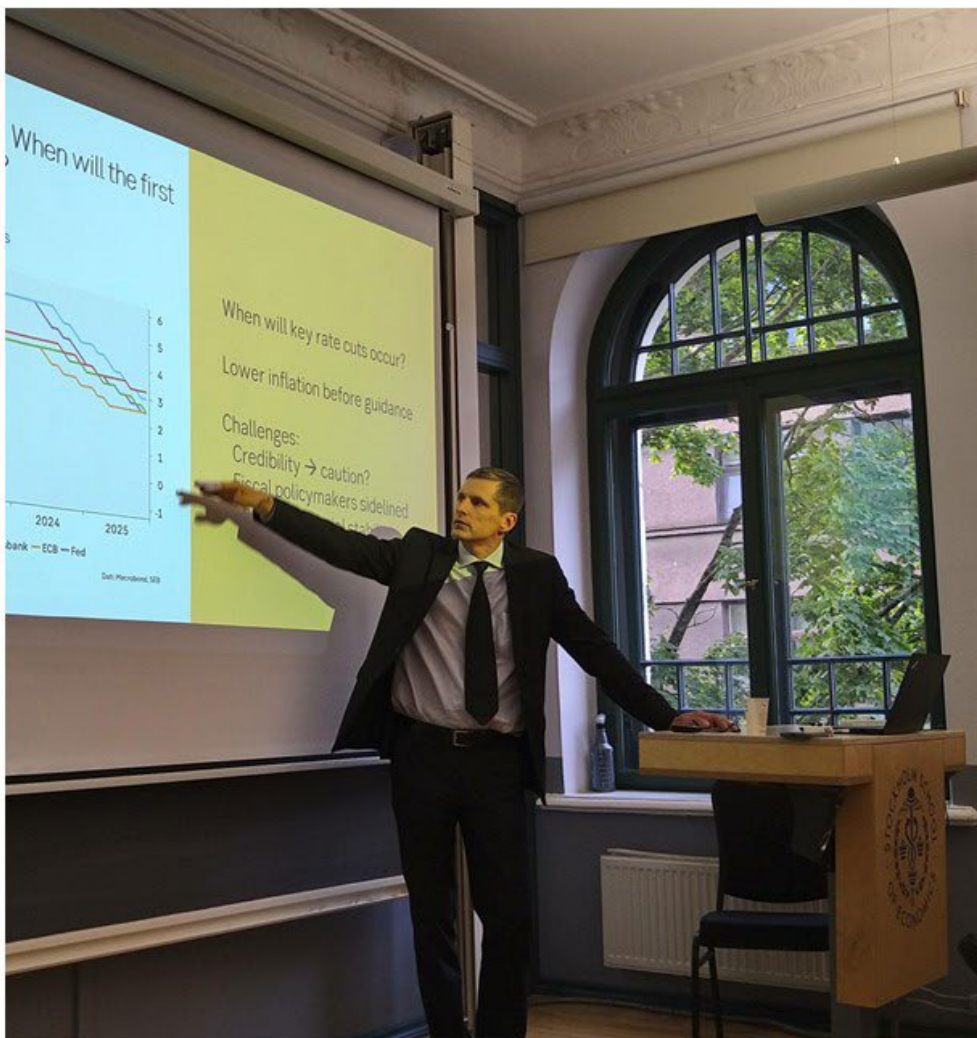
How to move your international talent - Immigration trends. Labor market 2023 | Latvia.



Round table discussion - New momentum in bilateral economic relations.
Guest speaker HE Ilze Rūse, Latvia's Ambassador to Sweden.



SCCL FOCUS



"MACROECONOMICS: Challenges for 2024- what's next?" in partnership with SEB, Swedbank and SSE Riga.



RESILIENCE & INVESTMENT SECURITY



Strengthening Resilience & Bolstering Crisis Preparedness in the Nordic-Baltic Region

FEBRUARY 1, 2023

**RIGA, LATVIA
at 9:00 (EET)**



NORDIC BALTIC BUSINESS FORUM 2023 / NBBF

European security and geopolitical landscape have transformed dramatically since Russia launched its unprovoked and unjustified war in Ukraine, highlighting the need for urgent headway with a comprehensive security framework, crisis preparedness, and civil-military cooperation. To

address the issues related to the creation of reliable, sustainable, and resilient infrastructure, including Nordic-Baltic regional and transborder infrastructure, and to reduce all forms of violence in the neighboring regions and to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels the NBBF 2023 organized forum on

“Strengthening Resilience & Bolstering Crisis Preparedness in the Nordic-Baltic Region”.

The event brought together over 150 participants representing the Nordic and Baltic business community, diplomats, and public sector representatives.



RESILIENCE & INVESTMENT SECURITY

This year's Nordic Baltic Business Forum was organized by the Norwegian and Swedish Chambers of Commerce, informatively endorsed by Finnish Chamber of Commerce and supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers' Office and all 4 Nordic Embassies in Latvia. We extend our gratitude to our corporate sponsors - SEB Latvija, BDO Latvia, and Radisson Blu Daugava Hotel, Riga for supporting this year's forum!

The full video recording of the NBBF2023 is available [HERE](#)





MEMBERS IN FOCUS

In 2023 the SCCL was delighted to continue to celebrate its members, introducing the members and external partners to various business sectors and well-functioning businesses that have chosen Latvia as a base for their further expansion and growth.

We were warmly hosted by **RISEBA** - University of Applied Sciences, a private university with over 30 years of experience. The institution offers competitive education and prepares high-level specialists and managers in business and creative industries.

RISEBA 30
EDUCATION FOR YOUR SUCCESS
APPLY FOR STUDIES NOW

- 7 BACHELOR STUDY PROGRAMMES
- 12 MASTER STUDY PROGRAMMES
- 2 PHD STUDY PROGRAMMES

- Full study cycle - BACHELOR, MASTER and PHD;
- RISEBA highly qualified PROFESSORS, who are excellent PROFESSIONALS in their respective fields;
- RISEBA understands and supports student INDIVIDUAL study needs.

RISEBA was Founded, Bachelor's in Business Studies

1997 Affiliation to the **Salford University**

1998 EFMD Strategic audit

2001 **IQA** Accredited

2006 PhD Business Management

2007 Public Relations and Advertising

2008 Audiovisual Media Arts

2008 **VICTORIA** International University

2011 Architecture

2012 Distance Learning

2011 **EPAS** ACCREDITED EBS, MIB 2014

2022 Sports Management Media Art

Modern Study



MEMBERS IN FOCUS

Dinair / AAF Europe, Dinair Group has over 30 years of experience in manufacturing air filters and providing air cleaning solutions for ventilation, industrial dust collection, and OEMs fabricating complete plants.





MEMBERS IN FOCUS

Hotel Jūrmala Spa & Conference Center, located in the heart of Jūrmala City, is one of the largest spa hotels in the Baltics. It offers a wide range of services to ensure a convenient stay for corporate clients as well as families.

Meeting member organizations at their own locations is a valuable and enriching experience!





LEADERSHIP & FEMALE EMPOWERMENT

The **Female Focus Luncheons** aim to inspire, reward, and empower the female community of the Swedish and Norwegian Chambers of Commerce in Latvia. This networking series was launched in 2014 by the SCCL and the NCCL, with support from the Swedish and Norwegian Embassies in Latvia. The initiative is inspired by Scandinavian values and features speakers from diverse professional backgrounds, sharing their experiences on topics such as leadership, entrepreneurship, professional and personal challenges, and work-life balance.

Throughout the year, our Female Focus welcomed guest speakers such as Inguna Lukaševiča, Women's Ice-hockey coach & interior designer, Tone Skårdal Tobiasson, Journalist and author, Vita Balode Andrews, Latvian Railways management board member & BICG supervisory board member, and Ieva Ozola, Investor Relations Manager at Equinor empowering and uplifting all engaged participants.





CONNECTING, NETWORKING & SOCIALIZING

There is only one annual event that brings together great traditions, valuable networking, togetherness, gastronomic pleasure, and the best of Swedish culture - OUR ANNUAL **CRAYFISH PARTY!**





CONNECTING, NETWORKING & SOCIALIZING

The SCCL Members and the peer players enjoyed the great spirit of sports, the physical and emotional challenges, and excellent business networking at our two **SCCL Tennis tournaments** in 2023.





CONNECTING, NETWORKING & SOCIALIZING

With great accomplishments from a successful year, the SCCL Membership gathered for the traditional **Christmas dinner** in December.

For any association, the backbone is its people - the Members. The Christmas event served as a perfect occasion to thank each and every one and particularly highlight the devoted supporters throughout the year 2023: Stena Line Latvija, Rimi Latvija, AJ Produkti, TGS BALTIC, Radisson Blu Latvija Conference & Spa Hotel Riga, SEB Latvija, BDO Law, Swedbank Latvia, Stockholm School of Economics in Riga.

#StayTunedWithSwedishLatvianBusinessNetwork!



The SCCL Certificate of Appreciation for outstanding support & collaboration throughout the year was presented to:

Stena Line , RIMI Baltic , AJ Produkti , TGS Baltic , Radisson Blu Latvija Conference & SPA Hotel, SEB Latvija, BDO Latvija, Swedbank, SSE Riga.

SCCL PARTNERSHIPS

 The Chamber is a founding member of Foreign Investors' Council in Latvia (FICIL), a non-governmental organization which is the voice of the largest foreign investors in Latvia. SCCL members actively participate and contribute to various sector-oriented Ficil work groups.



 The Swedish Embassy in Riga has been a founding member of the SCCL, providing administrative support to the Chamber before the SCCL office was established in 2000. The Swedish Ambassador to Latvia, H.E. Karin Höglund, serves as the Honorary Chairperson of the SCCL. The Embassy plays a key role in fostering bilateral economic and cultural ties between Sweden and Latvia.



 SCCL is a member of the Swedish Chambers International (SCI) - an umbrella organization for Swedish Chambers of Commerce abroad. The SCI consists of Swedish Chambers of Commerce in 30 key locations, spanning across five continents where companies with Swedish connections do business.



 LIAA is the Investment and Development Agency of the Latvian Government. It aims to facilitate foreign investment and enhance the competitiveness of Latvian entrepreneurs in both domestic and foreign markets. The LIAA Representative office in Sweden is situated at the Latvian Embassy in Stockholm and maintains strong ties with the SCCL.



MEMBER INCENTIVES

The Chamber is delighted to continue supporting its members' interests and businesses, and to serve as a central point for establishing new connections and partnerships through SCCL informative events and communication channels.

The SCCL Membership Directory, available at www.scc.lv, has proven to be a reliable source for seeking new partnerships and contacts. **We encourage you to make effective use of it!**

As a member, you are cordially invited to consider hosting, sponsoring, or speaking at the Chamber's events, thereby gaining an opportunity to elevate your profile and visibility

through the SCCL platform. **We welcome you to be an active member!**

The **"Member News Blog"** is a section of the Chamber's monthly newsletter where you can promote your business, share company news, and provide member-to-member offers. This helps to strengthen commercial and industrial relations between individuals and companies in Latvia and Sweden.

Please, use this opportunity every month and send in your info material to the SCCL office at **scc@scc.lv** or contact the SCCL by phone at **+371 67285667** for further details.

"Member News Blog"

is a section of the Chamber's monthly Newsletter where you can promote your business, share company news, and provide member-to-member offers. This helps to strengthen commercial and industrial relations between individuals and companies in Latvia and Sweden.



SWEDISH CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE IN LATVIA

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD



Linda Freimane
Owner of B&More SIA
SCCL Chairperson
of the Board



Ansis Mūrnieks
Individual member
SCCL Vice Chairperson
of the Board



Gita Grīnberga
Internal Communication Manager
at Rimi Baltic
SCCL Board member



Ivars Kronis
Partner and Attorney
at Law at Glimstedt
SCCL Board member



Iveta Berkolde
Managing Partner ar Partners
in Relocation Group SIA
SCCL Board member



Niklas Jonsson
Cluster General Manager Radisson
Blu Latvia Conference & Spa Hotel,
Radisson Blu Elizabete Hotel
SCCL Board member



Kata Fredheim
Executive Vice President
Partnership and Strategy,
Stockholm School of
Economics in Riga
SCCL Board member



Agnese Strazda
Individual member
SCCL Board member



Johan Edelman
Regional Director, Stena Line
SCCL Board member



THE SCCL BOARD DUTIES

The board has held 4 recorded board meetings and 5 preparatory meetings in 2023.

The BOARD of the Chamber

- Is an Administrative body of the Society,
- Consists of 9 (nine) Board members: Chairman, Vice Chairman and 7 (seven) Board members,
- Is elected by the General meeting and for the period of 2 (two) years,
- Board Members carry out their obligations without remuneration,
- Board meetings of the association are held at least 6 times per year,
- Key responsibilities of the BM are to:
 - Maintain communication with members,
 - Actively participate in SCCL carried out activities,
 - Promote the Chamber to potential members and cooperation partners,
 - Be a proud “Ambassador” of the Chamber,
 - Other as set in the association’s Statutes.



MANAGEMENT

**Executive
Director:**

Ilze Neparte-Saleniece

Assistant:

Megija Milberga

Office:

The office of the Chamber is located on Strēlnieku 4a,
Riga, LV-1010, room 604

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e-mail: scc@scc.lv

web site:

www.scc.lv

Facebook:

[SCCLatvia](https://www.facebook.com/SCCLatvia)

LinkedIn:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/swedish-chamber-of-commerce-in-latvia/>

Bookkeeper: **Patrīcija Ziverte, Numeri SIA**

Auditor: **Ilze Zvirbule, Mastermind Events SIA**