



SWEDISH CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE IN LATVIA



ACTIVITY REPORT

2024

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ON 12 JUNE 2024

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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



SCCL CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

It has been a busy year for the Swedish Chamber of Commerce in Latvia. We welcomed new members, supported fresh initiatives, and stayed focused on what we do best: creating spaces where people connect, reflect, and exchange ideas. Whether through events on sustainability, doing business in Sweden, or navigating the realities of geopolitics, our work continues to be rooted in understanding the present in order to make better choices for the future.

All of this has played out against the backdrop of a world that at times feels more theatrical than commercial. Uncertainty no longer arrives with a bang, but with a steady drip, quiet, persistent, and hard to ignore. That makes events like the Macro Challenges, developed in collaboration with Swedbank and SEB, especially valuable. They help us pause, assess the wider economic environment, and anchor ourselves in evidence rather than speculation.

So too does our collaboration with other Chambers of Commerce in Latvia, partnerships that have allowed us to cross-pollinate ideas, share expertise, and broaden the scope of what we can offer to members.

A personal highlight has been the Meet the Member series. These visits offer something often missing in formal settings: the chance to see not just what you do, but how you do it. They bring the Chamber to life, through factory floors, creative studios, and office corridors, and remind us that our strength lies in the diversity of our members and the stories behind your businesses.

Female Focus stood out this year as well, an example of what happens when we make room for the conversations that are not always had in boardrooms. It was a reminder that strength and resilience are not always loud, but they are always worth hearing.





SCCL board and Embassy staff fika meetings

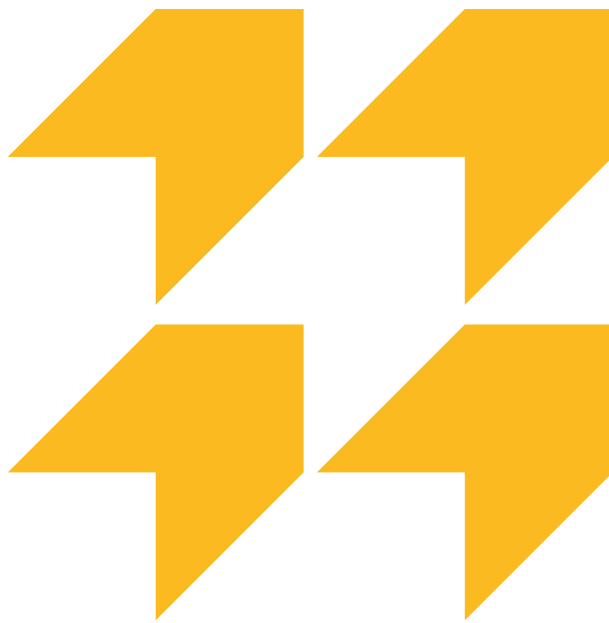
This was my first year as Chair, and it has been a full one. I would like to thank the Board, for the meetings, for the ideas, and quite simply, for showing up. And I want to extend special thanks to Ilze Neparte-Salieniece, our Executive Director, for her tireless coordination and calm amidst the chaos. Without her, very little would happen on time or at all.

Finally, I want to express our appreciation to the Swedish Embassy in Riga. Ambassador Karin Höglund, who will soon complete her posting, has been a thoughtful and steady supporter of the Chamber. Her presence, insight, smile and occasional pointed question have added clarity and warmth in equal measure. You will be missed.

Next year marks the 30th anniversary of the Chamber, a milestone worth celebrating, but also one that asks us to look ahead. I look forward to that journey, and to continuing it with all of you.



Kata Fredheim
Chairperson of the SCCL Board
Riga, June 2025



SCCL HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR



SSE Riga 30th Anniversary High-Level Conference uniting SCCL members and current and former Ambassadors

The SCCL has experienced a dynamic and very eventful year. In 2024, we proudly continued our 28-year legacy of connecting people, businesses, and investments between Sweden and Latvia.

In a climate of geopolitical uncertainty and economic challenges, we are pleased to provide a platform for information exchange, educational facilitation, and new business connections. Our diverse and successful community of businesses and organizations makes significant contributions to Latvia's economy. Notably, Sweden remains the top investor in Latvia, and we are witnessing some growth in business development. We are prepared to leverage our network to create new investment opportunities both locally and from abroad, demonstrating stability and resilience. It is inspiring to see our members striving for new heights and actively developing new projects, offering hope for the future.



*"MACROECONOMICS: Challenges for 2025- what's next?"
led by invited experts from SEB and Swedbank.*

NAVIGATING THE SWEDISH BUSINESS LANDSCAPE



The Chamber is also proud to have launched two new initiatives during the year. One of these initiatives is an exclusive seminar program titled “Navigating Sweden,” which was introduced in 2024.

This program, presented as a series of events, is designed to share experiences and empower Latvian entrepreneurs with the knowledge and

insights needed to successfully navigate the Swedish business landscape. Export is the backbone of economic growth, and we are ready to assist with the expertise of our network to boost trade. In collaboration with the Latvian Investment and Development Agency (LIAA), we are looking forward to continuation of seminars in 2025.



Seminar

Swedish business environment and prospects for cooperation

Riga, Latvia
30.10.2024.

 SWEDISH CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE IN LATVIA

 Investment and
Development
Agency of Latvia

 MISSION
Latvia

“Navigating Sweden” first seminar organized in October 2024

SCCL SUSTAINABILITY PLATFORM

The working group is open to more like-minded SCCL members who want to build competence and strengthen our common values. Welcome!

Another initiative emerged during the Meet the Member visit to Schwenk Latvija, where our new SCCL board member, Evita Gosa, presented the idea of the SCCL Sustainability Platform, which was successfully launched in the fall of 2024.

It envisages practical and interactive collaboration among SCCL members to increase overall sustainability awareness, performance, and maturity, to share new practices and get support for addressing challenges.

Activities through the year are divided into two workstreams – four interactive problem-solving sessions and 3 - 4 educational sessions.

Kick-off meeting of the Sustainability Platform was held in October 2024, where the concept was discussed, and an agreement was reached on the topics to be reviewed in the next working sessions. In December, the first educational session took place - Jekaterina Novicka (Oriens Audit & Finance) explained developments in ESG reporting, and Evita Gosa (SCHWENK Latvija) shared the insights

she gained from participating in COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan. The first interactive problem-solving sessions in 2025 took place in January and May. The topics were sustainability leadership and explaining sustainable product benefits to the customers, respectively. An educational/informative session is planned for the summer, whereas the next interactive session will take place in September.

Evita Gosa, Environmental and Legal Director at SCHWENK Latvija



“SCCL members have valuable, rich experience in the field of sustainability to share, as well as a curiosity to learn and embrace new best practices. This can be done most effectively through active participation and collaboration. That is exactly what the Sustainability Platform is about!”



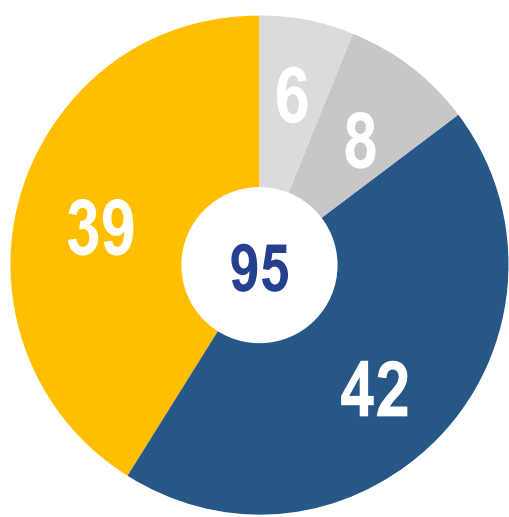
SCCL MEMBERSHIP IN FIGURES

95 members



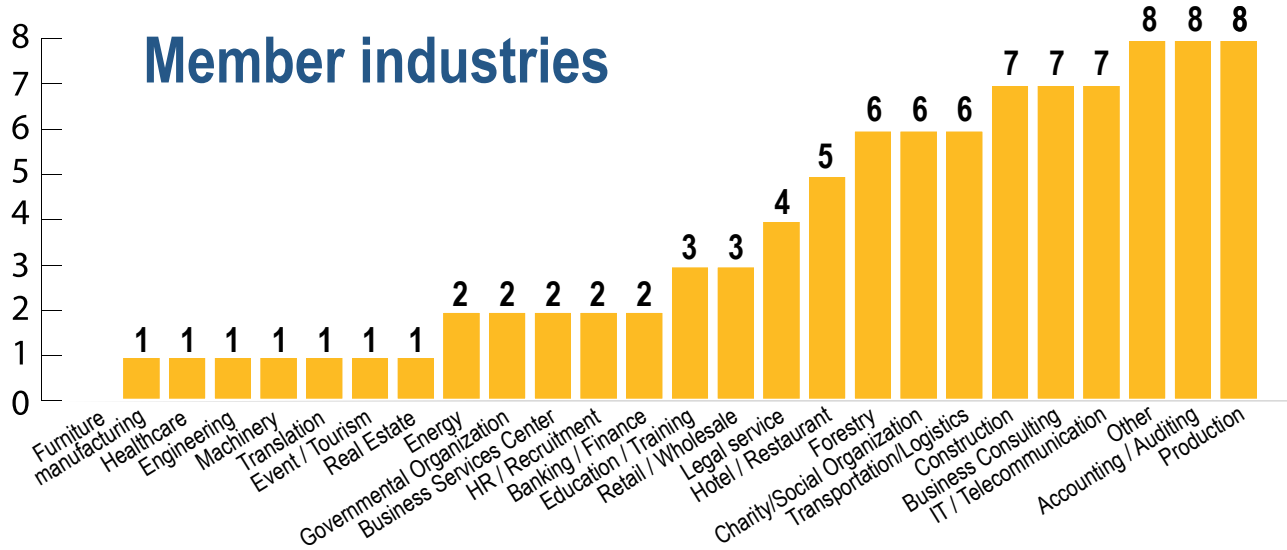
+3 new
members

+1 renewed
membership



SCCL Member Distribution by Membership Type

- 42 Large corporate member
- 39 Small corporate member
- 8 Individual member
- 6 Charity/NGO organizations



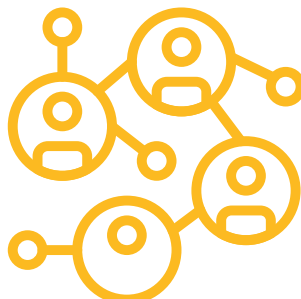
WELCOME TO THE SCCL IN 2024

- Baltic Reach AB
- FDS Cards
- Mogotel development holding
- Nordic Facility Services AB

SCCL ACTIVITY IN 2024



29
events



1000+
People
engaged

Social media
followers:



1,3k +



1,2k +



35%

Monthly Newsletter
opening



**28th
Annual
General
Meeting
of the
Swedish
Chamber of
Commerce
in Latvia**



28th Annual General Meeting



Seminar about the Future of Sustainable Fashion



Event distribution by type

- 6 Topic related business seminars
- 5 Round table seminars
- 5 Joint Chamber events
- 3 Meet the Member & company visits
- 3 Female Focus events
- 3 Social & Signature events
- 2 Topic related webinars
- 2 Work group meetings/ seminars



Round Table Discussion with the Latvian Ambassador to Sweden, H.E. Ilze Rūse



Joint Chamber Luncheon with President of the Republic of Latvia Edgars Rinkēvičs

SCCL IN ACTION

MEMBERS IN FOCUS



Visit to Schwenk Latvia and its cement plant in Broceni

At the foundation of every successful association lies its most vital resource - its Members. Their commitment, engagement, and shared vision are the driving forces behind the organization's continued growth and impact.

In 2024 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.

Meeting member organizations at their own locations is a valuable and enriching experience and we are thankful to Schwenk Latvia, Mogotel Group and AJ Produkti for hosting us in 2024!



Visit to AJ Produkti and its showroom in Riga



Visit to Mogotel Hotel Group & Wellton Riverside SPA Hotel

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 initiative proudly hosted an inspiring lineup of guest speakers, including:

- Marija Ābeltiņa – Psychologist, scientist, and practitioner
- Anne Sigrun Moen – Group Executive Vice President of People at DNB
- Katarina Briedītis – Artist, designer, and sustainability advocate in textiles
- Ieva Ilves – Politician, diplomat, and cybersecurity expert
- Cecilia Wikström – Politician and ordained priest
- Anna Andersone – Visionary entrepreneur

and marked its 10th anniversary in November 2024.



Iveta Berkolde, Managing Partner at PIRGROUP | Partners in Relocation Group SIA

“SCC in Latvia provides great networking opportunities for Swedish and Sweden related businesses in Latvia. It is an opportunity to participate in high-level events, meetings with business and state representatives, promote your own company, share expertise and knowledge with other members. Active participation is a key element to success!”

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! Swedishness at its Finest!

If you have not yet experienced this beloved Swedish tradition, now is your chance. It is a must-have on every autumn calendar!

Save the date: **11 September 2025** — and be our guest!

The SCCL Annual Christmas Dinner in December brought the community together in a spirit of reflection, gratitude, and celebration. The festive atmosphere was beautifully enhanced by wonderful musical performances from talented violinists of Gothenburg University and our very own Nordic Grammar School / Rīgas Ziemeļvalstu ģimnāzija student Lucia Choir.

Our Christmas Dinner was a perfect occasion to formally acknowledge and extend heartfelt appreciation to all members for their invaluable contributions throughout the year.





A special recognition was given to the following individuals and corporations whose steadfast support, exceptional service, and active participation significantly advanced the association's mission in 2024:

Ambassador Karin Höglund and the Swedish Embassy's staff | AJ Produkti & Zane Bekere | Lindström & Ivars Smits | Glimstedt Latvia & Ivars Kronis | Dinotrans & Vita Gulbe | Cabonline Customer Service Latvia & Evita Kezberē | Stockholm School of Economics in Riga & Kata Fredheim | SCA Mezs & Lars Georg Hedlund | Rimi Latvija & Gita Grinberga | TGS BALTIC & Ivars Grunte | PIR GROUP & Iveta Berkolde

A heartfelt thanks goes also to our generous Christmas Charity Raffle gift donors - **Hotel Jūrmala SPA, Radisson Blu Latvija Conference & Spa Hotel, Riga, Wellton Riverside SPA Hotel, AJ Produkti, Schwenk Latvia, Lindström Latvija, IKEA and Zviedrijas latviešu kalendārs** - for contributing to shared moments of joy and help as all raffle proceeds were donated to support our member, **Pestīšanas armija Latvijā / Salvation Army** and its Refugee Centre and Trauma Counselling program, which aids in the rehabilitation of Ukrainian refugees.



[#StayTunedWithSwedishLatvianBusinessNetwork!](https://www.instagram.com/StayTunedWithSwedishLatvianBusinessNetwork/)

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.



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.



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 and serves as the closest partner to the SCCL.



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.



Agnese Strazda, Individual member, communication and strategy expert

"Joining the Swedish Chamber of Commerce in Latvia opens doors to a trusted international network built on Nordic values, innovation, and long-term partnerships. It's an ideal platform for Latvian companies seeking stable, value-driven partners, and for Swedish businesses entering or expanding in Latvia. The Chamber also connects professionals passionate about Nordic leadership and culture, while supporting organizations committed to sustainable and responsible growth."

AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS



Latvia has continued to stand up for peace and security in the region and beyond and you have continued to show unwavering commitment to upholding the rules based international order. You have relentlessly worked to strengthen ties with your neighbors through various regional cooperation frameworks advocating security, including increased defense measures, to protect your borders which of course equal the borders of the EU and NATO, and you have argued convincingly for closer economic cooperation. And – the Latvian voice has been heard considerably more often and louder in European discussions on digitalization, innovation, and competitiveness.

After almost five years in Latvia, my tenure here will soon come to an end. It has been five momentous years for me personally and professionally and, more importantly, five significant years for this great nation.

We are at an inflection point in history. Democracy and its core principles are at stake and with that peace and prosperity – not only in our part of the world but around the globe. Even the most optimistic ones among us sometimes feel discouraged and disempowered.

But when you are among friends, things are never too bleak, and I have always felt a strong sense of togetherness and purposefulness in Latvia. Latvia might be small, but it is full of smart, sharp, savvy, singing and swinging people who make life and living in Latvia easy and comfortable, interesting and meaningful.

Latvia has so much to be proud of. Going through my embassy's reports and my own notes only this past year a few things stand out:

If a nation's wealth could be measured in cultural expressions and achievements Latvia would position itself at the very top. You have culture in your DNA. You have world class conductors, composers and musicians of all genres and you repeatedly prove to us that music is not only a way of expressing us as individuals but also as nations. And in the world of cinema "Straume" has received more than fifty international awards, including a Golden Globe, and an Oscar. Furthermore, Latvia often punches above its weight in different sports competitions and Latvian fans are world class when it comes to cheering on your country! Finally, Latvia offers excellent dining and even wine-ing (!).

Since I arrived in Riga, I have had the great fortune of witnessing firsthand the Swedish-Latvian co-operation grow wider, deeper, and closer than at any time in modern history. The arrival of five hundred Swedish troops in the beginning of this year is perhaps the most visible testament of that.



SCCL together with H.E. Karin Höglund, Swedish Ambassador to Latvia over the years

But the connections formed and nurtured everyday are of course equally important: the economic partnerships, the trade agreements, the investments, the cultural collaborations, the educational exchanges, the networks, the friendships – these are the foundations of our ever-deepening bilateral relations. I am proud to be able to tell visitors that Sweden is (by far) the largest foreign investor in Latvia and that there are over 500 companies with Swedish capital registered here which together contributed over 600 million euro in taxes to the Latvian state budget last year. The Chamber is of course an indispensable part of all this - connecting partners and people for success, just as your motto states, and helping to energize and develop our vibrant and devoted Team Sweden in Latvia. We make each other better and working together we accomplish a lot to be proud of with relatively small means.

And in our common quest for a safer, wealthier, and more sustainable world we will continue

to learn from each other, inspire one another, find common interests, and foster cooperation in matters great and small. Our ability to successfully navigate all the complexities and challenges of today has relied and continues to rely on our collaboration and shared vision adapting to the new realities, when necessary, without ever renouncing our principles and values. I do still believe that where there is a will there is a way.

I wish to express my gratitude to all of you and to Latvia. I will leave here with sand from your beautiful beaches and pinecones from your fantastic forests in every shoe and every pocket. And my heart and soul full of indelible happy, hopeful impressions.

Thank you again for being such good friends, partners, and allies.
Dievs svētī Latviju!

H.E. Karin Höglund,
Swedish Ambassador to Latvia

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 Chamber publishes a monthly newsletter featuring the latest updates on upcoming events, new collaborations, and key announcements. A special **'Members News'** section highlights important contributions and achievements from our members.

"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.



Gita Grīnberga, Individual member, education and EU project expert

"The Swedish Chamber of Commerce is more than a network—it's a living ecosystem essential for growth and connection. It's where business professionals and organizations unite to build stronger connections, new collaborations, and foster a sustainable environment, all while promoting Swedish corporate culture. For any business or professional, being part of this community and participating in its high-standard events is an invaluable asset for gaining knowledge, forging new partnerships, and strengthening the essential ties between Latvia and Sweden."

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTED ON 12 JUNE 2024



**SCCL Chairperson
of the Board**

Kata Fredheim,
Stockholm School of Economics in Riga



**SCCL Vice-Chairperson
of the Board**

Ansis Mūrnieks,
Individual Member



SCCL Board member
Agnese Strazda,
Individual Member



SCCL Board member
Austra Krēsliņa,
Baltic Reach AB



SCCL Board member
Evita Goša,
SCHWENK Latvija SIA



SCCL Board member
Gita Grīnberga,
RIMI Baltic



SCCL Board member
Ivars Kronis,
Law firm GLIMSTEDT



SCCL Board member
Iveta Berkolde,
Partners in Relocation
Group SIA



SCCL Board member
Lars Georg Hedlund,
SCA Forest Latvia SIA



THE SCCL BOARD DUTIES

The board has held 4 recorded board meetings and 5 preparatory meetings in 2024.

- 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-Salieniece

Assistant: Megija Mīlberga

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Riga, LV-1010, room 604
Phone Nr. : +371 67285667
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 Zīverte, Numeri SIA

Auditor: Ilze Palmbaha, Mastermind Events SIA