

LATVIA

MEET A CHILD

Lana is a 17 year-old. She was promised work as a strawberry picker in Finland by some group of people. On her way to Finland, they stopped at Riga, the Latvian capital city. There she was forced to pose for pictures to be posted on pornographic websites. What happened later is not hard to imagine....

TOTAL POPULATION 2,313,000
CHILD POPULATION 370,080

TOTAL CHILD LABOUR

No confirmed data on the total number of child labourers but economically active population would give a rough estimate of the number of child labourers

ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE POPULATION

For the year 2010, an expected 1,333,000 people would be economically active. No child between 10-14 would be economically active

ILO, Bureau of Statistics,
Economically Active Population

GENDER RATIO

1162 females for 1000 males

CIA, factbook-2005 (Fig is an
estimate for 2005)

CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOL

There were 14,700 primary school going children between 7-10 years who were out of school in 2001

UNESCO's EFA Global
Monitoring Report 2005

PROGRESS ON PRIMARY EDUCATION MDG

With an EDI of 0.958, Latvia's level of progress towards achieving education for all by 2015 is high

UNESCO's EFA Global
Monitoring Report 2005

CHILD SLAVERY

No confirmed data

CHILD TRAFFICKING

Latvia is a source and transit country for primarily women and minors trafficked to Germany, Spain, the United Kingdom, Italy,

US Dept. of State, Trafficking in
Persons Report 2005

Cyprus and Switzerland. Internal trafficking from rural areas to urban centres also exists

Traffickers, primarily organized criminal groups, usually lured victims through offers of false employment for jobs such as dancers, bartenders, and babysitters in European countries.

US Dept. of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2004, February 2005

CHILD PROSTITUTION

Commercial sexual exploitation of children is known to exist. Prostitution by both boys and girls remains a problem. It is estimated that up to 15 percent of prostitutes in Latvia are children between 8 and 18 years old.

US Dept of Labor's 2003 findings on worst forms of child labor

The number of prostitutes is approximately 3 000, about 10-12 % of all the prostitutes in Latvia are juveniles.

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in the Baltic Sea Region- A survey with

According to Latvia's Criminology Research Centre one-fifth to one-fourth of those involved in prostitution in Latvia or abroad are minors. About 150 minors per year are transported outside of Latvia for purposes of sexual exploitation.

Address by H.E. Dr. Vaira Vike-Freiberga, president of Latvia, in Helsinki on 2/6/2003. Stop Child Trafficking: Modern Day Slavery" Conference in Helsinki, June1-3, 2003

The Internet is also widely used for the dissemination of child pornography, in what could be considered as an extended form of child trafficking. In 1999, Latvian law enforcement agencies succeeded in disbanding a paedophile ring that had specialized in exporting pornographic images and films of Latvian teenage boys over the Internet.

CHILDREN USED IN CRIME

No confirmed data

CHILD SOLDIERS

There were no reports of under-18s in the armed forces

CSUCS, Global Report on Child Soldiers, 2004

CHILD LABOUR IN UNORGANISED SECTOR

No confirmed data