

**Agreement between the Republic of Estonia and the Republic of Latvia on the
Maritime Delimitation in the Gulf of Riga, the Strait of Irbe and the Baltic Sea,
12 July 1996**

The Republic of Estonia and the Republic of Latvia, hereinafter referred to as the Parties,
Desiring to establish the maritime boundary between the two States in the Gulf of Riga, the Strait of Irbe and the Baltic Sea,

Acknowledging the provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the general principles of international law as a basis for such a maritime delimitation,

Recalling the importance of ensuring freedom of navigation and overflight for each other's vessels and aircraft in accordance with international law,

Wishing to contribute to stability in the Baltic Sea region in general, and in particular to stability in the area being delimited,

Recalling the traditional cooperation between the Parties in the Gulf of Riga, the Strait of Irbe and the Baltic Sea,

Recognizing the obligation under international law of protecting the marine environment,

Desiring to cooperate with each other in the Gulf of Riga, the Strait of Irbe and the Baltic Sea with regard to the conservation, exploration and exploitation of living resources in accordance with the provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,

Noting the Agreement between the Republic of Estonia and the Republic of Latvia on the Re-establishment of the State Border of 20 March 1992,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The maritime boundary between the Republic of Estonia and the Republic of Latvia in the Gulf of Riga, the Strait of Irbe and in the Baltic Sea referred to in this Agreement is the maritime boundary with respect to the territorial seas, the exclusive economic zones, the continental shelf and any other maritime zones which might be established by the Contracting Parties in accordance with the provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and principles of international law.

Article 2

The maritime boundary between the Republic of Estonia and the Republic of Latvia in the Gulf of Riga and the Strait of Irbe consists of straight geodetic lines connecting the points with the following geographical coordinates:

1.	57° 52,471' N	24° 21,406' E
2.	57° 55,033' N	24° 15,667' E
3.	57° 53,950' N	24° 12,567' E
4.	57° 53,950' N	23° 36,067' E
5.	57° 46,974' N	23° 38,910' E
6.	57° 40,173' N	23° 34,940' E
7.	57° 35,630' N	23° 24,361' E
8.	57° 35,183' N	23° 10,850' E
9.	57° 42,133' N	22° 59,950' E
10.	57° 46,831' N	22° 54,461' E
11.	57° 56,450' N	22° 42,450' E
12.	57° 55,644' N	22° 35,016' E

13.	57° 46,750' N	22° 08,600' E
14.	57° 44,967' N	21° 54,967' E
15.	57° 45,783' N	21° 50,567' E

All positions in the Agreement and the azimuth referred to in article 3 are defined in the World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS-84).

The location of the maritime boundary between the Republic of Estonia and the Republic of Latvia is illustrated on the map annexed to the present Agreement. 16(1)

Article 3

The maritime boundary between the Republic of Estonia and the Republic of Latvia continuing into the Baltic Sea forms point 15 defined in article 2 as a straight geodetic line in the azimuth of 289°19.35' up to the boundary of the exclusive economic zone and the continental shelf of the Kingdom of Sweden. The azimuth is defined by adding 90 to the azimuth at the median point of the straight geodetic line between the point at the southern rock of Cape Loode with geographical coordinates 57°57.4760'N; 21°58.2789'E and the point at Ovisi Lighthouse with geographical coordinates 57°34.1234' N; 21°42.9574'E.

The precise coordinates of point # 16 where this maritime meets the boundary of the exclusive economic zone and the continental shelf of the Kingdom of Sweden shall be determined by a trilateral agreement between the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Latvia and the Kingdom of Sweden.

Article 4

The Parties shall notify each other of changes to their baselines and the limits of their territorial seas and their exclusive economic zones in the Strait of Irbe, the Gulf of Riga and the Baltic Sea.

Each Party shall give due publicity to the charts and lists of geographical coordinates specifying the geodetic data and shall deposit a copy of such charts and lists with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Article 5

Any dispute between the Parties arising out of the interpretation or implementation of the present agreement shall in the first instance be settled by consultations or negotiations, or using other means of peaceful settlement of disputes provided for by international law.

Article 6

This Agreement shall be subject to ratification. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of exchange of the instruments of ratification.

Article 7

This Agreement has been concluded for an indefinite period of time.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Tallinn, 12 July 1996, in duplicate in the Estonian and English languages, each text being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Republic of Estonia

For the Republic of Latvia

Endnotes

1 (Popup - Popup)

16 The illustrative map is provided by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, March 1999.