

Latvian Radio Amateur League



Quick History - Early Beginnings & Pre-WWII Era

- **Predecessors:** Amateur radio in Latvia traces back to the early 20th century, when enthusiasts began experimenting with home-built transmitters and receivers.
- **Latvian Radio Society:** In the 1930s, the “*Latviešu Radio Biedrība*” (*LRB*) helped to organize and legitimize the first structured amateur radio activities.
- **Growth & Innovation:** By the late 1930s, many Latvian operators had their own callsigns and participated in regional communication tests, laying foundations for a strong technical community.

Quick History - Post-War Period & Reestablishment

- **World War II & Soviet Era:** After WWII, independent clubs were suppressed under the Soviet regime. Amateur radio continued under strict regulations, mainly through *DOSAAF (Voluntary Society for Cooperation with the Army, Aviation, and Fleet)*.
- **Revival in the 1990s:** With Latvia regaining independence in 1991, enthusiastic operators – including Juris Trukšāns (YL2CR) – helped revive amateur radio organizations, leading to the formation (or re-formation) of *LRAL*.
- **Modern *LRAL*:** Today, *LRAL* preserves historical callsigns and traditions from its pre-war heritage, actively promotes amateur radio education, and represents Latvian amateurs in international forums (IARU).

Nowadays

- Members in LRAL: 84 (from approx. 320 from all Latvian HAM)
- Member board was elected 12.10.2024
 - YL3MS Arvis Soldāns (Chairman of board)
 - YL3JA Kristers Misa (Vice-chairman of board)
 - YL3GY Miks Apinis (Secretary)
 - YL2KF Vilnis Vosekalns
 - YL2AO Juris Vaļeniekis

Activities

- Local HF contest (2 x per year)
- VHF Local contest
- HAMFest
- Participating in NRAU workgroup
- Special events (YL90, YL95, YL100, YL21ICE, YL30WAY, YL35WAY etc.)
- YOTA
- NRAU Baltic contest (country winners 8 times in a row)

Future plans

- Work with youth
 - YOTA
 - Radio clubs
 - Youth education
- Engage members in working groups
- Regular board member meetings (2x month)
- Experience exchange with neighbours (LY,ES)
- Develop new website
- Public engagement (Social networks, PR etc.)
- HF local mini-test (copy-paste from EARU :))

Cooperation with ERAU

- Memorandum of cooperation
- Exchange of experience
- Cooperation in special event activities
- Open Baltic contest???



We are open for any kind of cooperation!

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