The NGO ‘I Want to Help Refugees’ raises concerns over human rights risks and shortcomings in Latvia’s ‘immigration restriction plan’

The NGO ‘I Want to Help Refugees’ raised concerns about the shortcomings and potential risks of the government document implementing the recommendations of the Saeima Parliamentary Investigation Commission (PIK) on Immigration.

The organisation argued that the document could undermine democratic principles and negatively affect the human rights of migrants and marginalised groups. In particular, it criticised a proposed measure to introduce criminal liability for intentionally providing physical or informational support to a foreign state in the context of migration instrumentalisation or other hybrid threats against Latvia. According to the NGO, the wording is overly broad and insufficiently precise, potentially creating risks for human rights organisations, their staff and volunteers carrying out legitimate professional or civic activities.

The NGO also expressed concern about increased immigration raids, arguing that publicly available information suggests that such checks rarely identify immigration violations and may undermine trust in authorities. It further warned that checks in public places could lead to ethnic or racial profiling and discrimination.

Overall, the organisation called on the government to reject the implementation report, which it described as a potentially harmful and inadequately developed ‘immigration restriction plan’.

Source(s)

- I want to help refugees | Gribu palīdzēt bēgļiem (21 September, 2026), Biedrība “Gribu palīdzēt bēgļiem” norāda uz trūkumiem un draudiem, kurus satur Jāņa Dombravas virzītais PIK ziņojuma ieviešanas dokuments [The association "I Want to Help Refugees" points out the shortcomings and threats contained in the implementation document of the PIK report promoted by Jānis Dombrava], https://gribupalidzetbegliem.lv/2026/09/21/biedriba-gribu-palidzet-begliem-norada-uz-trukumiem-un-draudiem-kurus-satur-jana-dombravas-virzitais-pik-zinojuma-ieviesanas-dokuments/

© European Union Agency for Asylum, 2026. Reproduction is authorised, provided the source is acknowledged.

Date of development
21.09.2026
Country
Latvia
Thematic area(s)
General asylum and migration development
Development type
Practice

© European Union Agency for Asylum, 2026. Reproduction is authorised, provided the source is acknowledged.