

Riga, January 23, 2026

No. 3/2026

Minister of Economy and Industry of the Republic of Estonia

Mr Erkki Keldo

info@mkm.ee

Dear Minister Keldo,

We would like to kindly invite you to participate in the **Baltic Startup Policy Forum**, which will take place on **26 March 2026**, starting at **11:00**, at **Kipsalas iela 6A, Riga, Latvia**.

Within the framework of the Forum, we would be honoured to invite you to join a **high-level political panel discussion**, which will take place immediately following a fireside conversation led by European Commissioner for Startups, Research and Innovation, Ms Ekaterina Zaharieva.

The panel discussion is planned to include the Minister of Economics of Latvia and the Minister of the Economy and Innovation of Lithuania. We have already received confirmation of participation from the Minister of Economics of Latvia, Mr Viktors Valainis.

This Forum is of particular significance, as it will mark Commissioner Zaharieva's first official visit to one of the Baltic States during her mandate. From the perspective of the startup ecosystem, this represents an important opportunity for Baltic ministers to meet in person with the European Commissioner and discuss issues related to startup development, research and development, innovation financing, and other topics within the European Commission's remit.

We believe this event represents a strategic opportunity to strengthen cooperation among the three Baltic States at a particularly important time, when competitiveness and innovation are among the key priorities on the European Commission's agenda.

The Forum is expected to bring together ministers, policymakers, regional venture capital funds, representatives of non-governmental organisations, and startup founders from across the Baltic States, ensuring high-level discussion and meaningful dialogue between the public and private sectors.

We kindly ask you to confirm your availability to participate in the panel discussion. Should participation not be possible, we would appreciate the nomination of another sufficiently senior representative of your ministry. Please inform Mr Roberts Alhimionoks (roberts@startin.lv) by 2 February 2026.

Yours sincerely,

Roberts Alhimionoks
CEO
Latvian Startup Association (Startin.lv)



Annija Mežgaile
Managing Director
TechChill

