

The Duties of the State Protocol

Published: 08.07.2021.

The State Protocol monitors the provision of diplomatic privileges and immunities implemented in Latvia to the staff of foreign diplomatic and consular missions, international organisations and representations thereof, on the basis of international conventions, multilateral and bilateral agreements, international practice and national law.

The State Protocol carries out registration of premises of foreign diplomatic and consular missions, international organisations and representations thereof. The State Protocol arranges the admission of heads for the aforementioned entities, accreditation of members of their staff as well as military and other specialised attachés. It supervises the granting of *agrément* to proposed heads of missions. The head of mission is considered as having taken up his functions once the credentials have been presented to the President of the Republic of Latvia during an accreditation visit. Accreditation and farewell visits by Ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary are organised by the State Protocol in close cooperation with the mission concerned

The State Protocol renders assistance in obtaining flight diplomatic clearances for state and military aircraft, naval vessels, radio and firearms licences. It co-ordinates the registration of motor vehicles and, where possible, driving licences, as well as customs clearances. Fiscal privileges are also the responsibility of the State Protocol.

The State Protocol organises all formal visits made by foreign heads of government and Ministers of Foreign Affairs to the Republic of Latvia.

The President's Protocol Division of the Chancery of the President of the Republic of Latvia

The Protocol Division is concerned with the functions / activities of the President and spouse, coordinating and organising visits abroad and those made by foreign heads of state and their spouses in Latvia, as well as certain heads of international organisations.

<https://www.mfa.gov.lv/en/duties-state-protocol>