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Latvia

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The court provides for the right of the parties to [civil proceedings](#) who are receiving state legal aid in a case or who are exempt from payment of court costs to acquaint themselves with the materials of the case and take part in the proceedings with the aid of an interpreter if they do not have a command of the language of the proceedings.

The court provides for the right of the parties to [administrative proceedings](#) who do not have a command of the language of the proceedings – with the exception of representatives of legal persons – to acquaint themselves with the materials of the case and participate in the proceedings with the aid of an interpreter.

A court may also decide at its own discretion to provide for an interpreter for a legal person.

Persons in [criminal proceedings](#) who have the right of defence, victims and their representatives, witnesses, specialists, experts, auditors and other persons called upon to participate by the official conducting the proceedings, where such persons do not have a command of the official state language, are entitled during the procedural action to use a language they know and to engage an interpreter for assistance free of charge, the interpreter's services being provided for by the official conducting the proceedings. In pre-trial proceedings, investigating judges or the courts provide for the presence of an interpreter for the adjudication of matters over which those investigating judges or courts have jurisdiction.

In Latvia, there is no single/official list of interpreters or a regulation on interpreters/translators, but there are rules establishing a [procedure whereby a translation of a document into the national language can be certified](#), if there is no requirement by law to submit a notarised certified translation of a document or no other procedure is provided for in law.

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