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As a post-communist, neo-EU country, Latvia is currently grappling with new economic and political spheres of influence whilst still in the process of healing from a traumatic past.

Large oil revenues, aggressive foreign investment, land use expansion, the use of previously untapped natural resources, and the dichotomy of having the highest GDP growth rate and the lowest minimum wages in Europe, all attest to a picture of a country in the throw of an unsettling transition.

Between the oligarchic regimes of past rulers –now turned into businessmen- and the explosion of new markets, global capital enters with characteristic speed and force.

Alberto Duman