



Lithuanian Diplomatic Playbook

25 – 31 January 2016

Key Lithuanian Foreign Policy messages of the week. All materials included are public.
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Story of the Week

FM Linkevičius: Security Before Politics in Eastern Ukraine

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Pushing for political reforms in Ukraine before Moscow delivers on security obligations is wrong.

How can we push for political reforms and decentralization in Ukraine when Russian military equipment is still in the streets of Donetsk?

Minsk conditions need to be implemented in the right order: security comes first.



Lithuania's foreign minister Linas Linkevičius Op-ed to [WSJ](#) (2016-01-27)

Key messages:

- The Minsk Agreements must be implemented following a logical sequence: security comes first
- Lithuanian–Polish cooperation is essential for the security of the region

Top lines, statements

- Lithuania's Foreign Ministry marks International Holocaust Remembrance Day, presents two exhibitions (27 January, 2016) [Read full news release](#)
 - Lithuania sends humanitarian aid to refugees in Turkey (28 January, 2016) [Read full news release](#)
 - Minister J. Olekas emphasized the mutual interest to enhance collective defence and security in the region at a meeting with Minister of National Defence of Poland (25 January, 2016) [Read full news release](#)
 - Minister of Defence Olekas: 'LITPOLUKRBRIG demonstrates the strategic importance that Lithuania and Poland attach to bringing Ukraine closer to the Euro-Atlantic community' (25 January, 2016) [Read full news release](#)
 - The necessity of rejecting ingrained stereotypes about NATO and the EU was discussed in Kiev (28 January, 2016) [Read full news release](#)
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Media

- Lithuania opens war crimes trial of former Soviet officials, *The Guardian* (27 January, 2016)
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