

Top lines

- **Ukraine, Russia**

...a cynical violation of the basic principles and commitments of OSCE in Ukraine committed by Russia destroys the fundamentals of European security. [...] strategic discussions about collective instruments, which should be applied in case of military aggression of one OSCE member state against another OSCE member state, are needed – Minister of Foreign Affairs L. Linkevičius (September 27, 2014)

“...Europe and the world are allowing Russia to be a country which is not only threatening its neighbors but is also organizing a war against its neighbors. It is the same international terrorism as we have in Iraq and Syria. [...] **If he [Putin] will not be stopped in Ukraine, he will go further.** [...] in Europe today, leadership is taken by Putin, not by the West. [...] **The danger of Russia’s behavior today is not smaller than what we have with ISIS [the Islamic State] in Iraq and Syria.** I think that Russia is terrorizing its neighbors and using terrorist methods. [...] so-called **peace negotiations in Minsk were done under the ultimatum of Putin.** Western countries and the European Union gave into his conditions, meaning practically **the partitioning of Ukraine.** [...] If we see that for some reason we are selling out independent countries, what moral values are we fighting for? [...] It is our one tool to fight Russia: **to be vocal and courageous and to shame leaders of the West for not taking the responsibility** for protecting freedom, sovereignty and democracy in Europe.” – President D. Grybauskaitė (The Washington Post, September 24, 2014, <http://wapo.st/1vePns4>)

Putin **“recently said that in two days he is capable to reach Warsaw, the Baltic States and Bucharest. So that is an open threat to his neighbors.”** - President D. Grybauskaitė (September 24, 2014)

“Lithuania remains concerned about **gross violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, the growing rate of hatred, discrimination and propaganda in eastern Ukraine.** The international community must take all possible measures to hold those responsible for the violations of international law to account – Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs N. Germanas (September 24, 2014)

- **Security**

“After Wales, NATO is revived, not sleeping any more. We have something to improve our security. We need to invest more. But how much time do we have?” - President D. Grybauskaitė (September 24, 2014)

"International terrorism is expanding and intensifying. Open wars in various places of the world have come to resemble the fight between different ideologies and even civilizations. We see such tendencies not only in the Middle East with hate ideology spreading there, but also in Europe. **The borders of our continent are arbitrarily redrawn, undeclared war is fought, and democratic institutions are destroyed.** International terrorism is rapidly becoming a global issue. Lithuania supports all endeavors to curb the spread of terrorism" – President D. Grybauskaitė (September 24, 2014)

Lithuania **appreciates U.S. leading efforts to strengthen the security of the Baltic region.** When Russia's military aggression began in Ukraine, the United States was the first to reinforce the Baltic air policing mission and to send its troops for joint military exercises. [...] **the United States of America is our**

reliable partner which has always supported Lithuania's aspiration to build an independent and democratic state and establish itself in the international community. The strengthening ties between the two countries are evolving into concrete projects and initiatives in different spheres – President D. Grybauskaitė (September 23, 2014)

...When the UN Security Council discusses egregious crimes such as genocide or crimes against humanity, disagreements cannot be tolerated as they run counter to the spirit of the UN Charter. **“The use of the veto in the event of mass atrocities undermines justice and accountability.** It tramples upon humankind” – Minister of Foreign Affairs L. Linkevičius (September 26, 2014)

- **Energy security**

"The Stockholm case is proceeding according to the schedule set by the tribunal. Lithuania will present the final document in late November, while an oral hearing is planned for the next summer. [...] **Government's claim [...] that Gazprom had breached (the) privatisation deal and unilaterally raised gas prices still stands"** – Prime Minister A. Butkevičius (September 25, 2014)

...implementation of climate change targets is integral to ensuring energy security and efficiency. This is due to uneven distribution of energy resources throughout the globe and the fact that **some energy supply monopolies use energy as a means of political pressure. The problem is especially acute in Europe.** Therefore, we must cut down the dependence on fossil fuels and invest more in energy efficiency seeking to reduce the consumption of energy. [...] – President D. Grybauskaitė (September 23, 2014)

In 2005, the European Union set the 23 percent renewable energy target to be reached by 2020. Lithuania has almost achieved this level - the usage of renewables in our country now stands at 22 percent. – President D. Grybauskaitė (September 23, 2014)

- **Lithuanian economy, Euro**

Mario Draghi, the president of the European Central Bank, cited **Lithuania as a model for other eurozone countries because of the way it overcame a brutal economic downturn in 2009 to become one of the fastest-growing members of the European Union.** [...] The country, Mr. Draghi said, was an example of **“growth-friendly consolidation.”** In other words, Lithuania showed it was **possible to corral government spending and debt in the midst of a steep downturn, and ultimately return to growth.** – President of the European Central Bank M. Draghi (September 25, 2014, <http://nyti.ms/YcEDyc>)

Joining the European single currency "gives a better buffer towards geopolitical tensions [...] There are always bigger risks to have your own little currency, than to be a part of a larger currency zone when there are geopolitical tensions" – European Economic Affairs Commissioner J. Katainen (September 25, 2014)

Statements

- **Ukraine, Russia, Security**

“Our common task as a group of nations is to maintain undivided security - we have to **put all our efforts to stop ISIS and al-Qaeda, to keep peace and security in Middle East, but same efforts should be directed to manage the geopolitical challenges in Eastern Europe.** It is our duty to support peace, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine. **The threat arising to Ukraine must be urgently tackled.**”
– **Speech by President Dalia Grybauskaitė at the debate of the 69th session of the United Nations General Assembly**

http://president.lt/en/activities/speeches/speech_by_president_dalia_grybauskaite_at_the_debate_of_the_69th_session_of_the_united_nations_general_assembly.html

- **Other**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania expresses its deepest condolences to the family and loved ones of Hervé Gourdel, a **French citizen kidnapped and murdered by militants in Algeria last week**, and to all the people of France. The Lithuanian Foreign Ministry condemns this **barbaric crime linked to the Islamic State (IS)**. <http://urm.lt/default/en/news/lithuanian-foreign-ministry-expresses-condolences-over-brutal-murder-of-french-citizen-by-terrorists>

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania Linas Linkevičius and Robert Dussey, Togolese Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, signed the Joint Communiqué on the **Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the Republic of Lithuania and the Togolese Republic** <http://urm.lt/default/en/news/lithuania-establishes-bilateral-relations-with-togo>

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania hails the historical agreement of Ashraf Ghani and Abdullah Abdullah reached on forming the national unity government of Afghanistan. We hope that this important agreement will start a new stage in the development of the country. <http://urm.lt/default/en/news/the-ministry-of-foreign-affairs-of-lithuania-hails-the-agreement-on-national-unity-government-in-afghanistan->

Tweets:

- **Ukraine, Russia**

Rolandas Kacinskas retweeted **Maxim Eristavi** @MaximEristavi Sep 27 **#UNGA**: Russia's Lavrov has just basically offered NATO to divide Europe along Moldova-Ukraine-Georgia line. Calls it 'security arrangement'

Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Sep 26 My Take from min **#Lavrov's #OSCE** speech: inviolability of frontiers, non-intervention in internal affairs- just slogans. **#UNGA**

Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Sep 25 Ru 'humanitarian convoys' turn into regular commuter service- 4th planned... Definitely, we can't denounce the language of **#sanctions**.

Linus Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Sep 25 Time 2 tackle real problems of national minorities- violations in **#Crimea** systematic Via **@AFP**: Ru accuses Crimean **#Tatar** channel of extremism

Eitvydas Bajarunas @EitvydasB Sep 24 **#Lithuania**: **#EU** compromise on **#Ukraine** pact isn't right step. Too early to scale back sanctions on Russia <http://on.wsj.com/1sqSajW> via **@WSJ**

Linus Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Sep 24 Welcome strong speech of Pres **#Obama** at **#UNGA**. Condemning **#Rus** aggression in **#Ukr**, supporting freedom of nations to follow own path.

OSCE @OSCE Sep 24 Proposed media ownership requirements could further damage **#media** pluralism in **#Russia**, says **@OSCE_RFoM** Mijatović <http://bit.ly/1ps5pZR>

Linus Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Sep 23 **#Russia** treats **#propaganda** seriously: 30%-170% increase for state-controlled media in 2015. Where are we on this?

OSCE @OSCE Sep 23 OSCE Monitors in Ukraine **@OSCE_SMM** noted number of instances of artillery fire in Donetsk&Luhansk regions. Latest at <http://bit.ly/ZGr7V1>

Žygimantas Pavilionis @ZygisPavilionis Sep 23 Eastern Partnership endangered MT **@WBStevens**: **#Putin** sent **#Poroshenko** a letter warning against implementing EU deal <http://in.reuters.com/article/2014/09/23/ukraine-crisis-trade-idINKCN0HI1ZG20140923> ...

• Security

Lithuania in UN NY @LithuaniaUNNY Sep 24 **#UNSC** unanimously adopted resolution co-sponsored by **#Lithuania** addressing measures to combat **#foreignfighters**.

Dalia Grybauskaitė @Grybauskaite_LT Sep 24 Met with **#HillaryClinton**: **#US** is reliable partner for **#LT**, must be united in response to global security challenges

• Energy security

Dalia Grybauskaitė @Grybauskaite_LT Sep 23 **#UN #Climate2014**: **#LT** is committed to **#ClimateChange** goals, call for bigger attention to energy security

• Lithuanian economy, Euro

Eitvydas Bajarunas retweeted **European Commission** @EU_Commission Sep 25 **#Lithuania** adopting **#euro** shows EMU's vitality and strength of EU's **#postCrisis** reforms: <http://europa.eu/!NK97uG> **@jyrkikatainen** VIA: **@ecfin**

Eitvydas Bajarunas @EitvydasB Sep 25 Nice. **#Lithuanian** Bank President **#Vasiliauskas**: **#Lithuania** will be the fastest growing economy in the **#EU**. **#LTUinEU10** via **@vaisbrodas**

• Other

Linus Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Sep 25 2 terminology take-aways from 69th **#UNGA**: - **#ISIL**- un-Islamic non-state - **#Russia**- should belong to 'insecurity' council, not **#UNSC**

Linas Linkevicius retweeted **UN Spokesperson** @UN_Spokesperson Sep 24 **#UNSG**: Groups like **#ISIL** have nothing to do w/ **#Islam** & do not represent a state; they should more fittingly be called “Un-Islamic Non-State”

Dalia Grybauskaitė @Grybauskaite_LT Sep 24 Chairing **#CWWL** is a great opportunity to encourage world's women to become leaders & create their countries' future

Vytas Leškevičius @Leskevicius Sep 24 Long awaited news: Israel to open an Embassy, to appoint an Ambassador to **#Lithuania** <http://bit.ly/1uGvx05>

Eitvydas Bajarunas @EitvydasB Sep 23 **#Lithuanian** government turns to **@EU_Commission** over Lithuanian ship detained by **#Russia**. <http://en.delfi.lt/lithuania/economy/lithuanian-government-turns-to-european-commission-over-detained-ship.d?id=65925268> ...