

Lithuanian Diplomatic Playbook

29 September – 6 October 2014

- *Klaipėda LNG terminal is a GAME CHANGER providing energy supply alternative to Lithuania and Baltic neighbors, eliminating energy islands in Europe;*
- *We must end the situation when energy is applying as a means of political pressure, it is unacceptable;*
- *Lithuania strongly condemns the shelling of the office of the International Committee of the Red Cross;*
- *Lithuania offered education to 15 orphans from Eastern Ukraine for school year 2014/2015;*
- *EU calls Russia to respect international obligations&release Lithuanian fishing vessel "Jūros Vilkas"*

Top lines/Statements

Ukraine, Russia

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania **strongly condemns the shelling of the office of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)** on 2 October in Donetsk, which led to a death of a Red Cross worker, and offers its heartfelt condolences to the victim's family and loved ones. We also **strongly condemn intensified violations of ceasefire in recent days, which have claimed new victims. Those responsible for the crimes must be brought to justice.** [...] We underline that the ceasefire should not be taken advantage of by the separatists to expand the territory under their control. We regret that in spite of the ceasefire agreements and the international community's efforts to find a peaceful solution to the conflict, **Russia has not taken any decisive measures or concrete steps to withdraw its military forces and weapons from eastern Ukraine and Crimea, to hand over border control to Ukrainian border guards, to release hostages and to stop all provocations.** <http://www.urm.lt/default/en/news/lithuanian-foreign-ministrys-statement-on-violations-of-ceasefire-in-eastern-ukraine> (3 October, 2014)

Security

"Security issues have never been as critical as they are right now. Fully recognizing this, the people of Lithuania see NATO as the main guarantor for safeguarding, today and tomorrow, the security of our country and the whole region" the President wrote in her message of congratulations to Jens Stoltenberg on assuming the office of NATO Secretary General. – President

D. Grybauskaitė.

http://president.lt/en/press_center/press_releases/dalia_grybauskaite_congratulated_the_new_nato_secretary_general.html (1 October, 2014).

Energy security

Klaipėda LNG terminal is a GAME CHANGER, a key project in breaking down Gazprom's monopoly, eliminating energy islands in Europe, providing energy supply alternative. The opening of a new liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal in Lithuania in two months' time will supply its Baltic neighbors as well as northern European countries making the region less dependent on Russian gas.

The field of energy security requires heightened attention. We must end the situation when energy is applying as a means of political pressure, it is unacceptable. Electricity and gas islands in the

European Union's internal market are dangerous for all Europe's security. Recent Russian gas supply drop in Poland, Slovakia, continuously repeatable Gazprom's gas dispute with Ukraine indicate about customers in the European Union vulnerability, proof that Russia is unreliable partner. There is an urgent need for alternative gas supply.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/russias-gazprom-and-ukraine-are-in-a-gas-dispute-as-winter-approaches/2014/09/27/a7c9bcb2-45a8-11e4-b437-1a7368204804_story.html (27 September, 2014)

<http://www.themoscowtimes.com/business/article/gazprom-chief-warns-of-disruptions-to-europe-s-supply-of-russian-gas/507955.html> (28 September, 2014)

<http://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/Latest-News-Wires/2014/1001/Ukraine-crisis-Slovakia-says-Russian-gas-supply-cut-in-half-video> (1 October, 2014)

<http://www.aenergyterminal.com/newsRegion.php?newsid=3418884> (1 October, 2014)

Klaipėda LNG terminal put Lithuania at the forefront for developing sustainable usage of an environmentally friendly energy source that is also an economically interesting alternative to traditional shipping fuel. As such, it helps Europe to decrease its dependence on oil.

<http://www.lngindustry.com/news/liquid-natural-gas/articles/Siim-Kallas-gave-a-speech-on-LNG-in-Baltic-Sea-Ports-Projects-1495.aspx#.VCv97U0cTcs> (29 September, 2014)

There is a huge demand and potential for LNG regasification capacity in Central and Eastern European countries, by 2035 Liquefied, natural gas will gain a “significant” market share in the transport sector. All currently operational LNG import terminals are located in Western and Southern Europe. Klaipėda LNG terminal will be first in the Baltic – Nordic region.

Global demand for LNG in road transport is estimated at 45 million metric tons a year in 2025 and 96 million tons in 2035 from almost zero in 2010. Demand for LNG as a marine bunker fuel will rise to 35.7 million tons in 2025 and 77 million in 2035. From Jan. 1, 2015, all vessels operating in the **Baltic Sea** and **North Sea**, including the **English Channel**, will have to use fuels with a maximum sulfur content of 0.1 percent, **according** to the European Maritime Safety Agency.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-09-28/lng-trucks-to-boost-transport-market-share-by-2035-cedigaz-says.html> (29 September, 2014)

<http://www.naturalgasintel.com/articles/99802-us-lng-exports-no-panacea-for-europe-report-finds> (23 September, 2014)

Norway is strong and reliable Lithuania's partner, which is now playing a bigger role in the Baltic energy sector, energy security in the region.

Lithuania agreed to a long-term deal with Høegh LNG for a floating terminal for imports of natural gas; Statoil followed with a new agreement on delivery of considerable amounts of gas. Norway's business in the Baltic energy sector has already prompted Gazprom to lower its gas prices to Lithuanian customers.

<http://www.newsinenglish.no/2014/09/30/baltic-gas-deals-pressed-down-russian-prices/> (30 September, 2014)

“The European Council's discussions on climate change and the EU's active role in the preparation for the 2015 Paris Climate Conference agreement, which is to be legally binding, are very important, but **it is equally important that the EU takes timely decisions on the EU's energy security.** [...] **We can't put off to tomorrow what needs to be done today.** We need to take immediate concrete actions to effectively implement key initiatives – **completing the internal market when it comes to energy, services, and digital**” – Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs R. Kriščiūnas (29 September, 2014).

Other

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania Linas Linkevičius **congratulated new Polish Foreign Minister Grzegorz Schetyna on assuming office.** During the telephone conversation,

L.Linkevičius said that **the two countries should continue to work together on strengthening the Eastern Partnership, continuing to implement energy projects and to ensure regional security**. L.Linkevičius invited G.Schetyna to visit Lithuania.

<http://www.urm.lt/default/en/news/linkevicius-congratulates-polands-new-foreign-minister> (30 September, 2014).

Statement by the Spokesperson of the EU High Representative on the arrest in international waters and detention of a Lithuanian vessel by authorities of the Russian Federation:

http://eeas.europa.eu/statements/docs/2014/140930_01_en.pdf (30 September, 2014).

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania **congratulates Afghanistan on the signing of international agreements on 30 September – a Bilateral Security Agreement (BSA) with the United States of America and a Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) with NATO**. These two documents are extremely important for maintaining the partnership between Afghanistan and the international community and for long-term cooperation. They constitute a legal framework for commencing NATO's new Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan at the beginning of 2015.

<http://www.urm.lt/default/en/news/lithuanias-foreign-ministry-congratulates-afghanistan-on-signing-important-international-agreements-with-the-united-states-of-america-and-nato> (30 September, 2014).

Tweets

Ukraine, Russia

@AstaAndr Oct 3 [#Lithuania](#) offered education to 15 orphans from Eastern Ukraine for school year 2014/2015

@LinkeviciusL Sep 29 Agree 100%: [#Obama](#) 2 [@CBSNews](#) “None of that would h happened, if we took a firm line that what [#Russia](#) did was wrong” <http://cbsn.ws/1uViL5i>

@LinkeviciusL Sep 29 Amazing&despicable how [#Russia](#) torpedoed Ukraine's DCFTA w [#EU](#). Must stop. Isn't free trade what Ru wanted for itself?

@anneapplebaum Sep 29 Russia's information war is gathering pace in Lithuania using symbols, computer games, pop music <http://m.en.delfi.lt/article.php?id=65961902> ...

Security

@Grybauskaite_LT Sep 30 Congratulations to Mr. [@jensstoltenberg](#) - the new Chief of [@NATO](#). The Alliance remains key to peace & security of transatlantic area.

Energy

[@LinkeviciusL](#) on [@aft_ekonomi](#) on Norway's role ensuring [#energy](#) [#security](#) and [#independence](#): [#Norwegian](#) contracts push [#Russian](#) gas prices (2014-09-29

<http://www.aftenposten.no/ekonomi/Norske-avtaler-presser-ned-russiske-gasspriser-7723554.html> ...)

Other

@LithuaniaMFA Sep 30 [#EU](#) calls [#Russia](#) to respect international obligations&release [#Lithuanian](#) fishing vessel "Jūros Vilkas" <http://europa.eu/!Wq83Jk>

@LithuaniaMFA Sep 30 Welcome AFG signing crucial [@NATO](#) SOFA and USA BSA! 3 words “Train, advise and assist” will lead through the new [#NATO](#) Resolute Supp.Mission