



Lithuanian Diplomatic Playbook

20-26 October 2014

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

- A secure and democratic Ukraine is in the interest of the whole Europe.
- Russia can expect normalization of relations with the West only if it restores Ukraine's territorial integrity.
- Legal reforms needed for strengthening democracy in Ukraine. Lithuania is ready to offer its expert assistance to Ukraine in

this field.

- Energy security is vitally important for European countries.
 - The liquefied natural gas terminal to be launched in Lithuania is our country's significant contribution to promoting energy independence of the region and the entire EU.
 - Regional security – common interest of Baltic and Nordic countries.
 - Lithuania will adopt the euro on 1 January 2015 joining the strongest economies that play a crucial role in shaping the financial and monetary policies of the whole EU.
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Top lines, statements

Ukraine, Russia:

- „The general elections taking place on 26 October is of profound significance to Ukraine. The separatists' plans to hold the “elections” on 2 November is another cynical violation of Minsk agreements. The international community must unanimously condemn this illegal action. [...] Currently only Ukraine shows determination to implement Minsk agreements, however, without Russia's good will and cooperation these agreements remain merely a piece of paper. The success of the cease-fire depends on Russia's actions and its determination to assume the responsibility for bloodshed in Ukraine.“ – (Lithuanian ambassador to UN R. Murmokaitė, 25 October 2014), <http://goo.gl/eboHZk>.
- „A secure and democratic Ukraine is in the interest of the whole Europe. Therefore, upcoming parliamentary elections in this country must be held without outside interference and provocations. [...] elections in the entire territory of Ukraine, including Donetsk and Luhansk regions, must take place in accordance with Ukrainian legislation. Arbitrarily held elections will be deemed unlawful and their results will not be recognized. [...] now it was especially important to ensure the renewal of gas supplies to Ukraine.“ – (President D. Grybauskaitė, 23 October 2014), <http://goo.gl/VnFVii>.
- „The legal reforms now underway in Ukraine would not only allow more transparency and depoliticizing of the legal system, but will also contribute to strengthening democracy in this country. The implemented reforms will help ensure the rule of law and improve the protection of human rights as well as step

up transparency of the judiciary. Lithuania is ready to offer its expert assistance to Ukraine.“ – (President D. Grybauskaitė, 22 October 2014), <http://goo.gl/BdrrpF>.

- Ukraine needs urgent humanitarian, technical, financial and military assistance. We also encourage Ukraine to implement all the needed reforms to stabilize Ukraine’s economy and to ensure sustainable development” – (Foreign Vice-Minister N. Germanas, 21 October 2014), <http://goo.gl/ILcJPR>.
 - „If Russia intends to normalize its relations with the West, we will only welcome it, but, first of all, it has to take concrete steps to restore Ukraine’s territorial integrity and to stop questioning the European path that Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia have freely chosen. Unfortunately, the reality is different so far.“ – (Minister L. Linkevičius, 20 October 2014), <http://goo.gl/7sYoSN>.
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Security and Defence:

- „In view of the current security situation in the region the Lithuanian armed forces are looking to summon up certain capabilities and form a very high national readiness response force that can react within two–24 hours and have sufficient combat capacity to prevent hostile actions within the territory of Lithuania in peacetime“ – (Chief of Defence of the Republic of Lithuania Major General J. V. Žukas, 21 October 2014), <http://goo.gl/fZAsvq>.
 - „Geopolitical situation in the region called for coordinated action of the Baltic and Nordic countries, placing greater focus on information and energy security of the whole region.“ – (President D. Grybauskaitė, 21 October 2014), <http://goo.gl/hFvYlR>.
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Energy Security:

- On Monday, October 27, at 14:00 hours, President Dalia Grybauskaitė will attend the welcoming ceremony for the liquefied natural gas (LNG) storage vessel "Independence" in Klaipėda. The LNG terminal will ensure Lithuania's energy independence and competitive prices for consumers. „Lithuania has proved being able to adopt strategic decisions and implement energy projects of importance to the whole region. The LNG terminal is important for the energy security of Lithuania as well as of the entire Baltic region. The capacity of the terminal will be sufficient to satisfy the needs of all Baltic states. If necessary, the Klaipėda LNG terminal can serve and fulfill about 90 percent of the gas supply needs of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia.“ – (President D. Grybauskaitė, 26 October 2014), <http://goo.gl/OzrorP>.

- “Due to high energy dependence on a single supplier, European countries pay a high political price. Therefore, the ensuring of energy security is a vital interest of the whole EU. The liquefied natural gas terminal to be launched in Lithuania is our country's significant contribution to promoting energy independence of the region and the entire EU. Also, it is necessary to continue the work started: to successfully complete the creation of the EU's single energy market and eliminate energy islands in the Community” – (President D. Grybauskaitė, 23 October 2014), <http://goo.gl/FvESji>.
 - “Goals for climate and energy should be based on fair burden-sharing between the EU member states. Their implementation itself must be flexible, so that each member state could apply the most efficient measures and make use of appropriate financial instruments of the European Union to achieve their goals. [...] First priority should be given to ending the isolation of the energy “islands” and to completing the internal energy market.” – (Foreign Vice-Minister R. Kriščiūnas, 21 October 2014), <http://goo.gl/y30NIQ>.
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Lithuanian Economy, Euro:

- „To ensure economic growth in the EU, the member states must conduct a responsible financial policy and carry out structural reforms“. [...] (President D. Grybauskaitė, 24 October 2014), <http://goo.gl/yvOkIv>.
 - Lithuania will adopt the euro on 1 January 2015 joining the strongest economies that play a crucial role in shaping the financial and monetary policies of the whole EU. [...] Lithuania, whose economic growth is one of the fastest in the EU, is seen as an example of successful dealing with the crisis, reducing the budget deficit and tackling unemployment issues. Having successfully overcome economic challenges, Lithuania will become the nineteenth member of the euro area. (Press Service of the President, 24 October 2014), <http://goo.gl/yvOkIv>.
 - "Lithuania's economic growth has been one of the fastest in the European Union. Continuously increasing foreign investments in our country show that we are able to improve business environment and that trust in Lithuania is obviously growing" – (President D. Grybauskaitė, 24 October 2014), <http://goo.gl/PUWACv>.
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Other:

- During an official visit of Lithuania's Minister of Foreign Affairs Linas Linkevičius to Georgia on 23 October, the representatives of Georgia unanimously expressed their concern about the Russia-proposed draft agreement with Abkhazia on alliance

and integration. “European countries must not remain on the sidelines. The agreement between the Russian Federation and Abkhazia violates principles of international law and obligations undertaken by Russia after the Russian-Georgian war of 2008” – (Minister L. Linkevičius, 24 October 2014), <http://goo.gl/owUjml>.

- Lithuania [...] ready to contribute to the international community’s effort in Iraq with diplomatic and political means. „Lithuania is currently providing humanitarian and medical assistance and will be ready to participate in the preparation of the anti-ISIL mission, when it is launched.“ – (Minister

L. Linkevičius, 20 October 2014), <http://goo.gl/7sYoSN>.

Media links:

- Lithuanian Foreign Minister L. Linkevičius on the Game Changer – Klaipėda LNG terminal. Video in English: <http://goo.gl/Zo2yZj>, in Russian: <http://goo.gl/w9tLQE>, in Lithuanian: <http://goo.gl/JJLBlA>.
 - Klaipėda LNG terminal Factsheet: <http://goo.gl/kAuUyf>.
 - European Council doorsteps by President D. Grybauskaitė (in English, Lithuanian and Russian): <http://goo.gl/rHcfkl>, <http://goo.gl/yRwrio>, <http://goo.gl/ESFQlz>.
 - Foreign Affairs Council in Luxembourg – arrival and doorstep by Minister L. Linkevičius <http://goo.gl/uoBm4D>.
 - Russia's hold on the Baltics loosens. STRATFOR / delfi.lt, 24 October 2014, <http://goo.gl/vscKc1>.
 - Russian pressure on Baltic States. Jerome McDonell talking with Lithuania's Foreign Minister Linas Linkevičius. WBEZ's Worldview, 21 October 2014, <http://goo.gl/VJuecz>
 - We can survive without Russian gas now, says Lithuania's president. Reuters / Mail Online, 21 October 2014, <http://goo.gl/1CU9xM>.
 - The Stockholm syndrome in politics. Minister L. Linkevičius for European Voice, 19 October 2014. Find full text here: <http://goo.gl/gSfwYm>.
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On Twitter

Ukraine, Russia:

- [Linus Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL](#) · Oct 26 Seems that [#European](#) choice winning in [#Ukraine](#). Farewell to the past! One can't abuse peoples will, neither green men, nor white trucks...
 - [Lithuania MFA @LithuaniaMFA](#) · Oct 26 [#UkraineVotes](#) : a day when freedom in Europe is enhanced and democracy triumphs over external aggression. [#UnitedForUkraine](#)
 - [Lithuania MFA @LithuaniaMFA](#) · Oct 24 Russia should stop escalating tensions: Lithuania's statement at the [#UNSC](#) meeting on situation in [#Ukraine](#) <http://goo.gl/9oQ5tS>
 - Raimonda Murmokaite retweeted [Zbigniew Brzezinski @zbig](#) · Oct 24 The Ukrainians have a unique chance with their elections to demonstrate to Russia the difference between freedom, anarchy, and despotism.
 - [Lithuania in UN NY @LithuaniaUNNY](#) · Oct 24 [#Russia](#) must immediately withdraw all its armed formations, mil equipment & fighters from [#Ukraine](#), stop supporting & arming separatists
 - [Vytautas Leskevicius @Leskevicius](#) · Oct 24 Snappy and spot-on response by [#LT](#) Pres [@Grybauskaite_LT](#) to a provocative question. Read here: <http://bit.ly/1ytsphS>
 - [Linus Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL](#) · Oct 23 Russia blocking extending number of [#OSCE](#) mission observers in Ukr-Ru border reveals true intentions. Simply cannot stop...
 - [Vytautas Leskevicius @Leskevicius](#) · Oct 23 LT MEP [@GLandsbergis](#) asked by [@Europarl_EN](#) [#AFET](#) 2 make report on EU-RF relations against background of UA crisis <http://bit.ly/ZOMbZ6>
 - [Rolandas Kacinskas @RKacinskas](#) · Oct 22 [#Newsweek](#): "Tiny [#Lithuania](#), in other words, is planning to fight back." Find out why here: <http://goo.gl/fZAsvq> [#LTUworld](#)
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Security and Defence:

- [Egidijus Meilūnas @MeilunasE](#) · Oct 22 [#Lithuania](#) to expand its armed forces - EN.DELFI <http://t.co/lcBwvXoYNO>
 - [Newsweek @Newsweek](#) · Oct 21 Sweden, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania & Estonia reporting massively increased military trespassing by Russian military — <http://bit.ly/1vHOHxS>
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Energy Security:

- **Eitvydas Bajarunas** @EitvydasB · Oct 25 **#Lithuania** counting hours when **#LNG** ship will arrive. **#KlaipedaLNG** factsheet <http://goo.gl/ozUci6> . **#EnergySecurity**
 - **Egidijus Meilūnas** @MeilunasE · Oct 23 President Grybauskaitė: **#Lithuania** has proven that it can built **#LNG** facility by itself - EN.DELFI <http://t.co/NtJoyorVF9>
 - **Lithuania MFA** @LithuaniaMFA · Oct 22 New **#LNG** initiatives give The Baltic Sea region a unique opport. 2be even more environmentally-friendly **#KlaipedaLNG** <http://goo.gl/JYLdNE>
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Lithuanian Economy, Euro:

- **andrius grikienis** @grikenis · Oct 21 Lithuania will be represented at **#EuroSummit** for the first time on Thursday. Accession to **#Euro** from 2015 brings to the core of Europe
 - **Gediminas Varvuolis** @varvuolis · Oct 24 Opinion: Lithuania's timely euro adoption means it will make into first-speed Europe - EN.DELFI <http://t.co/Wilu8TFBy3>
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Other:

- **Linas Linkevicius** @LinkeviciusL · Oct 23 1st impressions from **#Tbilisi** : strong comm to **#EU/#NATO** reforms, need 2consolidate pol forces &increased 'attention' from the big neighbour
 - **Linas Linkevicius** @LinkeviciusL · Oct 20 **#RU** diligently&consistently undermines national sovereignty&int law- this time warning to **#Moldova/#Transdnistria**. <http://bit.ly/1vBrA7g>
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