



Lithuanian Diplomatic Playbook

25 - 31 May 2015

Key Lithuanian Foreign Policy messages of the week. All materials included are public.
Please use and share!

Photo of the Week

On 27 May, the UN Security Council unanimously adopted a resolution, drafted by Lithuania, on the protection of journalists in conflict zones. Scaling up efforts of the global community to ensure safety of journalists and media professionals is among its main goals.
[Read more.](#)



Key messages:

- Global community must scale up efforts to ensure safety of journalists and media professionals.
- Need to revise the existing anti-terrorism measures.
- Seeking the implementation of the NATO agreement on the existing and further measures of deterrence in the region.
- EU is committed to continue supporting Ukraine and Eastern partners as they implement democratic reforms and pursue the European path.
- Lithuania supports Georgia's aspiration for membership in the EU and NATO.

Top lines, statements

Ukraine, Russia:

- Declaration of the Assembly of members of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, the Sejm and Senate of the Republic of Poland, and the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. 29 May 2015. [Read the declaration.](#)
- “Lithuania will continue to support the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine,” said Marius Janukonis, Ambassador of Lithuania to Ukraine. According to the ambassador, Ukraine has all possibilities to become a success story in Europe and Lithuania will continue to actively support Ukraine’s path to EU integration. (27 May 2015.) [Read full news release.](#)
- Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian Defence Ministers underscored that the Baltic States were ready to continue rendering assistance to Ukraine for the development of its armed forces and the reform of its defence sector. (28 May 2015.) [Read full news release.](#)

Security and Defence:

- Minister Juozas Olekas maintained that the increased security threat is a push to step up Baltic security and defence cooperation. “Regional defence cooperation of the Baltic States is more critical than ever, our security assurance is our solidarity,” Minister J.Olekas said. The Ministers also agreed to enhance cooperation with Poland, Baltic States’ neighbour and strategic Ally in NATO, assuring a unanimous response to possible threats. (27 May 2015.) [Read full news release.](#)
- In his statement, Mr Linkevičius stressed that the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters is becoming an increasingly global threat. "There are already more than 25,000 of such fighters from more than 100 countries. Most of them are going to Syria and Iraq to commit exceptionally barbaric and brutal acts. Return to their home countries poses enormous challenges for local law enforcement and counter-terrorism authorities." (Foreign Minister Linas Linkevičius 29 May 2015). [Read full news release.](#)

Lithuanian economy, Euro:

- Baltic States: German entrepreneurs assess the situation in Lithuania the most positive. (29 May 2015.) [Read full news release.](#)
- Of all Baltic countries the Swedes see the best prospects in Lithuania. (28 May 2015.) [Read full news release.](#)

Bilateral relations, Regional cooperation:

- The President underlined that Lithuania and Poland were among the most active supporters of Ukraine, always ready to help this nation as it proceeds along the path of European integration. “Today we all share the same objective: to ensure secure life and well-being for our people. We have a common understanding of the geopolitical situation and threats to our region. The closer our cooperation is at all levels, the more secure and stable our region will be.” (President Dalia Grybauskaitė, 29 May 2015). [Read full news release.](#)

- “You are our brothers and sisters in the Caucasus. Lithuania understands and values Georgia’s fight for independence. We know very well what it means to lose freedom and territory. We understand what it means for Georgia to become a European state, therefore we support you.” (President Dalia Grybauskaitė, 26 May 2015). [Read full news release.](#)
 - “The United States is our reliable partner with which we maintain strong relations in various fields. In the face of new challenges to our region, it has demonstrated solidarity and support. We must stand united and judge the situation by deeds, not words.” (President Dalia Grybauskaitė, 26 May 2015). [Read full news release.](#)
 - “Today we all deal with new challenges facing Europe. Europe must change as it always has done. We all have a huge responsibility for the future of Europe. It must be different, but unite us for the common cause, unity and peace.” (President Dalia Grybauskaitė, 26 May 2015). [Read full news release.](#)
 - “One of the priorities for development cooperation in the field of migration should be to encourage returnees’ to return to their country of origin and their reintegration processes.” (Foreign Vice-Minister Andrius Krivas, 27 May 2015). [Read full news release.](#)
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Media links

- Approving the Baltic states’ request for a permanent NATO military presence is the best way to prevent war with Russia and preserve the alliance. *The American Interest*, 29 May 2015. [Read full article.](#)
 - Defence ministers of the three Baltic states have agreed to analyze the possibilities of establishing a joint medium-range air defence system. *The Lithuania Tribune*, 29 May 2015. [Read full article.](#)
 - Lithuania reaches new heights in World Competitiveness Ranking 2015. *The Baltic Course*, 28 May 2015. [Read full article.](#)
 - Press Conference by Mr. Linas Linkevičius, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania at the UN Headquarters, 27 May 2015, UN WEB TV. [Watch video.](#)
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On Twitter

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Ukraine, Russia:

- [LT OSCE @LT_OSCE May 31](#) Another evidence of RU army presence in [#Ukraine](#)- RU drones downed in Donbas [http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/may/21/ukraine-drones-shot-down-russian ...](http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/may/21/ukraine-drones-shot-down-russian...) [http://nv.ua/img/forall/users/0/2/11265196_1589753377973492_2532195109886202448_n.jpg ...](http://nv.ua/img/forall/users/0/2/11265196_1589753377973492_2532195109886202448_n.jpg...)
- [Eitvydas Bajarunas @EitvydasB May 31](#) Indeed ... Russia ban shows sanctions are working, Sir Malcolm Rifkind says [http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-32950052 ...](http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-32950052...)
- [LT OSCE @LT_OSCE May 29](#) Soon all [#CrimeanTatars](#) in Russian occupied [#Crimea](#) will be announced as terrorists or criminals for loyalyty to [#UA](#) LT_OSCE added, [Ukraine Reporter @StateOfUkraine](#) Russia opened

criminal proceedings against the leader of Crimea Tatars for threatening Russia's territorial integrity
<http://ru.krymr.com/content/news/27043186.html> ...

- [LT OSCE](#) @LT OSCE May 29 Latest #SMM report: new evidence of RU soldiers in Donbas region and military recruitment of children by separatists <http://www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/160931> ...
 - [Lithuania MFA](#) @LithuaniaMFA May 29 Inter- Parliamentary #LT #PL #UA assembly requests immediate release of #Savchenko. #UnitedForUkraine Declaration:
http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter/w5_show?p_r=4028&p_d=158230&p_k=2 ...
 - [LTembassyUA](#) @LTembassyUA May 29 #Lithuanian political leaders are #unitedforUkraine! Kyiv Security Forum had a significant Lithuanian touch -... <http://fb.me/2fdW1qLSJ>
 - [Lithuania MFA](#) @LithuaniaMFA May 28 #Ukraine - country w a vision 2belong to #Europe so we have to respect that vision, let's help them #UnitedForUkraine
 - [Petras Austrevicius](#) @petras_petras May 28 #Russia continues a large military build up on Ukraine's border. Russia remains responsible for increased instability
 - [LT MFA STRATCOM](#) @LT MFA Stratcom May 28 Russia is at war with Ukraine. RU citizens and soldiers are fighting and dying in a war of their gov. own making. <http://www.atlanticcouncil.org/publications/reports/hiding-in-plain-sight-putin-s-war-in-ukraine-and-boris-nemtsov-s-putin-war> ...
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Security and defence:

- [Lithuania in NATO](#) @LitdelNATO May 22 @jensstoltenberg says #WarsawSummit will chart course for @NATO to adapt to new threats & be ready to defend any Ally <http://goo.gl/X4sFiM>
 - [Vytautas Leskevicius](#) @Leskevicius May 30 2-way street: #US forces train in #LT, whilst #LT National Defense Volunteer Forces to exercise in Pennsylvania, #US
 - [Vytautas Leskevicius](#) @Leskevicius May 30 #Nordic-Baltic, Polish Chiefs of Defense+@US EUCOM @PMBreedlove discussed means 2counter security risks in the region <http://bit.ly/1J9yLvl>
 - [Vytautas Leskevicius](#) @Leskevicius May 28 Following Wales' spirit&letter #LT plans 2increase armed forces, new Motorized Infantry Brigade 2be established 2016
 - [Lithuania MFA](#) @LithuaniaMFA May 27 While getting used to Zhirinovskiy hysteria, we expect #RU authorities 2distance from territ. claims to LT @mfa_russia <http://www.1tv.ru/prj/structure/vypusk/38328> ...
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Lithuanian economy, Euro:

- [Simonas Satunas](#) @SimonasSatunas May 31 Another SCC in #Lithuania: Sweden's #Skandia to open #Thule customer service centre in Lithuania. @neweuropeinvest http://www.baltic-course.com/eng/good_for_business/?doc=106791 ...
 - [Lithuania MFA](#) @LithuaniaMFA May 28 #Lithuania rose six places to 28th among 61 countries in the 2015 World #Competitiveness Yearbook. @Invest_LT
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Bilateral relations, Regional cooperation:

- [Asta A. @AstaAndr](#) [May 30](#) 25 yrs ago, on 31 May 1990, Moldova's Parliament first in the world recognised the restored independence of [#Lithuania](#). Thank you, [#Moldova](#)!
 - [Seimas LT @LRSeimas](#) [May 29](#) [#UA](#) [@Verkhovna](#)-Rada Delegation is eager to learn from [@LRSeimas](#) experience of parliamentary control.
 - [Seimas LT @LRSeimas](#) [May 29](#) [#LT](#) [#PL](#) [#UA](#) Assembly calls [#EU](#) parliaments to swiftly ratify [#EU-#UA](#) Association agreement to provide full entry into force as of 2016
 - [Lithuanian MoD @Lithuanian_MoD](#) [May 29](#) LTU to post an officer to [#EUNAVFOR](#) Med HQ in response to migration challenge. <http://bit.ly/1cncko1>
 - [Seimas LT @LRSeimas](#) [May 29](#) Final Declaration of Interparliamentary [#LT](#) [#PL](#) [#UA](#) Assembly in [#Vilnius](#):deepening cooperation, support to [#Ukraine](#):http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter/w5_show?
 - [Eitvydas Bajarunas @EitvydasB](#) [May 28](#) Something is being cooked in the North of Europe: New Finnish Government Will Explore [#NATO](#) Membership. [http://upnorth.eu/new-finnish-government-announced-will-explore-nato-membership/ ...](http://upnorth.eu/new-finnish-government-announced-will-explore-nato-membership/)
 - [Dalia Grybauskaitė @Grybauskaite_LT](#) [May 25](#) Congratulations [@AndrzejDuda](#), President elect of [#Poland](#)! Looking forward to close cooperation for regional security & prosperity of the [#EU](#)
 - [Linus Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL](#) [May 25](#) Happy Independence Day to the people of [#Georgia](#)! We will always stand by you, born to be free, future members of the Euro-Atlantic family!
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Other:

- [RaMurmokaite @PRLTUN](#) [May 31](#) [#Lithuanian](#) presidency of [#UNSC](#) ends today. Huge thanks my hardworking, dedicated, excellent team! [@LithuaniaUNNY](#)
 - [RaMurmokaite @PRLTUN](#) [May 29](#) We did it! 2 major resolutions on [#SALW](#) and [#protectionofjournalists](#), and PRST on FTFs adopted during [#Lithuania](#) May presidency of [#UNSC](#)
 - [Linus Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL](#) [May 29](#) I am grateful to [#UNSG](#) [@secgen](#) Ban Ki-moon for excellent cooperation during the Presidency of [#Lithuania](#) at [#UNSC](#)
 - [Linus Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL](#) [May 29](#) Congrats and appreciation to all blue helmets serving around the world today! [#PKDay](#) [#UN](#) [#peacekeeping](#) [#bluehelmets](#)
 - [Linus Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL](#) [May 28](#) Pleased 2 meet [@georgesoros](#) in NY. Thanked him for his visionary support 2 democracy & human rights in Eastern Europe
 - [Lithuania in NATO @LitdeINATO](#) [May 28](#) [#Estonia](#) & [#Latvia](#) join the 10 year old [#MissionSiberia](#), a project 2 take care of [#soviet](#) deportation victims' graves
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