



Lithuanian Diplomatic Playbook

22 - 28 June 2015

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

Photo of the Week

"The United States continues to be our reliable partner. We well know the strength of its moral convictions – the United States did not recognize the occupation of the Baltic States for the entire period of fifty years. Today, when our region's security faces a real threat, the United States gives us both help and support. Such transatlantic unity is the only response to the increasingly growing aggression"

Lithuanian President D. Grybauskaitė met with the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives John Boehner to discuss security issues in Lithuania and the region
(June 27, Vilnius)
[Read more.](#)



Key messages:

- The United States - our reliable partner. Such transatlantic unity is the only response to the increasingly growing aggression in the region.
 - The fight against propaganda has to be permanently placed on the EU foreign policy agenda.
 - EU must review its strategy towards Russia and provide new guidelines for relations with this country.
 - All EU member states must share the immigration burden. The member states have to show solidarity based on the voluntary principle.
 - Lithuania continues fulfilling its commitments and contributes further to the NATO Resolute Support Mission tailored to Train, Advise and Assist (TAA) the Afghan National Security Forces.
-
-

Top lines, statements

Ukraine, Russia:

- According to the Lithuanian Foreign Minister, the EU must review its strategy towards Russia and provide new

guidelines for relations with this country. Lithuania's Foreign Minister also positively assessed the preparation of the action plan on strategic communication and called for a united response to fight Russian propaganda. [Read full news release](#)

- "I have invited my NATO colleagues to follow Lithuania's example and give more attention to the work with Ukraine's society, particularly in its regions. Our embassy in Ukraine is currently performing the functions of the NATO Contact Point Embassy which allows us to spread the message about NATO more widely, in Kiev but also beyond," Minister of National Defence Olekas said on 25 June during the NATO Defence Ministers meeting in Brussels. [Read full news release](#)
-

Security and Defence:

- The United States of America will station heavy military equipment in the Baltic States. U.S. Secretary of Defence Ashton B. Carter confirmed that at a meeting with the Baltic Defence Ministers in Tallinn on June 23. "An attack on one of your countries is an attack on the entire NATO," the U.S. Secretary of Defence asserted. [Read full news release](#)
 - Lithuania and Norway strengthen cooperation in ensuring regional security. On June 23 Minister of National Defence Juozas Olekas met with Minister of Defence of Norway Ine Eriksen Soereide at the Šiauliai Airbase of the Lithuanian Air Force and thanked Norway for its participation in the NATO Baltic Air Policing Mission enhancing regional security. [Read full news release](#)
 - On June 24 during the NATO Defence Ministers meeting in Brussels Lithuania together with Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Romania and Slovakia joined a group for developing joint capabilities with Germany as its framework nations. This is a smart defence-based cooperation where countries are pooling resources to generate capabilities that would be too much of a challenge for any of them alone. [Read full news release](#)
 - Lithuania continues fulfilling its commitments and contributes further to the NATO Resolute Support Mission tailored to Train, Advise and Assist (TAA) the Afghan National Security Forces. Two groups of troops will carry out six-month rotations at the operational headquarters in Kabul and Regional Command-West in Herat. [Read full news release](#)
 - "The United States continues to be our reliable partner. We well know the strength of its moral convictions – the United States did not recognize the occupation of the Baltic States for the entire period of fifty years. Today, when our region's security faces a real threat, the United States gives us both help and support. Such transatlantic unity is the only response to the increasingly growing aggression," the President said during the meeting with the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives John Boehner in Vilnius. [Read full news release](#)
-

Energy security:

- Minister of Foreign Affairs Linas Linkevičius participated in the Foreign Affairs Council meeting, which focused on energy diplomacy. Linkevičius called on his counterparts to boldly and clearly identify threats and take resolute measures to stop destabilizing actions at the EU borders. According to the Minister, the EU must review its strategy towards Russia and provide new guidelines for relations with this country (22 June 2015). [Read full news release](#)
-

Lithuanian economy, Euro:

- President Dalia Grybauskaitė met with Vice Premier of China Zhang Gaoli. The meeting focused on opportunities to further strengthen economic cooperation between the two countries and implement joint projects. "Economic cooperation between Lithuania and China is intensifying. Our exports to this country are increasing and business ties are growing stronger. We should exploit the potential of cooperation with one of the largest economies in the world. It will advance our economic growth and the well-being of our people," the President said (22 June 2015). [Read full news release](#)
-

Bilateral relations, Regional cooperation:

- Lithuania's Foreign Vice-Minister stresses the importance of voluntary sharing the immigration burden in the EU. [Read full news release](#)
- L. Linkevičius: Lithuania appreciates excellent bilateral relations and is ready to continue to fully support the European integration aspirations of Moldova, as well as to help it implement difficult and painful reforms. [Read full news release](#)

- In the political consultation on 26 June in Vilnius, Political Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania Rolandas Kačinskas and General Director for European Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Portugal Francisco Duarte Lopes adjusted their stance on important issues related to the EU, NATO and bilateral cooperation. “We appreciate Portugal’s attention to security of NATO’s eastern countries. Portuguese fighter-jets have guarded the air space over the Baltic States twice, operating from the Air Force Base in Šiauliai. Joint exercises with soldiers of the Portuguese Armed Forces were also conducted in Lithuania this year,” said the Lithuanian representative. [Read full news release](#)
 - At the European Council session on 26 June President Dalia Grybauskaitė underlined that it was necessary to accelerate the creation of a digital single market and to remove all barriers to free online trade across the European Union. She highlighted the importance of providing the widest range of services online and promoting the use of e-services. [Read full news release](#)
 - President Dalia Grybauskaitė met with British Prime Minister David Cameron ahead of the European Council meeting in Brussels on 26 June. Dalia Grybauskaitė underlined that the European Union had to adapt to the changing environment. However, even though reforms were necessary, the EU’s core values and principles had to remain fixed. The free movement of people, goods, services and capital, the President pointed out, were the underlying foundation of the Union and nothing should undermine it. Lithuania supports the UK’s position that the EU internal market should work more effectively. A better functioning of the single market for services, digital technologies and energy is on top of Lithuania’s list of priorities, too. [Read full news release](#)
 - At the EU Council’s session on European security and defense on 26 June, President Dalia Grybauskaitė underlined that the European Union needed to evaluate the changing security environment, newly emerging hybrid threats, the ongoing changes in the EU neighborhood, including Russia’s aggression, and to outline concrete counter measures. According to President Dalia Grybauskaitė, the European Union and NATO share the same view on the changed security situation in the EU’s neighborhood. Enhanced strategic partnership and political cooperation between the EU and NATO are a strong response to geopolitical threats. [Read full news release](#)
 - European leaders agreed on June 26 that 40,000 refugees will be relocated from Greece and Italy to other EU member states over the next two years. Country-specific numbers will be set on a voluntary basis in line with the principle of solidarity. The scheme will be finalized by the Home Affairs Council by the end of July. [Read full news release](#)
-

Media links

- Lithuanian ambassador in Moscow: Balancing political estrangement and cultural closeness. Delfi, 26 June 2015 [Read full article](#)
 - NATO’s decision to increase its Response Force capability to up to 40,000 troops and set up headquarters in six Eastern European countries shows that NATO is capable of responding adequately to the changing security situation and making swift decisions, Lithuanian President Dalia Grybauskaitė says. Delfi, 25 June 2015 [Read full article](#)
 - Thule, a division of the Swedish life insurance company Skandia, will start operations in Vilnius in early 2016. Starting with 70 employees in Lithuania, the company plans to raise this number to 250 in three years. Invest Lithuania, 23 June 2015 [Read full article](#)
 - L. Linkevičius: Russian sanction extension shows Europe can be united. Delfi, 23 June 2015 [Read full article](#)
 - Forbes has included Lithuania in its list of five places to watch for tech investors. “It may be small, but it is one of the most innovative and tech-savvy countries in Europe”. Forbes, 21 June 2015 [Read full article](#)
 - “The NATO doctrine does not have a list of enemies, it is not our goal to threaten someone. We will do what we must - enhance the security of our territory and citizens, despite everything,” Linkevičius told news agency ELTA commenting on US Secretary of Defence Ashton Carter’s official statement that the US intends to deploy military equipment to Eastern Europe. [Read full article](#)
-

On Twitter

Follow us on Twitter: [@LT_MFA_Stratcom](#)

Ukraine, Russia:

- [Vyta Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jun 28](#) Telling: Russia denounces UN Tribunal for MH17 suspects. via [@BreitbartNews http://bit.ly/1Jr1GeO](#)
 - [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jun 27](#) 1 y after signing of AA [#Ukraine](#), [#Moldova](#), [#Georgia](#) – 1 y of backing up the words w deeds, getting closer to European spirit & w Eurovalues
 - [Lithuania in NATO @LitdelNATO Jun 25](#) Support to [#Ukraine](#) and [#Allied](#) reassurance discussed in bilateral meeting between [#Lithuanian](#) and [#Canadian #DefMins](#)
 - [Žygimantas Pavilionis @ZygisPavilionis Jun 25](#) US General: Russian Military Presence in Ukraine Irrefutable [http://nyti.ms/1KaiSUd](#) [@UNISdirect](#) [@Leskevicius](#) [@NATOSource](#) [@MJanukonis](#) [@MZickus](#)
 - [LT OSCE @LT OSCE Jun 25](#) [#OSCE](#): [#RussianMedia](#) increasingly manipulates with [#SMM](#) reports [#SMM](#) is taking counter measures against RU propaganda [http://bit.ly/1GUNoiN](#)
 - [RaMurmokaite @PRLTUN Jun 25](#) [#Ukraine](#) says during June 16 - 23 Russia-backed illegal militants shelled its ATO Forces over 606 times
 - [Vyta Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jun 25](#) [#Lithuanian](#) [#DefMin](#) Olekas at NATO-Ukraine Commission 2day: [#Lithuania](#) is and will be supporting [#Ukraine](#) fighting for our common values
 - [LTembassyUA @LTembassyUA Jun 25](#) Ambassador Marius Janukonis welcomed two Ukrainian families, affected by the conflict in Easter Ukraine, who came... [http://fb.me/4vVgApTs9](#)
 - [LT OSCE @LT OSCE Jun 23](#) [#OSCE](#) ASRC debates- RU: 'there are no [#RUsoldiersinUA](#) [#separatists](#) have bought RU military insignias' (!)
 - [LT OSCE @LT OSCE Jun 23](#) [#OSCE](#) ASRC debates clear messages sent 2 RU - 'no time for tactical games over [#UA](#) crisis' and 'do not distort history'.
 - [LT OSCE @LT OSCE Jun 23](#) [#ASRC](#) 2015 debates- [#Russia](#) once again tried to convince all of the [#WorldConspiracy](#) against Russia.
 - [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jun 22](#) Final touch by [#FAC](#) - [#EU](#) sectorial sanctions to [#Russia](#) prolonged, as aggression against [#Ukraine](#) & Minsk agreements' violations continue.
-

Security and defence:

- [Vyta Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jun 27](#) [#LT](#) Chief of Defense pledges to strengthen [#LT](#) rapid response forces by setting up another battalion combat group
- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jun 26](#) Horrified by attacks in Tunisia, Kuwait, France. Condolences 2 families of the victims. Reminder that fighting [#terrorism](#) is our common challenge
- [Vyta Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jun 26](#) [#SecDef](#) Carter: US to position armor in Baltics and elsewhere in Eastern Europe [http://1.usa.gov/1dk6nZe](#)
- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jun 26](#) Shocked at the horrific attack in southeast [#France](#), senseless „ideology“ of [#terrorism](#) has no future and will be defeated
- [Vyta Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jun 26](#) My key 5 political takeaways from [#NATO](#) [#DefMins](#) meeting. Be: 1. strong; 2. prepared; 3. resolved; 4. open; 5. united
- [Dalia Grybauskaitė @Grybauskaite LT Jun 25](#) Welcome [@NATO](#) [#DefMins](#) strong progress in implementing [#Wales](#) decisions on Very High Readiness Joint Task Force
- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jun 25](#) Resolute Wales implement: [#NATO](#) DefMin enhance [#NRF](#), accelerate pol-mil decision making, create 6 HQ & new joint logistics HQ. [#NATOready](#) !
- [Lithuania in NATO @LitdelNATO Jun 25](#) [#Lithuania](#) meets [#Montenegro](#) at [@NATO](#) [#DefMins](#) for exchanges on key security issues & Montenegro's future in [@NATO](#)
- [Lithuanian MoD @Lithuanian MoD Jun 25](#) [#LTU](#) joined a [#NATO](#) capability development initiative in response 2 the new security environment [http://bit.ly/1KbRbup](#)
- [Lithuania in NATO @LitdelNATO Jun 24](#) [#Lithuania](#), [#Poland](#) and [#Ukraine](#) meet at [@NATO](#) [#DefMins](#) to discuss trilateral military cooperation, [#LitPolUkrBrig](#)
- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jun 24](#) Alliance East committed to own & allied [#defence](#)-defence spending going up . [#NATO](#) [http://bit.ly/1JsC8xU](#)
- [Lithuanian MoD @Lithuanian MoD Jun 24](#) [#GER](#), [#PRT](#) & [#US](#) military honored 4 their contribution to [#LTU](#) security w/ medals 4 mutual support [#AlliedStrong](#)
- [Lithuania in NATO @LitdelNATO Jun 24](#) [#Lithuania](#) joins the [#German](#) led framework group for better coordination & common multinational capabilities in [@NATO](#)

- [Lithuanian MoD @Lithuanian MoD Jun 23 #LTU](#) DefMinister: [#LTU](#) is by all means ready to accommodate allied forces & equipment and is to further increase its defence expenditures
 - [Lithuanian MoD @Lithuanian MoD Jun 23](#) "That is a visible message to our societies that our NATO ally [#US](#) stands firmly by," LTUDefMin J.Olekas. [#ERI #EAS http://bit.ly/1g0XCFy](#)
 - [Lithuanian MoD @Lithuanian MoD Jun 23 #LTU](#) Def Minister thanked his Norwegian colleague [#Norway](#)'s contribution to the [#NATO #BalticAirPolicing @Forsvarsdep](#)
 - [Mindaugas Zickus @MZickus Jun 23 #LithuanianDefenseSpending](#) - positive trends, but need to sustain [#NATO @NATOSource #WalesSummitCommitments](#)
-

Energy Security:

- [Žygimantas Pavilionis @ZygisPavilionis 18h18 hours ago @SpeakerBoehner](#) in front of Lithuanian [#LNG](#) terminal-in favor of expedited LNG exports [@LNGALLIES @AmLithBC @MZickus](#)
-

Lithuanian economy, Euro:

- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jun 27](#) Referendum in Greece is already going on- at bank machines. They vote for solution, government ignores it.
 - [Simonas Satunas @SimonasSatunas Jun 24 #Lithuania](#) appoints Lawyer George Oraro 1st honorary [#consul](#) in [#Kenya #Nairobi](#), 2 help [#Lithuanian #exports http://bit.ly/1HrdgGi](#)
 - [Dalia Grybauskaitė @Grybauskaite LT Jun 22](#) The Greek government still wants to party but the bills have to be paid by somebody else [#EURO](#)
 - [Dalia Grybauskaitė @Grybauskaite LT Jun 22 #LT-#CN](#) economic cooperation intensifies. Discussed more possibilities with [#China](#)'s vice Prime minister Zhang Gaoli
-

Bilateral relations, Regional cooperation:

- [Vytautas Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jun 28 #Lithuania's @Grybauskaite LT](#): solidarity important but Mediterranean migrant crisis needs more systematic solution [http://bit.ly/1fXtOJS](#)
- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jun 27](#) Welcome to [#Lithuania #US](#) House Speaker John Boehner. Thank you for your solidarity & partnership for freedom!
- [Remigijus Motuzas @MotuzasR Jun 27](#) I am sharing [#Lithuania #Tribune](#) article about my current [#diplomatic](#) mission in [#Moscow](#): [http://bit.ly/1NssWHQ](#)
- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL June 27](#) Takk, Martin [@martinlidegaard](#) , for excellent cooperation & good luck with what the future will bring you!
- [Žygimantas Pavilionis @ZygisPavilionis Jun 27](#) President [@Grybauskaite LT](#) w/ [@SpeakerBoehner](#) - united by freedom [@RKacinskas @VP @MZickus @RenatasNorkus @IRIglobal](#)
- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL 21h21 hours ago](#) Welcome to the club, [@Kristian Jensen](#) . Looking forward to further advancing Nordic-Baltic ties together. [#Denmark](#)
- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jun 26](#) Мои сердечные соболезнования семье и друзьям Е.Примакова .
- [Lithuania in UN NY @LithuaniaUNNY Jun 26](#) UN marks 70th anniversary of UN Charter but world fails in R2P in Syria and elsewhere. Veto used to protect perpetrators not victims.
- [RaMurmokaite @PRLTUN Jun 26](#) Latest hideous attacks on 3 continents stark reminder world must step up efforts to combat [#terrorism @UN CTED](#)
- [Lithuania in UN NY @LithuaniaUNNY Jun 26](#) Indiscriminate [#barrelbombs](#) are banned. Systematic use against civilians in Syria by Assad regime must be prosecuted
- [RaMurmokaite @PRLTUN Jun 26](#) Open Arria meeting of [#UNSC](#) on [#Syria](#) use of [#barrelbombs](#) happening now. Accountability also casualty of this war
- [Rolandas Kacinskas @RKacinskas Jun 26](#) was extremely pleased to host Political Director of [#Portugal](#) MFA, Francisco Lopes, for diplomatic consultations.
- [LT PermRep EU @EU2013LTpress Jun 25 Brussels, Belgium](#) Lithuanian President [#Grybauskaite](#) doorstep at [#euco](#) : [#migration, #Greece](#) and [#euro http://goo.gl/upxBeh](#)
- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jun 25](#) Sincere congratulations for [#Slovenia](#) on the Statehood Day! Želim vam, da še naprej graditi uspešno državo. Srečno Slovenija! [@MZZRS](#)

- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jun 25](#) Happy Independence Day, [#Croatia](#)! Neka blagostanje i napredak prate neovisnu [#Hrvatsku!](#) [@vpusic](#)
- [Lithuania in UN NY @LithuaniaUNNY Jun 23](#) Sanctions on Iran remain in full effect until comprehensive final agreement reached. Non-compliance must be reported
- [Lithuania in UN NY @LithuaniaUNNY Jun 23 #UNSC: #Lithuania](#) hopes 4 verifiable & durable solution at talks by E3+3 and Iran. Confidence in peaceful nature of Iran's NucProg required
- [Lithuania in UN NY @LithuaniaUNNY Jun 22](#) This month, after 13 yrs of participation in [#Afghanistan](#), [#Lithuania](#) completed its longest intl mission abroad, remains engaged in NATO RSM
- [Lithuania in UN NY @LithuaniaUNNY Jun 22](#) In 2012-2015 [#Lithuania](#) funded development of compatible veterinary control system among [#Afghanistan](#), Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan & Tajikistan
- [Lithuania in UN NY @LithuaniaUNNY Jun 22 #Lithuania](#) commends [#Afghanistan](#)'s efforts 2improve relations w neighbors bilaterally, incl with Pakistan, and in multilateral forums.
- [Lithuania in UN NY @LithuaniaUNNY Jun 22 #Lithuania](#) welcomes completion of cabinet formation in [#Afghanistan](#). Key that Unity Gov creates accountable, transparent & effective government
- [Vytas Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jun 22 #LT](#) & Chinese Banking authorities signed an agreement 2 support financial exchange btw countries <http://bit.ly/1LpJcM2>

Other:

- [Marius Janukonis @MJanukonis Jun 28](#) First direct Vilnius-Odesa flight launched last Friday means more tourism, more p2p contacts and less stereotypes about UA and amazing Odesa
- [Žygimantas Pavilionis @ZygisPavilionis Jun 27](#) The best friends of Lithuania travelling w/ [@SpeakerBoehner](#): Baltic Co-Chair [@RepShimkus](#) w/ [@Zingeris @LithuaniaMFA](#)
- [Egidijus Meilūnas @MeilunasE Jun 27](#) President of [#Lithuania](#): [#EU](#) digital single market will boost growth <http://bit.ly/1ImYhwb>
- [Arūnas Gelūnas @ArunasGelunas Jun 26](#) One of most serious challenges Europe ever had... <http://bit.ly/1eU0Zhb>
- [RaMurmokaite @PRLTUN Jun 25](#) As 70th anniversary of [#UN](#) Charter is celebrated, those who violate Charter at this time & age shld b firmly rebuffed
- [Darius @DariusSemaska Jun 25](#) Something that should get as much attention as global warming, but, regrettably, does not get even a fraction of that <http://bit.ly/1NstuNQ>
- [Rolandas Kacinskas @RKacinskas Jun 25 #Lithuania #Latvia #Estonia](#) among survey's best performers in [#democracy](#) along w/ [#Slovenia #Poland #Czechrepublic #Slovakia](#) (3/3)
- [Lithuania in NATO @LitdelNATO Jun 24](#) No better way to celebrate St. John's day ([#Midsummer](#)) than by bolstering [@NATO](#) collective defence capabilities! <http://goo.gl/l2ypAO>
- [Vidmantas Purlys @v_purlys Jun 24](#) Soviet armed groups targeted houses and silently removed residents, including children and the elderly <http://bit.ly/1C0zQU7>
- [Žygimantas Pavilionis @ZygisPavilionis Jun 23](#) Saying good-bye 2 [@LTembassyUS](#) & friends [@CBisogniero @GandalovicPetr @anders_aslund @PortugalinUSA @UNISdirect](#)
- [Rolandas Kacinskas @RKacinskas Jun 23](#) Download [#Bloodlands](#): Europe btw Hitler & Stalin by [@TimothyDSnyder](#) in [#Russia](#) in for FREE! <http://bit.ly/1BPOUDG>
- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jun 22](#) Recognition by [@Forbes](#): [#Lithuania](#) - '1 of t most innovative and tech-savvy countries in E' [#startup #entrepreneurship](#) <http://onforb.es/1eU17NO>

Copyright © 2015 Lithuanian MFA Strategic Communication Group. E-mail: kunikacija@urm.lt

[Read online](#)

Share:    

[Subscribe](#)

You have received this message because your e-mail address has been subscribed to our newsletter

To unsubscribe, please click here [Newsletter unsubscribe](#)