



Lithuanian Diplomatic Playbook

6 - 12 July 2015

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

Photo of the Week

Each year on 6 July, Lithuanians all around the globe sing the national anthem of Lithuania, celebrating the Statehood Day.

The one and only king of Lithuania, King Mindaugas, was crowned on 6 July 1253.



Key messages:

- Opening of the NATO Force Integration Unit in Lithuania is a step in implementing NATO Wales decisions, demonstration of NATO presence in Lithuania.
 - The future of Greece in the euro zone depends on Greece only – on its government's readiness to assume responsibility and implement urgent reforms to stabilize the financial situation.
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Top lines, statements

Ukraine, Russia:

- "I think it was important remind him (Russian ambassador) that he was completely wrong by inviting me to an occupied territory. My response was that I would love to visit Crimea once again but after being invited not by him but by the Ukrainian ambassador." (Vilnius Mayor Remigijus Šimašius, 8 July 2015). [Read full news release.](#)

- Lithuania is deploying 4 military instructors of the Lithuanian Armed Forces to train local military personnel alongside U.S. troops in Ukraine. “Deployment of Lithuanian military instructors to Ukraine contributes to the enhancement and reform of the country’s armed forces and thus builds on the assistance measures already rendered to Ukraine.” (Minister of National Defence Juozas Olekas, 8 July 2015). [Read full news release.](#)
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Security and Defence:

- “The fact that we are host to a NATO Force Integration Unit in Lithuania is an instance of the decisions taken at the NATO Summit in Wales put into practice and yet another demonstration of NATO presence in Lithuania.” (Minister of National Defence Juozas Olekas, 9 July 2015). [Read full news release.](#)
 - President of the Republic of Lithuania HE Dalia Grybauskaitė presented the U.S. General with a state award, the Cross of Commander of the Order for Merits to Lithuania, in recognition of his extraordinary merits for developing and fostering bilateral relations and outstanding merits in military matters. (7 July 2015). [Read full news release.](#)
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Lithuanian economy, Euro:

- “U.S. investments in Lithuania are growing. Major American companies open their branches in our country, new service centers are emerging. It means that Lithuania is a good place for investment, with an attractive business environment.” (President Dalia Grybauskaitė, 9 July 2015) [Read full news release.](#)
 - Flanders Investment & Trade (FIT) will open its representative office for the Baltic States in Vilnius in 2016. The government of Flanders has adopted the decision with an aim to engage with a dynamic Baltic region more actively. “This is an extraordinary gesture of the Belgian region that is economically most advanced and it is an obvious proof of economic attractiveness and recognition of regional significance of Vilnius”, underlined Gediminas Varvuolis, the Lithuanian ambassador in Belgium. (9 July 2015) [Read full news release.](#)
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Bilateral relations, Regional cooperation

- Fine promises are not enough to overcome the crisis, the President said. To have the support and trust of international creditors, Greece needs to take immediate, decisive and concrete actions which would open the way to essential reforms. Only then the decision will be made to start negotiations on the third bailout from the European Stability Mechanism. (President Dalia Grybauskaitė, 12 July 2015) [Read full news release.](#)
 - President Dalia Grybauskaitė underlined at a special Euro Summit meeting that negotiations on assistance to Greece could be restarted only if its government took on the obligation to implement further austerity measures. The President pointed out that the European Union was based on the principle of solidarity, but no assistance was possible if a country did not seek a way out of the crisis. (President Dalia Grybauskaitė, 7 July 2015) [Read full news release.](#)
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Media links

- Arrival and doorstep by Dalia Grybauskaitė, President of Lithuania, at the Euro Summit, on 12 July 2015, in Brussels. [Watch video.](#)
- Arrival and doorstep by Rimantas Šadžius, Minister of Finance of Lithuania, at the Extraordinary Eurogroup Meeting, on 12 July 2015, in Brussels. [Watch video.](#)
- Arrival and doorstep by Dalia Grybauskaitė, President of Lithuania, at the Euro Summit, on 7 July 2015,

in Brussels. [Watch video.](#)

- Impact of the Russian crisis on the Baltics: Although concerns have increased, surveys do not indicate any panic about Russia's actions. *Swedbank*, 7 July 2015. [Read full article.](#)
 - Grybauskaitė: "The feast time at the expense of others is over for Greece". *The Baltic Times*, 7 July 2015. [Read full article.](#)
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On Twitter

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Ukraine, Russia:

- [Marius Janukonis @MJanukonis Jul 11](#) In Lviv 30 Lithuanians headed by ex-PM Kubilius started a 500 km Western Ukraine bike tour in solidarity w/Ukraine
 - [LT OSCE @LT_OSCE Jul 10 #Lithuania](#) @OSCEHighLevel meeting [#OSCE](#) credibility can be lost if will fail stop [#RUaggression](#) against [#UA](#)
 - [LT MFA STRATCOM @LT_MFA_Stratcom Jul 9 #Kremlin](#) has special correspondents for "little green man". Show must go on - time for Illuminati correspondent!
[http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2015/07/08/russia-today-has-an-illuminati-correspondent-really.html?via=desktop&source=twitter ...](http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2015/07/08/russia-today-has-an-illuminati-correspondent-really.html?via=desktop&source=twitter...)
 - [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jul 8](#) Unity on non-recognition policy of Crimean occupation [#crimeaisukraine](#). [#Vilnius](#) mayor: Linas Linkevicius retweeted [Remigijus Šimašius @RemiSimasius](#) Russian ambassador invited me to Crimea. I answered I will accept the invitation with pleasure when it will be issued by Ukrainian ambassador.
 - [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jul 8](#) Linas Linkevicius retweeted The Interpreter: Appalling decision! Time to [#FreeSavchenko](#) - she is not an object for cynical bargain&show-off
 - [LT MFA STRATCOM @LT_MFA_Stratcom Jul 7](#) Information war waged by [#Russia](#) against Europe exceeds classical terms of [#informationwar](#). By [@LaurinaviciusM](#) [@cepa](#)
[http://www.cepa.org/content/russia-winning-information-war-lithuania ...](http://www.cepa.org/content/russia-winning-information-war-lithuania...)
 - [Marius Janukonis @MJanukonis Jul 7](#) Ukraine is entering critical phase of fighting corruption. First results visible and brave law enforcement people deserve our full support.
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Security and defence:

- [Vytautas Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jul 9](#) Commander of [#NATO](#) Force Integration Unit in [#LT](#) Col. Larsen of Danish Army: I've come to serve both NATO and Lithuania
 - [Lithuanian MoD @Lithuanian_MoD Jul 8 #NATO #ForceIntegrationUnit](#) 2 open in Vilnius, [#LTU](#), 2 facilitate deployment of the NATO [#VJTF](#) in the region. <http://bit.ly/1G6QT1G>
 - [Lithuania in NATO @LitdelNATO Jul 8](#) Dictator [#Lukashenko](#) says he's weary of [@NATO](#) reassurance measures. Prepping the ground for bigger [#Russian](#) presence? <http://goo.gl/gdzf3B>
 - [Vytautas Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jul 7 #LT](#) DefMin Olekas to [@Reuters](#): we have to be prepared&equipped to face up to a challenge of increasingly aggressive Ru
 - [Lithuania in NATO @LitdelNATO Jul 7 #Lithuanian](#) State Decoration awarded to [#US](#) [@GENRayOdierno](#) for staunch support to Lithuania's defence and security
 - [Eitvydas Bajarunas @EitvydasB Jul 7 #Lithuania](#) plans 15 joint army drills with [#US](#) in the next two years <http://europe.newsweek.com/329867> via [@NewsweekEurope](#) [#LithuaniaUSdrills](#)
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Lithuanian economy, Euro:

- [Lithuania MFA @LithuaniaMFA Jul 9](#) Strengthening American-Lithuanian [#business](#) relations: [@Grybauskaitė](#) [LT](#) [@LRSeimas](#) have met [@AmLithBC](#) mission.
- [Eitvydas Bajarunas @EitvydasB Jul 9](#) Impact of the Russian crisis on the Baltics: collapse of exports

2Russia was dramatic but was offset http://www.swedbank-research.com/english/macro_focus/2015/july/macro_focus-07.07.2015.pdf ... @NerijusMaciulis

- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jul 8](#) Demystifying the impact of #sanctions: @Swedbank study on Baltics. Business has adapted&reoriented to #EU markets. http://www.swedbank-research.com/english/macro_focus/2015/july/macro_focus-07.07.2015.pdf ...
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Bilateral relations, Regional cooperation:

- [Gediminas Varvuolis @varvuolis Jul 9](#) With the Belgian Army chief general Van Caelenberge assessed increasing bilateral coop, @Defensie_BE @Lithuanian_MoD
 - [Rolandas Kacinskas @RKacinskas Jul 8](#) July 23 'll mark 75 yrs since the Welles Declaration establishing a 5-decade non-recognition of the #Baltic States' annexation policy. Together w/ @RenatasNorkus & @Zingeris met Mayor @RemiSimasius of #Vilnius to discuss ways to commemorate it
 - [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jul 8](#) Lithuania welcomes 4 refugee families from Iraq: „we are starting a new life here“ <http://bit.ly/1HfpQVW> , @iamCARITAS
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Other:

- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jul 11](#) Strongly condemn cowardly act of terrorists. Sympathy to victims. Solidarity w #Italy. @PaoloGentiloni <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-33491512> ...
 - [Lithuania MFA @LithuaniaMFA Jul 11](#) It's our duty to put all efforts to ensure such tragedies will never happen again. #Srebrenica2015
 - [Žygimantas Pavilionis @ZygisPavilionis Jul 9](#) 36 Hours in Vilnius, Lithuania <http://nyti.ms/1J4yF2V> @AmbHeffern @LTUworld @vp @RepShimkus @GudynasM @Leskevicius @DiploMix @USEmbVilnius
 - [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jul 10](#) #Srebrenica tragedy carries thousands of wounds till today. Sadly #UNSC resolution calling it a genocide was blocked...
 - [Lithuania in UN NY @LithuaniaUNNY Jul 8](#) #Lithuania condemns #genocide, war crimes & crimes against humanity committed during conflict in #BosniaHerzegovina.
 - [Lithuania MFA @LithuaniaMFA Jul 7](#) #StatehoodDay #July6 and National Anthem united #Lithuanians around the world: <http://bit.ly/1H6TU40>
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