



# Lithuanian Diplomatic Playbook

## 13 - 19 July 2015

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

### Photo of the Week

On 17 July, participants of the initiative "Mission Siberia '15" were seen off to the Russian region of Tomsk, some of the many places of Soviet deportations.

Volunteers will tend to the disappearing and overgrowing Lithuanian cemeteries and will embark on a search for living Lithuanian's in the region.

This year, young people from Latvia and Estonia have joined Lithuania's "Mission Siberia", organized annually since 2006.



---

### Key messages:

- Lithuania welcomes the agreement for long-term comprehensive solution on the Iranian nuclear program.
  - International community must be determined to bring to justice those guilty of downing MH17.
  - European Commission: TV channel RTR Planeta incited hatred, it's temporary suspension in Lithuania was proportionate and in line with the EU law.
  - Call on the Russian Federation to immediately stop pressure and aggressive policies against its neighbors. Firm support to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognized borders.
- 
- 

## Top lines, statements

---

## Ukraine, Russia:

- The Speaker of the Seimas Loreta Graužinienė thanked the Ambassador of Ukraine Valerii Zhovtenko, ending his term of office in Lithuania, for the cooperation in maintaining active relations with Ukraine and assured him that Lithuania would remain a committed partner of Ukraine on its road to European integration and would give full support to Ukraine in settling the conflict with Russia and overcoming the complex economic situation. (14 July 2015) [Read full news release.](#)
- 

## Security and Defence:

- “Lithuania places high value on the relationship with the United Kingdom. I am very happy to see the substantial growth of our bilateral defence cooperation over the past two years. We are also really grateful for the augmentation the United Kingdom has provided for the NATO Baltic Air Policing Mission, you are invited to keep contributing.” (Minister of National Defence Juozas Olekas, 14 July 2015) [Read full news release.](#)
  - Representatives of the Baltic states and U.S. Land forces signed a memorandum of cooperation laying out intensified cooperation among the respective land forces through combined training and other regional security measures. The document also provides for the exchange of information to facilitate interoperability and deployability of allied forces. (13 July 2015) [Read full news release.](#)
- 

## Bilateral relations, Regional cooperation:

- Lithuania contributes the non-combat NATO operation in Afghanistan designed to train, advise and assist the Afghan National Security Forces. The total strength of the Resolute Support Mission is currently approximately 8-12,000 troops and the number is gradually shrinking. Roughly 20 Lithuanian troops are currently serving in Afghanistan as part of Operation Resolute Support, and one Lithuanian soldier is assigned to the United Nations Assistance Mission for Afghanistan (UNAMA). Lithuania’s military personnel are conducting the service in three headquarters located in Afghan cities of Kabul, Kandahar, and Herat. (16 July 2015) [Read full news release.](#)
  - “We are going through difficult times: we see Russian military aggression in the East of Europe, the influx of refugees from Africa in the West, and the economic crisis in Greece, which has taught the whole EU a lesson in terms of financial responsibility. Consolidated efforts and solidarity are needed to meet these challenges. By making responsible decisions, Lithuania and Italy contribute to ensuring the security of their citizens and all Europeans.” (President Dalia Grybauskaitė, 14 July 2015) [Read full news release.](#)
  - “The bonds established hundreds of years ago by Duchess Bona Sforza add a tinge of historical lineage to today’s relationship between Lithuania and Italy. At present, our two countries successfully cooperate in different areas, including culture, science and trade.” (President Dalia Grybauskaitė, 14 July 2015) [Read full news release.](#)
  - “Lithuania and Latvia are linked by strong political, economic and cultural ties. We are part of the same region and share many interests. Today we are facing the same challenges posed to our national security. We are stronger when we act together. Therefore, we will continue close cooperation in the areas of security and defence, economy and energy.” (President Dalia Grybauskaitė, 13 July 2015) [Read full news release.](#)
  - President Dalia Grybauskaitė launched the Lithuanian National Day at World Expo 2015 in Milan. According to the President, such events not only provide millions of people around the world with an opportunity to discover Lithuania, but also offer an excellent opportunity for our business people to establish contacts and find new markets for Lithuanian products. (15 July 2015) [Read full news release.](#)
-

## Other:

- Lithuania welcomes the agreement for long-term comprehensive solution on the Iranian nuclear program signed by the United States, United Kingdom, China, Russia, France, Germany and Iran. (14 July 2015) [Read full news release.](#)
  - Lithuania reiterates its firm support to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognized borders. We call on the Russian Federation to immediately stop pressure and aggressive policies against its neighbors. (14 July 2015) [Read full news release.](#)
- 

## Media links

---

- Green bridge sculptures taken down to ensure safety. [Read full news release by Vilnius Municipality.](#) [Read full article in The Lithuania Tribune.](#)
  - The European Commission has concluded that measures undertaken by Lithuania against Russian TV channel RTR Planeta were in accord with the law of the European Union. *The Baltic Course*, 14 July.
  - Public questioning of Baltic independence is part of a larger campaign already underway in Russia. *Russia's Dangerous Campaign in the Baltics.* [Read full article.](#)
  - Lithuanian President Dalia Grybauskaitė and her Latvian counterpart, Raimonds Vejonis, have announced the two countries will cooperate on joint acquisitions of weapons to promote the "development of joint military capacities." *Defense News*, 15 July. [Read full article.](#)
  - Jason Dunham's presence in Lithuania "reaffirms to regional partners and NATO allies that the U.S. Navy shares a commitment to strengthen ties while working toward mutual goals of promoting peace and stability in the Baltic region," *The Lithuania Tribune*, 17 July 2015. [Read full article.](#)
  - Lithuanian parliament committee proposes establishing Ukraine aid fund. *The Lithuania Tribune*, 16 July 2015. [Read full article.](#)
  - The European Commission and European Union (EU) member-states have approved financial support in the amount of EUR 27.4 million for the LitPol Link power interconnection between Lithuania and Poland, Litgrid AB, the Lithuanian electricity transmission system operator, reports. *The Lithuania Tribune*, 15 July 2015. [Read full article.](#)
  - Lithuanian minister in charge of making Ukraine economy more efficient: 400 ministry staff gone in 7 months. *The Lithuania Tribune*, 16 July 2015. [Read full article.](#)
- 
- 

## On Twitter

Follow us on Twitter: [@LT\\_MFA\\_Stratcom](#)

---

## Ukraine, Russia:

- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jul 19](#) After deliberate shelling in Donetsk, separatists have 'peaceful' proposals on Shyrokyne, which was destroyed earlier <http://bit.ly/1Ke6UrY>
- [Vytautas Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jul 19](#) Finland To Deploy Quick Response Units Along Russian Border <http://defnews.ly/1MA55FO> via [@defense\\_news](#)
- [Vytautas Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jul 19](#) After intense program at [#Lithuanian](#) mil school, 20 Ukraine's servicemen successfully completed int instructor course
- [Dalia Grybauskaitė @Grybauskaitė LT Jul 17](#) Our thoughts are with those who lost their loved ones in horrible tragedy of [#MH17](#) a year ago.
- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jul 17](#) Our thoughts today with the families of the victims of [#MH17](#). International community must be determined to bring the guilty ones to justice

- [Rolandas Kacinskas @RKacinskas Jul 17](#) There MUST NOT be room for [#Russia](#) in 'Nyet' in establishing international tribunal to seek the truth & justice in downing of [#MH17](#).
  - [Eitvydas Bajarunas @EitvydasB Jul 16](#) All cards finally opened: "MH17 tribunal would be counterproductive: Putin tells Dutch PM" [http://news.yahoo.com/putin-tells-dutch-pm-mh17-tribunal-counterproductive-kremlin-111139958.html?soc\\_src=mediacontentstory&soc\\_trk=tw](http://news.yahoo.com/putin-tells-dutch-pm-mh17-tribunal-counterproductive-kremlin-111139958.html?soc_src=mediacontentstory&soc_trk=tw) ... via [@YahooNews](#)
  - [Vytautas Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jul 15](#) Ukraine reports 100 ceasefire violations in one day <http://europe.newsweek.com/330349> via [@NewsweekEurope](#) [#Ukraineceasefireviolations](#)
  - [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jul 15](#) Lamentable when Russian court tries at any expense sue Ukr pilot Savchenko for crimes which were 'committed' after her arrest. [#FreeSavchenko](#)
  - [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jul 14](#) Pres. Obama on coop. w/RU on Iran/Syria: <http://nyti.ms/1fHCnbV> indeed infuses some optimism, but doesn't suggest anything like that on Ukr&Geo
  - [Žygimantas Pavilionis @ZygisPavilionis Jul 14](#) Ukraine Must Put Reform Agenda in Overdrive While There's Still Time <http://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/ukraine-must-put-reform-agenda-in-overdrive-while-there-s-still-time#.VaV52OwEzOk.twitter> ... [@MJanukonis](#) [@RKacinskas](#) [@ValedeAlmeidaEU](#)
  - [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jul 14](#) 'Green men' in [#Ukraine](#), now 'green signs' in [#Georgia](#)- [#Russia](#) 's aggressive disrespect of sovereignty must stop.
  - [Vytautas Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jul 13](#) Worrying: Russia to continue tests on nuclear-capable Iskander ballistic missiles near Ukraine <http://bit.ly/1K59bp6>
  - [LT MFA STRATCOM @LT\\_MFA\\_Stratcom Jul 13](#) Open-Source Information Reveals Pro-[#Kremlin](#) [#Web](#) Campaign <https://globalvoicesonline.org/2015/07/13/open-source-information-reveals-pro-kremlin-web-campaign/> ...
  - [Vytautas Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jul 13](#) Ukrainian president: Record number of Russian troops on border <http://europe.newsweek.com/330210> via [@NewsweekEurope](#) [#RussianTroopsOnUkraineBorder](#)
- 

## Security and defence:

- [Vytautas Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jul 17](#) [#USS](#) Jason Dunham along w 4 patrol ships of Royal British Navy are visiting Klaipėda port in [#Lithuania](#) [#AlliedStrong](#)
  - [Lithuanian MoD @Lithuanian\\_MoD Jul 15](#) LT [#LandForceDay](#). 15 July marks a day when the banner of [#LTU](#) knights was the 1st time used in the [#Grundwald](#) battle
  - [Vytautas Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jul 14](#) As air defense grows on importance, [#LT](#) Air Defense Battalion trains 2 get its act 2 gether w Allies @ Tobruq LegacyEXE
  - [Vytautas Leškevičius @Leskevicius Jul 13](#) Aim high- situation calls for it: new commander of [#LT](#) National Defense Volunteer Force aims at doubling the force <http://bit.ly/1K42PGz>
- 

## Lithuanian economy, Euro:

- [Darius @DariusSemaska Jul 18](#) Bernanke should look into how Lithuania got out of crisis and that would help him see that fixed exchange rate worked <http://brook.gs/1Oeic49>
- 

## Bilateral relations, Regional cooperation:

- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jul 16](#) [#Lithuanian](#) government today approved the EC decision to start the ESM-negotiations with [#Greece](#)
-

## Other:

- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jul 19](#) On [#MandelaDay](#) we remember this great man, who changed the world. Spirit of liberty & equality are permanent because of him!
- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jul 17](#) Happy World [#Lithuanian](#) Unity Day! United we stand! [@LTUworld](#), [@GlobalLithuania](#)
- [Rolandas Kacinskas @RKacinskas Jul 14 #EU](#) Commission OK's [#Lithuania](#)'s decision to suspend broadcast of Russian RTR Planeta for war [#propaganda](#), disinformation.
- [Lithuania in UN NY @LithuaniaUNNY Jul 14 #Lithuania](#) welcomes [#IranNuclearDeal](#) and positive contribution to reg & int peace & security. Vigilance & verification remain key
- [Dalia Grybauskaitė @Grybauskaite LT Jul 14](#) Congratulating E3+3 on reaching a comprehensive agreement with [#Iran](#). Worth 12-years of effort.
- [LT PermRep EU @EU2013LTpress Jul 14](#) Brussels backs Lithuania over Russian TV channel ban Read more: <http://en.delfi.lt/lithuania/society/brussels-backs-lithuania-over-russian-tv-channel-ban.d?id=68481424> ...
- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL Jul 14](#) “[@FedericaMog](#): [#IranTalks](#) done. We have the agreement. [#IranDeal](#)”. Congratulations to all! Implementation will be a key, as always

---

**Copyright © 2015 Lithuanian MFA Strategic Communication Group. E-mail: [kommunikacija@urm.lt](mailto:kommunikacija@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](#)