



Lithuanian Diplomatic Playbook

5-11 January 2015

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

- Nous sommes tous Charlie aujourd'hui. We must align against terrorism that is trampling on our freedom and values.
- No grounds to talk about lifting the sanctions, as the situation and the Russian actions in Eastern Ukraine and elsewhere have not changed.
- United Kingdom – reliable partner of Lithuania

Top lines, statements

Ukraine, Russia:

- „Lithuania's relationship with Russia directly depends on the overall political and security situation in our region. [...] It is [...] important to strengthen ties with Russian society, non-governmental organizations.“ (President D. Grybauskaitė, 9 January 2015), [read full press release](#).
- „Ukraine needs various humanitarian assistance- financial aid and expert support. There is a need for a consistent policy for the relationship with Russia. The current sanctions are effective and must be continued.“ (Minister L. Linkevičius, 8 January 2015), [read full news release](#).
- "There are no grounds to talk about lifting the sanctions." (President D. Grybauskaitė, 7 January 2015), [read full article](#).
- Lithuania has been rendering all types of military assistance possible, including assistance to the country's armed forces and humanitarian aid, since the beginning of Russia's military invasion of Ukraine. As Lithuania is developing military cooperation with Ukraine, implementation of the trilateral Lithuanian, Polish and Ukrainian Brigade, LITPOLUKRBRIG, project is among its top

priorities. (MOD, 5 January 2015), [read full news release](#).

Security and Defence:

- Lithuania handed over a shipment of first medical aid supplies [...] contributing to the efforts of the international coalition to support the Government of Iraq in fighting the Islamic State (IS) group and countering terrorism. “The recent events testify particularly clearly that we must align against terrorism that is trampling on our freedom and values.” (Minister of National Defence J. Olekas, 9 January 2015), [read full news release](#).
 - The United Kingdom is Lithuania's reliable partner within NATO's framework contributing to the security of our region and Europe as a whole. [...] Lithuania valued the UK's contribution to the Baltic air policing mission and welcomed its participation in the activities of Lithuania-based NATO Energy Security Centre of Excellence. (President D. Grybauskaitė, 8 January 2015), [read full press release](#).
 - The attacks in France are „the reminders that such terror attacks have no borders and nobody is safe from such incidents. [...] We don't need to have any illusion that it has nothing to do with us and it has to do with someone else. It's a common challenge for everyone, for the whole civilization, for all countries.“ (Minister L. Linkevičius, 7 January 2015), [read full article](#).
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Energy security:

- „Natural gas and electricity links to Sweden and Poland and [...] the gas interconnections between the Baltic countries and with Poland [...] are the projects that are currently at the top of the list and have to be carried out. [...] "Synchronization [of the power grid] with the Western market, Western electricity networks is also in view and is a strategic project.“ (President D. Grybauskaitė, 7 January 2015), [read full article](#).
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Lithuanian economy:

- „To boost economic efficiency and competitiveness as well as strengthen the single market of the EU [...] it is essential to complete the internal energy market, consistently seek the creation of the digital single market, and sign free trade agreements with the United States.“ (President D. Grybauskaitė, 8 January 2015), [read full press release](#).
 - 2014 proved to be a record year for [Invest Lithuania](#), the nation's foreign investment development agency, with 29 foreign companies deciding to establish or develop their businesses in Lithuania. Altogether almost 2,000 new jobs are planned over the next three years. „Raising awareness about Lithuania as a business location is very important and provides great results.“ (Director of the Investment Development Department of Invest Lithuania J. Pagirys, 7 January 2015). [Read full article](#).
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Bilateral relations, Regional cooperation:

- „L.Linkevičius stressed that Lithuania and the United Kingdom enjoy strong economic and political ties, [...] two countries share common views towards most of the EU individual positions. [...] L.Linkevičius highlighted that he sees the United Kingdom as an important and strong member of the European Union.“ (MFA, 8 January 2015), [read full news release](#).
- „Lithuania looks on Georgia as one its key partners and supports Georgia's Euro-Atlantic

aspirations by applying political and practical measures to facilitate the reform of Georgia's defence system and armed forces and to improve administrative capacity of the country's security sector. Georgia deployments to NATO and EU-led operations are among the most substantial among partner nations." (MOD, 8 January 2015), [read full news release](#).

Other:

- Expressing solidarity with French people and journalists around the world, President Grybauskaitė wrote in the book of condolences in pencil in French: "Nous sommes tous Charlie aujourd'hui" - "Today we are all Charlie". (Press Service of the President of the Republic of Lithuania, 9 January 2015), [read full press release](#).
 - „Lithuania's Ministry of Foreign Affairs strongly condemns the terrorist attack on Charlie Hebdo offices in Paris. [...] The Foreign Ministry [...] speaks out strongly against any manifestation of radicalism or attempt to restrict the freedom of speech. (MFA, 7 January 2015), [read full news release](#).
 - On the attack in Paris: „We condemn this attempt on the freedom of expression as a crime against dignity and universal liberties that are applicable for people of any attitude and creed alike.“ (Ministry and leadership of National Defence, 8 January 2015), [read full news release](#).
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Media links

- „UK, Denmark back EU counter-propaganda plan“ by Andrew Rettman. EUobserver, 9 January 2015, [read full article](#).
 - „Lithuania, UK, Denmark and Estonia call for EU plan against Russian propaganda“. BNS, Delfi, 9 January 2015, [read full article](#).
 - STRATFOR: Poland, Baltic States Will Continue to Promote Ukraine's Western Ties. 7 January 2015, [read full analysis](#).
 - „Lithuania now has the euro: Here are 11 ways to spend it“ by Jack Davidson. CNN, 7 January 2015, [read full article](#).
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On Twitter

Ukraine, Russia:

- [LTembassyUA @LTembassyUA](#) · Jan 9 Seven more [#Ukraine](#)'s soldiers and volunteers, wounded in ATO zone, today left for [#Lithuania](#) for medical... <http://fb.me/6joWBG3GA>
 - [ŽygimantasPavilionis @ZygisPavilionis](#) · Jan 9 Must read MT [@LaurinaviciusM](#): [#Putin](#)'s regime murky connections to [#ISIS](#) [hyperlink](#) [@McCainInstitute](#) [@kvolker](#) [@AtlanticCouncil](#)
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Security and defence:

- [Rolandas Kacinskas @RKacinskas](#) · Jan 9 [#Estonia](#), [#Lithuania](#), [#Denmark](#) & [#UK](#) call on [#EU](#), [#NATO](#) to respond to [#Russia](#)'s information war, [#propaganda](#) -->

<https://euobserver.com/foreign/127155>

- [Linus Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL](#) · [Jan 8](#) Warm welcome to Polish fighter jets landing today in Šiauliai to join Italians Air policing Baltic skies! [#NATO](#) [hyperlink](#)
- [Lithuania in NATO @LitdeNATO](#) · [Jan 7](#) Ambassador [@KeJankauskas](#) says farewell to the [#NAC](#) and [@NATO](#) before leaving to head the [#EUMM](#) mission in [#Georgia](#)
- [Linus Linkevicius@LinkeviciusL](#) [Jan 6](#) [#NATO](#)'s priority in 2015- "sparehead" forces. We must implement in full and on time [hyperlink](#)

Lithuanian economy, Euro:

- [Invest Lithuania @Invest_LT](#) · [Jan 6](#) Invest Lithuania hit the record in 2014 with 29 global companies choosing to grow their business in [#Lithuania!](#) <http://goo.gl/PRL8eV>
- [LT PermRep EU @EU2013LTpress](#) · [Jan 6](#) successful start: 1Jan'15 [#Lithuania](#) adopted [#euro](#), the changeover is running smoothly & according to the plan [hyperlink](#)
- [Vytautas Leškevičius @Leskevicius](#) · [Jan 6](#) Inspiring and encouraging words by Chancellor A. [#Merkel](#) on [#Lithuania](#) joining € area. Via [#Elta](#) EN <http://bit.ly/1wSb2Uw>

Other:

- [Raimonda Murmokaite @PRLTUN](#) · [Jan 11](#) What words can describe the depravity, horror of using a 10 yr old girl as a suicide bomber in latest massacre by Boko Haram in Maiduguri?
- [Egidijus Meilūnas @MeilunasE](#) · [Jan 11](#) Over 4,300 run in [#Vilnius](#), [#Lithuania](#) to commemorate January 1991 victims - EN.DELFI [hyperlink](#)
- [Linus Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL](#) · [Jan 10](#) On my way to join solidarity march in [#Paris](#) to commemorate victims [#CharlieHebdo](#). We have to stand united for freedom, for common values!
- [Rolandas Kacinskas @RKacinskas](#) · [Jan 9](#) Find out about a Forget-Me-Not pin to mark the [#Freedom](#) Defenders Day in [#Lithuania](#) on Jan13? [hyperlink](#)
- [Dalia Grybauskaitė @Grybauskaite_LT](#) · [Jan 7](#) Strongly condemn brutal attack against journalists in Paris. Our deepest condolences to the families of the victims and people of France.
- [Lithuania MFA @LithuaniaMFA](#) · [Jan 6](#) Congrats to [@PaslauskasJonas](#) - Ambassador of the Year 2014 and best [#Georgian](#)-speaking Ambassador! [hyperlink](#) [#Diplomacy](#)
- [Eitvydas Bajarunas @EitvydasB](#) · [Jan 5](#) Infographic: [#Lithuania](#)-s diplomatic presence on Twitter [@LithuaniaMFA](#) [@Leskevicius](#) [@EitvydasB](#) [@RKacinskas](#) [@PRLTUN](#) <http://ow.ly/i/89kzd>

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