



Lithuanian Diplomatic Playbook

19-25 January 2015

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

- Strongly condemn increased Russia's aggression against Ukraine; urge all sides to implement Minsk agreements fully.
- EU sanctions are effective – we must be consistent and patient.”
- The NATO headquarters in Lithuania will be a great measure of deterrence and will increase our defence.
- Lithuania supports the creation of the EU's energy union.
- Lithuanian-Swedish relations growing stronger.
- OECD accession would boost Lithuania's international standing and bring substantial benefits to our economy
- The adoption of Euro will make Lithuania more attractive to foreign investors.

Top lines, statements

Ukraine, Russia:

- "The attacks killing civilians – now in Mariupol after the ones in Donetsk – should be referred to as terrorist attacks. They are the consequence of [...] the Russian actions, and its irresponsible position that it held in the past. [...] The European Union should perform the policies it committed itself to performing and further step up the sanctions.“ (Minister L. Linkevičius, 25 January 2015). [Read full article.](#)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania strongly condemns increased Russia's aggression against

Ukraine. [...] Military attack against city of Mariupol [...] is yet another violation of Minsk agreement. [...] Russia must admit its responsibility for the continuous violence, withdraw its military forces from Ukraine, stop supplying arms to terrorist and illegal armed groups, and create conditions for the reestablishment of the control of the international border between Ukraine and Russia.“ (MFA, 24 January 2015). [Read full news release.](#)

- "It's open territorial aggression being carried out not by some terrorists-separatists, but by Russia itself because neither separatists, nor any other people can have such weaponry. [...] There's direct evidence that not only Russian weapons are being used, but also the Russian army, its units are taking part." (President D. Grybauskaitė, 22 January 2015). [Read full article.](#)
 - "Russia's intentions to rewrite the Minsk agreements in a way that would legitimise and accept the territorial gains achieved by the militants speaks to Kremlin's wholehearted support for those criminals." (Permanent Representative of the Republic of Lithuania to the United Nations Ambassador R. Murmokaitė, 22 January 2015). [Read full news release.](#)
 - "Ukraine's struggle is our struggle, therefore we have to render every kind of assistance, including military support, speedily and effectively." (Defence Policy Director of the MOD V. Urbelis, 21 January 2015). [Read full news release.](#)
 - "All actions by Russia show that this country does not put in any effort to secure real peace." (Chief foreign policy advisor to the President J. Neliupšienė, 20 January 2015) [Read full article.](#)
 - "In respect of Russia, the EU should base its policy on the actual situation rather than illusions. [...] The EU's unity should be the stimuli that can make Russia change its policy. EU sanctions are effective, so we must be consistent and patient." (Minister L. Linkevičius, 19 January 2015). [Read full news release.](#)
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Security and Defence:

- "The NATO Military Committee agreed to establish multinational headquarters in Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Poland, Romania and Bulgaria. [...] The NATO headquarters in Lithuania will serve as a link among national forces, allied forces deployed in Lithuania, and the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe. This will be not only a great measure of deterrence but also a capacity to provide command and control for allied forces in Lithuania in case of necessity, thus increasing our defence." (Chief of Defence of Lithuania Major General J. V. Žukas, 23 January 2015). [Read full news release.](#)
 - "Hybrid warfare encompasses more than just military dimension, so the European Union has to find ways of helping its member states to respond to the threats of hybrid warfare, particularly in the area of strategic communication." (Defence Policy Director of the MOD V. Urbelis, 21 January 2015). [Read full news release.](#)
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Energy security:

- "The jointly implemented NordBalt power link project is an excellent example of [Lithuanian and Swedish] cooperation in the energy area. We hope that by the beginning of 2016 we shall have a common electricity market." (Minister L. Linkevičius, 23 January 2015). [Read full news release.](#)
 - „With its own LNG terminal in place, Lithuania has ended power abuse by monopolistic supplier, ensured its energy independence and now stands as a model example of adapting to global energy market changes through an effective use of limited resources.“ (President D. Grybauskaitė, 21 January 2015). [Read full press release.](#)
 - „Lithuania supports the creation of the EU's energy union which would increase energy security and provide with more levers in negotiations with foreign energy suppliers.“ (Press service of the President of the Republic of Lithuania, 21 January 2015). [Read full press release.](#)
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Lithuanian economy, Euro:

- Lithuania expects to be invited to start its OECD accession negotiations this year. "It will not only boost Lithuania's international standing, but will also bring substantial benefits to our economy and people. Lithuania will become more attractive for foreign investors, improve its credit ratings and borrowing costs." (President D. Grybauskaitė, 22 January 2015). [Read full press release.](#)
 - "Lithuania has built up a reputation for being cooperative and supportive towards foreign investors who want to do business with us. Now that we have the euro as our currency, the ease of establishing oneself here has become even greater." (Head of Investment and Development at Invest Lithuania J. Pagirys, 20 January 2015). [Read full article.](#)
 - Baltic Highway, a modern data transmission network, connecting Tallinn and Frankfurt via Riga, Vilnius, Warsaw and Berlin was launched on 21 January 2015. The 3,000km optical fiber network is distinguished for its reliability, low 35 milliseconds latency, capacity of 100G per channel and 9.6 Tbit/s total throughput. „This project will undoubtedly increase Lithuania’s competitiveness and is likely to generate high added value investment for data centre projects in the future.” (Head of Investment and Development at Invest Lithuania J. Pagirys, 20 January 2015) [Read full article.](#)
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Bilateral relations, Regional cooperation:

- "Lithuania and Sweden are bound by strong ties. Sweden is Lithuania's largest foreign investor and a reliable partner within the European Union. The NordBalt power bridge -scheduled for operation at the end of this year - will become yet another link connecting our countries which will allow Lithuania to have secure and competitive energy supplies." (President D. Grybauskaitė, 23 January 2015). [Read full perss release.](#)
 - Lithuanian-Swedish partnership – [...] active and many-fold bilateral and regional cooperation. "We see a great potential of working together in the sphere of information security. [...] Together we have to continue supporting Ukraine and maintain a coherent position with respect to Russia. Only being united shall we be able to defend common interests and values. Our support is necessary to the Eastern Partnership countries to implement their reforms." (Minister L. Linkevičius, 23 January 2015). [Read full news release.](#)
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Other:

- "Last year was exceptional for Lithuania. We have ensured greater military, economic and energy security for our country. Membership in the United Nations Security Council has enabled us to contribute in a meaningful way to tackling international problems. We must continue all the work started and effectively use Lithuania's economic growth for ensuring the stability and economic welfare for Lithuanian people." (President D. Grybauskaitė, 19 January 2015). [Read full press release.](#)
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Media links

- Edward Lucas: Snow Meeting is Davos for people who know what is going on. Delfi, 22 January 2015, [read full article.](#)
- American analyst Janusz Bugajski: There are things in Russia that West fear more than Putin. Delfi, 22 January 2015, [read full interview.](#)
- Statement by Permanent Representative of the Republic of Lithuania at the UN Security Council

briefing on situation in Ukraine. 21 January 2015, [read full statement](#).

- "Lithuania urges united front on Russia, talks tough on Greece" by Marc Jones and Jemima Kelly. Reuters, 20 January 2015, [read full article](#).
 - Departure and doorstep by Minister L. Linkevičius, following the Foreign Affairs Council on 19 January 2015, in Brussels. [Watch the video](#) (in English – from 1'18").
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On Twitter

Ukraine, Russia:

- [Dalia Grybauskaitė @Grybauskaite_LT](#) · [Jan 25](#) Join people of [#Ukraine](#) for minute of silence in memoria of victims of [#Mariupol](#) shelling
 - [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL](#) · [Jan 25](#) Our response 2 [#Russia](#) 's leadership aggression&support 2terrorism should b more sanctions. Our response 2 [#Ukraine](#)- more support, incl mil.
 - [Vytautas Leškevičius @Leskevicius](#) · [Jan 25](#) [@LinkeviciusL](#): ceasefire used by separatists as smokescreen for winning time, getting reinforced. EU response shd be: tightening sanctions
 - [Lithuania MFA @LithuaniaMFA](#) · [Jan 25](#) Hard to find any argument for blocking [#UNSC](#) condemnation of shelling [#Mariupol](#), that killed 30 civilians. [#Russia](#) did: [hyperlink](#)
 - [Rolandas Kacinskas @RKacinskas](#) · [Jan 24](#) [#WakeUpWorldRussiaInvadedUkraine](#). In the End, not the words of enemies, but the SILENCE of FRIENDS 'll be remembered
 - [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL](#) · [Jan 24](#) War against [#Ukraine](#) continues- terrorists shelling Mariupol. Time of talks [#Russia](#) used 2supply terrorists. Ru chose isolation&sanctions.
 - [Raimonda Murmokaite @PRLTUN](#) · [Jan 23](#) On [#Ukraine](#) even the most well-intentioned diplomat can't bridge the gulf btw what the Kremlin says and what it does: [hyperlink](#)
 - [Dalia Grybauskaitė @Grybauskaite_LT](#) · [Jan 22](#) Ukrainian civilians pay the highest price for on-going occupation&brutal aggression. [#Lithuania](#) supports [#Ukraine](#)
 - [Lithuanian MoD @Lithuanian_MoD](#) · [Jan 21](#) [#LTU](#) representative at [#EU](#) DefPolicy Directors meeting urged to increase support to [#Ukraine](#), incl. military support [hyperlink](#)
 - [Lithuanian MoD @Lithuanian_MoD](#) · [Jan 20](#) [#LTU](#) DefMin Olekas invited [#Canada](#) to join in training of the [#Ukrainian](#) military assigned to [#LITPOLUKRBRIG](#) Brgd [hyperlink](#)
 - [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL](#) · [Jan 19](#) Good to see unity around the [#FAC](#) table: too early to review [#EU](#) policy towards [#Russia](#) . Broad support for need 2respond to Ru propaganda
 - [Seimas LT @LRSeimas](#) · [Jan 15](#) [@LRSeimas](#) comm's call for release of [#NadiaSavchenko](#) [#OlegSentsov](#) and others held in [#Russian](#) custody [#FreeSavchenko](#) [hyperlink](#)
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Security and defence:

- [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL](#) · [Jan 23](#) Advancing implementation of [#NATO](#) decisions in Wales: mil commanders agree on 6 command&control centers, 1 - in [#Lithuania](#). [#security](#)
 - [Vytautas Leškevičius @Leskevicius](#) · [Jan 23](#) Welcome decision: [#NATO](#) [#CHODs](#) agree 2set up military staff in [#LT](#). [@Grybauskaite_LT](#) [@AButkevicius](#) [@LinkeviciusL](#) [@Lithuanian_MoD](#) [@LitdeINATO](#)
 - [Lithuanian MoD @Lithuanian_MoD](#) · [Jan 23](#) While in Canada LT DefMin called to rethink NATO's posture & command structure to adapt to re-emerging threats. [hyperlink](#)
 - [Lithuanian MoD @Lithuanian_MoD](#) · [Jan 22](#) CAN to commit financial support of CAD 1mln for [#NATO](#) ENSEC COE in Vilnius [hyperlink](#) [@CanadaNATO](#)
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Energy Security:

- [Lithuania in NATO @LitdeINATO](#) · [Jan 23](#) [@Grybauskaite_LT](#) explains to [#Russian](#) deputy PM

- [@advorkovich](#) why the [#Lithuanian #LNG](#) terminal is called Independence [hyperlink](#)
 - [Lithuania MFA @LithuaniaMFA](#) · [Jan 22](#) NATO Energy Security Centre in Vilnius& [#Canada](#) coop. is gaining pace –agmt for the project worth 1 mln CAD signed: [hyperlink](#)
 - [Dalia Grybauskaitė @Grybauskaite_LT](#) · [Jan 21 #Davos2015](#): Global energy trend - no more addiction to gas pipelines [#wef15 #futureinvest](#)
-

Lithuanian economy, Euro:

- [Žygimantas Pavilionis @ZygisPavilionis](#) · [Jan 22](#) Great business meets of President [@Grybauskaite_LT](#) in [@Davos](#) [hyperlink](#) [@ThermoFisherDC](#) [@google](#) [@Hitachi_US](#) [@MZickus](#) [@AmLithBC](#)
 - [Dalia Grybauskaitė @Grybauskaite_LT](#) · [Jan 22 #Lithuania](#) is ready to start [#OECD](#) membership negotiations [#wef15 #Davos2015](#)
 - [Lithuania MFA @LithuaniaMFA](#) · [Jan 21](#) The [#BalticHighway](#) - new opportunities&fastest data link connecting [#Europe](#), [#bigdata](#) [#finance](#) [hyperlink](#)
 - [Lithuania in NATO @LitdelNATO](#) · [Jan 21 #Google](#), [#nasdaq](#) plan to open offices in [#Vilnius](#), uncovers President [@Grybauskaite_LT](#) in [#Davos2015](#), [@Invest_LT](#)
-

Bilateral relations, Regional cooperation:

- [Margot Wallström @margotwallstrom](#) · [Jan 24](#) Common views w colleagues in Riga and Vilnius on bad and dangerous sit. in Ukraine and Russia. Pres. [@Grybauskaite_LT](#) didn't mince her words.
 - [Dalia Grybauskaitė @Grybauskaite_LT](#) · [Jan 23 #Lithuania](#) and [#Sweden](#): strong partnership for greater security & prosperity in the Baltic Sea region.
 - [Eitvydas Bajarunas @EitvydasB](#) · [Jan 23 #Sweden](#) 's ForMin [@margotwallstrom](#) leaving Vilnius after productive meetings with [@Grybauskaite_LT](#) [@LinkeviciusL](#)
 - [Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL](#) · [Jan 23](#) Varmt välkommen to my Swedish colleague [@margotwallstrom](#) in Vilnius! Intensive trade ties, energy links & shared security concerns.
 - [Eitvydas Bajarunas @EitvydasB](#) · [Jan 21](#) On Lithuanian-Swedish historical ties. Palace of the Grand Dukes of [#Lithuania](#) in [#Stockholm](#), [hyperlink](#)
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Other:

- [Raimonda Murmokaite @PRLTUN](#) · [Jan 22 @ #UNGA](#) special meeting:[#Lithuania](#) implementing zero-tolerance policy regarding anti-Semitism. Solid legal basis in place [#No2antisemitism](#)
 - [Lithuania MFA @LithuaniaMFA](#) · [Jan 21](#) Abduction of [#Japanese](#) citizens by [#ISIS](#) is abhorrent and unacceptable. We call for immediate release and safe return of the hostages.
 - [Lithuania in NATO @LitdelNATO](#) · [Jan 20 #Lithuania](#) assumes Presidency of the [#Baltic](#) Assembly. Priorities: growth, security & sustainability in the [#Baltics](#) [hyperlink](#)
 - [UKR Embassy in LTU @UKRinLTU](#) · [Jan 20 #Lithuania](#) FM [@LinkeviciusL](#) on importance of the EU Eastern Partnership [hyperlink](#) [#UkrainelsEurope](#)
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