



# **Individual Self Reflection 2020 on World Humanitarian Summit Commitments and Initiatives - Lithuania**



## Stakeholder Information

**Organisation Name**

Lithuania

**Organisational Type**

Member State

**City and Country where Headquartered**

Vilnius, Lithuania

**Focal Point Name**

Justas Vaišnoras

**Region**

Europe

**Twitter ID**

@LithuaniaMFA

**Attachments**

[WHS Announcement Plenary Statement - Lithuania.pdf](#)



## 1A Demonstrate timely, coherent and decisive political leadership

### Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Lithuania commits to continue active political engagement to prevent and end conflicts and build a sustainable peace, including in the EU Eastern neighborhood. Humanitarian action is important, but it is not a substitute for political solutions of conflicts. Lithuania will continue to use its experience as a non-permanent member of the Security Council in 2014-2015 to this end.	Operational	Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflicts

#### 1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

In the international fora, Lithuania is implementing this commitment through its engagement with the UN – supporting and joining UN General Assembly (UNGA) resolutions related to conflict prevention and peace-building. Lithuania is participating in the Group of Friends of Mediation (UN).

Lithuania is actively engaged and advocates for seeking a solution of the crisis in Ukraine (UN, EU formats). Lithuania supports Ukraine and shows solidarity with Ukrainian people through high level visits, development cooperation projects, humanitarian aid (42% of all Lithuanian humanitarian aid), and voluntary contributions to the international funds. Lithuanian experts share their experience in the Eastern Partnership and other countries.

Lithuania supports the EU Advisory Mission Ukraine (EUAM) and delegated more Lithuanian experts (from 4 in 2016 to 7 in 2017); Lithuania's input into the EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia (EUMM) in 2017 was 5 Lithuanian experts.

Lithuanian contribution to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) mission in Ukraine in 2017 was 5 experts (3 observers, 1 project coordinator and 1 political advisor).

#### 2. A. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation.
- By reporting to, or using reports prepared for, UN principal organs, UN governing boards, or other international bodies

#### B. How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

Through collecting information inside Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from Lithuanian diplomatic missions and using other reports, such as on development cooperation and humanitarian aid, as well as evaluation of projects and situation in partner countries.

#### 3. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Funding amounts
- Human resources/capacity

#### B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

Lithuania is a small donor and has limited financial and human resources to implement bigger projects that could lead faster to the transformation.

#### 4. Highlight actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

Lithuania will:

- provide development cooperation support and humanitarian aid to the Eastern Partnership countries;
- share expertise through the Lithuanian experts in the Eastern Partnership countries;
- support and join UNGA resolutions related to conflict prevention and peace building;
- be actively engaged and will advocate for a solution of crisis in Ukraine.



**5. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?**

Lithuania believe that active dialogue and conflict prevention could lead to the achievement of this transformation.



## 1C Remain engaged and invest in stability

### Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to sustain political leadership and engagement through all stages of a crisis to prevent the emergence or relapse into conflict.	Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflicts
Commit to address root causes of conflict and work to reduce fragility by investing in the development of inclusive, peaceful societies.	Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflicts

### 1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

Lithuanian actions to achieve the commitment on political leadership and engagement are highlighted in this report under transformation 1A.

Lithuania's commitment to address the root causes of conflict were implemented mainly via our development cooperation: 86 bilateral projects with the Eastern Partnership countries for a value of 1,1 million euro. The projects contributed to promoting social and economic activity in the regions of partner countries; an entrepreneurial society and region development; social and economic activity of youth and women; supporting to the implementation of justice sector reforms in the eastern partnership countries; spreading of independent information and transferring of Lithuanian experience in strengthening democratic processes, sharing Lithuanian experience in creating favorable business environment etc.

### 2. A. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation.
- By reporting to, or using reports prepared for, UN principal organs, UN governing boards, or other international bodies

### B. How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

Through collecting information inside Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from Lithuanian diplomatic missions and using other reports, such as on development cooperation and humanitarian aid, as well as evaluation of projects and situations in partner countries.

### 3. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Funding amounts
- Human resources/capacity

### B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

Lithuania is a small donor and has limited financial and human resources to implement bigger projects that could lead faster to the transformation.

### 4. Highlight actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

Lithuania will:

- provide development cooperation support and humanitarian aid to the Eastern Partnership countries;
- share expertise through the Lithuanian experts in the Eastern Partnership countries;
- support and join UN General Assembly resolutions related to conflict prevention and peace building;
- be actively engaged and will advocate seeking for a solution of crisis in Ukraine.

### 5. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

Lithuania believe that active dialogue and conflict prevention could lead to the achievement of this transformation.





## 2B Ensure full access to and protection of the humanitarian and medical missions

### Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Lithuania commits to advocate and promote full respect for international humanitarian and human rights law and the principles that guide humanitarian action: humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence. Accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law must be ensured bringing perpetrators promptly to justice.	Advocacy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

### Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to ensure all populations in need receive rapid and unimpeded humanitarian assistance.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

### 1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

Lithuania is a strong supporter of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Lithuania regards the ICC as an essential instrument of the international community in fighting impunity for the most serious crimes of international concern and bringing justice for the victims of those awful criminal acts.

Lithuania is committed to full cooperation with the Court, preserving its independence and promoting the universality and integrity of the Rome Statute.

Lithuania has enshrined humanitarian aid principles into the national law and always respects these principles in providing humanitarian aid.

### 2. A. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation.
- By reporting to, or using reports prepared for, UN principal organs, UN governing boards, or other international bodies

### B. How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

This report is based on collected information inside the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lithuanian diplomatic missions; and using other reports.

### 3. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Funding amounts
- Human resources/capacity

### B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

Effective functioning of the ICC depends on cooperation with all States, as well as international and regional organizations and civil society. Lithuania pledges its full cooperation with the ICC in its fight against impunity.

### 4. Highlight actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.



Lithuania is committed to and fully supports the ICC in accordance with our national capabilities.

**5. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?**

It is of crucial importance that the ICC be given not only full political support, but also adequate resources to carry out its mandate and effectively perform its functions under the pressure of a constantly increasing workload. The need for adequate resources must be carefully balanced against the budgetary restraints of States Parties. At the same time, available resources need to be used efficiently.

**Keywords**

Humanitarian principles, IHL compliance and accountability





## 2D Take concrete steps to improve compliance and accountability

### Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Lithuania fully supports the initiative of the Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.	Policy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

### Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Fully comply with humanitarian policies, frameworks and legally binding documents related to gender equality, women's empowerment, and women's rights.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity Leave No One Behind

**1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.**

#### IHL and IHRL compliance and accountability

Lithuania supports the Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

Lithuania's humanitarian aid fully complies with humanitarian policies, frameworks and legally binding documents related to gender equality, women's empowerment, and women's rights.

**2. A. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.**

- Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation.
- By reporting to, or using reports prepared for, UN principal organs, UN governing boards, or other international bodies

**B. How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?**

This report is based on collected information inside the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lithuanian diplomatic missions; and using other reports.

**3. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.**

- Human resources/capacity

**B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?**

Due to the limited human resources it is complicated for Lithuania to substantially engage in multilateral fora to achieve this transformation.

**4. Highlight actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.**

Lithuania will continue its support to the initiative of the Code of Conduct.

#### Keywords

Gender, Humanitarian principles, IHL compliance and accountability



## 3D Empower and protect women and girls

### Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Lithuania commits to advocate for women's leadership and participation in humanitarian programmes and policy-making spaces. All peace processes must encompass strong involvement and leadership of women. Lithuania commits to support the "Global Acceleration Instrument for Women, Peace & Security and Humanitarian Action" launched in 2016 in New York.	Advocacy	Leave No One Behind

### Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Empower Women and Girls as change agents and leaders, including by increasing support for local women's groups to participate meaningfully in humanitarian action.	Leave No One Behind
Fully comply with humanitarian policies, frameworks and legally binding documents related to gender equality, women's empowerment, and women's rights.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity Leave No One Behind

### 1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

Lithuania's commitment to advocate for women's leadership and participation in humanitarian programmes and policy-making spaces is one of the core goals and priorities of development cooperation projects in Eastern Partnership and other countries.

- In 2017, Lithuania implemented 8 development projects in Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Mongolia, Ukraine and Palestine to strengthen gender equality organizations, and increase women's empowerment, etc.
- Lithuania supported and contributed to the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.
- In 2017 Lithuania made a voluntarily contribution to the UN Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (20 thousand euro).
- During the drafting the Agreed Conclusions of the 61st Session of the Commission of Status of Women, Lithuania has initiated inclusion of reference to awareness-raising activities through publicizing the economic and societal costs of costs of violence against women.
- Lithuania initiated, organized and hosted the first Asia-Europe (ASEM) meeting with a direct and sole focus to the women's economic empowerment.
- During the 35th Session of the UN Human Rights Council, Lithuania initiated and drafted the Joint Statement on the Costs of Violence against Women and Girls.
- Lithuania with other Nordic and Baltic countries has jointly decided to initiate annual Nordic-Baltic meetings on women, peace and security.

### 2. A. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation.
- By reporting to, or using reports prepared for, UN principal organs, UN governing boards, or other international bodies

### B. How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

Through collecting information inside Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and missions abroad, Lithuanian governmental institutions; and using other reports, such as on development cooperation and humanitarian aid, as well as evaluation of projects and situation in



partner countries.

**3. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.**

- Funding amounts
- Human resources/capacity

**B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?**

Lithuania is a small donor and has limited financial and human resources to implement bigger projects that could lead faster to the transformation.

**4. Highlight actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.**

- Lithuania will continue development projects with the Eastern Partnership and other countries supporting gender equality, women's empowerment, and women's rights.
- Lithuania will continue to strongly advocate for women's leadership and participation in humanitarian programmes and policy-making spaces.

**5. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?**

Women should be seen and involved as agents of change.

**Keywords**

Gender



## 4C Deliver collective outcomes: transcend humanitarian-development divides

### Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Lithuania commits to continue to be a responsible donor using all possible means to contribute to humanitarian assistance. Its Development Cooperation Action Plan for 2017-2019 lines up development and humanitarian actions and funds to implement Sustainable Development Goals.	Financial	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity

**1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.**

#### Other-4C

- Increase in Lithuania's official development assistance (ODA) in real numbers.
- A renewed "Development Cooperation Action Plan" for 2018-2020.
- The new edition of the Law on Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid entered into force on 01-01-2017. Essential changes: (1) transfer of management of development cooperation projects to a separate agency; (2) to improve coherence of the national development cooperation policy at the implementation level and to encourage the public sector institutions to become more active in implementing the "Agenda 2030"; (3) established a basis for better involvement of private sector in development cooperation as a donor or source of know-how sharing.
- 23 % increase of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs budget for a humanitarian aid (comparing to 2016).

**2. A. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.**

- Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation.
- By reporting to, or using reports prepared for, UN principal organs, UN governing boards, or other international bodies

**B. How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?**

Through collecting information inside Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and missions abroad, Lithuanian governmental institutions; using other reports, such as on development cooperation and humanitarian aid, as well as evaluation of projects and situation in partner countries.

**3. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.**

- Funding amounts
- Human resources/capacity

**B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?**

Growing development-humanitarian needs versus limited funds for development-humanitarian aid, lack of human resources.

**4. Highlight actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.**

- To involve more national and local actors into the process of implementing Sustainable Development Goals.
- The first report of the Development Cooperation Action Plan for 2017 will be presented and discussed in the National Development Cooperation Commission.
- The Development Cooperation Action Plan will be revised and adapted for the 2019-2021.

**5. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?**

- Firm political and executive commitments;
- Multi-annual planning of gradual increase of funding;



- Involvement of more national and local institutions as well as private businesses into a humanitarian-development sector; and
- Implement development effectiveness agenda.

### **Keywords**

Private sector



## 5D Finance outcomes, not fragmentation: shift from funding to financing

### Individual Commitments

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#### 1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

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#### 3. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Funding amounts
- Human resources/capacity

#### B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

Growing development-humanitarian needs versus limited funds for development-humanitarian aid, lack of human resources.

#### 4. Highlight actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

- To involve more national and local actors into the process of implementing Sustainable Development Goals.
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#### 5. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

- Firm political and executive commitments;
- Multi-annual planning of gradual increase of funding;
- Involvement of more national and local institutions as well as private businesses into a humanitarian-development sector; and
- Implement development effectiveness agenda.





## Additional Reports

Attachment
<a href="#">Lithuanian Humanitarian Aid in 2017.pdf</a>