



# **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**

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**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. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

In international fora, Lithuania is implementing this commitment through the UN (supporting and joining UN General Assembly resolutions, related to the conflict prevention and peacebuilding) and other international organizations. In the UN, Lithuania is participating in the Group of Friends of Mediation and Group of Friends of Women, Peace and Security. In 2018, Lithuania successfully co-facilitated inter-governmental consultations on a draft Resolution that was adopted by the UN General Assembly for the High-Level Meeting on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace. Lithuania is actively engaged and advocates for seeking solution for the crisis in Ukraine (UN, EU formats). In 2018, Lithuania supported two resolutions that were adopted at the UN General Assembly: 1) The problem of militarization of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol (Ukraine), as well as parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov and 2) Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol. Lithuania supports Ukraine and shows solidarity with the Ukrainian people through high-level visits, development cooperation projects, humanitarian aid, and voluntary contributions to the international funds. At the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly, in June 2018, Lithuania supported resolutions regarding the protracted situations in Moldova and Georgia: 1) Complete and unconditional withdrawal of foreign military forces from the territory of the Republic of Moldova; and 2) Status of internally displaced persons and refugees from Abkhazia, Georgia and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia. Lithuanian experts share their experience in the Eastern Partnership and other countries. Lithuania supports the EU Advisory Mission Ukraine (EUAM) and in 2018 delegated 6 Lithuanian experts; Lithuania's input into the EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia (EUMM) in 2018 was 5 Lithuanian experts; Lithuania's input into the EU Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX) in 2018 was 1 expert; and Lithuania delegated 1 expert to the EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) in 2018.

#### 2. 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?

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. 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. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

Lithuanian actions to achieve the commitment on the political leadership and engagement were highlighted in the answer 1A. Lithuania's commitment to address the root causes of conflict was implemented mainly via its development cooperation: 70 bilateral and regional projects with the Eastern Partnership countries for a value of EUR 3.2 million (in 2017 this was EUR 1.1 million). 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. 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.

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

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

### Keywords

Gender, Strengthening local systems, Youth



## 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. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

The Republic of Lithuania has been a strong supporter of the International Criminal Court since its creation. During the reporting years, Lithuania, nationally and as part of the European Union, has taken action in various UN bodies, namely the UN General Assembly and the UN Human Rights Council to support its mandate, called on States to revert their situations to the Court, advocated other States to sign and ratify the Rome Statute and cooperated with the Court as well as the civil society that supports the Court in various instances that needed further action to ensure accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law and bring perpetrators to justice.

#### 2. 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 International Criminal Court (ICC) depends on cooperation with all States, as well as international and regional organizations and civil society. Lithuania pledges its full cooperation with the Court in its fight against impunity.

#### 3. 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 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

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. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.**

#### Other

Lithuania fully supports the initiative of 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. 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 to Lithuania to substantially engage in multilateral fora to achieve this transformation.

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

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

#### Keywords

Gender, 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. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

##### Other

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 2018, Lithuania implemented 12 development projects in the Eastern Partnership countries, Mongolia and Palestine to strengthen gender equality organizations, increase women's empowerment, etc.
- Lithuania supported and contributed to the implementation of the global women, peace and security agenda consisted by the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) and other eight Council resolutions on Women, Peace and Security (WPS). In November 2018, Lithuania hosted a 3-day international experts conference for building capacities of public institutions and civil society organizations in implementing the WPS agenda. As a consequence, an inclusive inter-sectoral working group to develop a new, revised Lithuanian National Action Plan on WPS was set up in the beginning of 2019.
- While implementing the global WPS Agenda in 2018, Lithuania organized international conferences to address enhancing women's political participation at all levels, from international to local, and in sectors covering from foreign policy to municipal management:
- The Women Political Leaders Summit 2018 "It's About Time! 100 Reasons to Act!" was held in June 2018. The Summit was initiated by H.E. Dalia Grybauskaitė, President of the Republic of Lithuania and Chairperson of the Council of Women World Leaders (CWWL), and organised in cooperation with the Women Political Leaders Global Forum.
- In October 2018, the international conference "Gender Mainstreaming in Municipalities: Sharing of the Nordic Experience" was held in Kaunas, Lithuania. The conference was initiated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Association of Local Authorities of Lithuania, and organised in cooperation with the Nordic Council of Ministers, European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), municipal authorities from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.
- Lithuania recognized the crucial role of civil society and encouraged inclusive participation of non-governmental women organizations, particularly in fighting sexual and gender-based violence and trafficking in women. For this task in particular, Lithuania has facilitated to experts' discussions on international measures and mechanisms - an International workshop "Trafficking in Human Beings in the Context of Global Migration: National, Regional and International Aspects" was held in June 2018, in Vilnius. The event was organised in cooperation with the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), UN-Women, International Labour Organisation (ILO), International Organisation for Migration (IOM), World Health Organisation (WHO), United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), European Commission. Vilnius conference served a food-for-thought role for drafting a new General Recommendation of the CEDAW.
- In 2018 Lithuania made a voluntarily contribution to the UN



Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (EUR 20,000).

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- Funding amounts
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**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.

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

Through collecting information inside Lithuanian MFA 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.

**Keywords**

Gender, Local action





## 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. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

#### Financing Collective outcomes

- Decrease in Lithuania's official development assistance (ODA) in real numbers: from EUR 52.59 million in 2017 to EUR 49.9 million in 2018.
- Decrease in Lithuania's humanitarian aid in real numbers: from EUR 3.85 million in 2017 to EUR 2.69 million in 2018.
- Concrete steps and initiatives were taken to tackle the decrease of ODA and negative tendencies and to be implemented in 2019 and following years.
- A renewed "Development Cooperation Action Plan" for 2019-2021.

### 2. 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

#### 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.

### 3. 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
- Implement development effectiveness agenda.

#### Keywords

Humanitarian-development nexus



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

### 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. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

- Decrease in Lithuania's official development assistance (ODA) in real numbers: from EUR 52.59 million in 2017 to EUR 49.9 million in 2018.
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- Concrete steps and initiatives were taken to tackle the decrease of ODA and negative tendencies and to be implemented in 2019 and following years.
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#### 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.

#### 3. 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;
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- Implement development effectiveness agenda.

#### Keywords

Humanitarian-development nexus