



**AGENDA  
FOR HUMANITY**  
5 CORE RESPONSIBILITIES  
24 TRANSFORMATIONS



# **Annual Report on World Humanitarian Summit Commitments - Lithuania 2016**



## 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 |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

Lithuania considers the implementation of the commitment on active engagement in preventing and ending conflicts and building sustainable peace as an obligation of each and every state. Many humanitarian crises could have been avoided if timely political solutions would have been taken.

### Achievements at a glance

On the international level Lithuania is implementing this commitment through the UN – supporting and joining UN General Assembly resolutions related to the conflict prevention and peace building. Lithuania is participating in the Group of Friends of Mediation (UN). Lithuania is actively engaged and advocates seeking for solution of the crisis in the Ukraine (UN, EU formats). Lithuania supports Ukraine and shows solidarity with the Ukrainian people through high level visits, development cooperation projects, humanitarian aid, and voluntary contributions to international funds. Lithuanian experts share their experience in the Eastern Partnership and other countries. Lithuania supports the EU Advisory Mission Ukraine (EUAM) and EU Monitoring Mission (EUMM) in Georgia. Lithuania has delegated 5 experts to the EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia and 4 to the EU Advisory Mission Ukraine. Both missions are headed by Lithuanian experts.

### How is your organization assessing progress

This report is based on information collected inside the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from Lithuanian diplomatic missions abroad and using other reports, such as on development cooperation and humanitarian aid, as well as the evaluation of projects and situations in partner countries.

### Challenges faced in implementation

Implementation of a long term commitment is a very gradual process. At this stage of evaluation, we can speak about the progress in achieving them, but not yet about results.

### Next step to advance implementation in 2017

Continue cooperation with partners, strengthening political engagement in conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities through active participation in existing programmes and initiatives.

### If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Demonstrate timely, coherent and decisive political leadership , what would it be

We believe that only political solutions can put an end to the armed conflicts and create safe environment for people's life without fear and without need for humanitarian assistance.

### Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives

#### Keywords

☒ Accountability to affected people

#### Agenda for Humanity

☒ 1B - Act early

☒ 1C - Remain engaged and invest in



stability



## 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 |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

Lithuania considers the implementation of commitments on active engagement in preventing and ending conflicts and building sustainable peace as an obligation of each and every state. Many humanitarian crises could have been avoided if timely political solutions would have been taken.

### Achievements at a glance

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Continue cooperation with partners, strengthening political engagement in conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities through active participation in existing programmes and initiatives.

### If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Remain engaged and invest in stability , what would it be

We believe that only political solutions can put an end to the armed conflicts and create safe environment for people's life without fear and without need for humanitarian assistance.

### Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives

#### Keywords

☒ Accountability to affected people

#### Agenda for Humanity

☒ 1A - Demonstrate timely, coherent and ☒ 1B - Act early  
decisive political leadership



## 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 |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

Violations of international law, international humanitarian law and international human rights law cannot be justified. International actors must act in accordance with international law, perpetrators must be brought to justice. Taking this commitment Lithuania indicates its strong position to the core principles of humanitarian action: humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence, which are enshrined in the international humanitarian law and thus enables actors to provide effective humanitarian assistance to those in most need.

### Achievements at a glance

- Lithuania actively cooperates with of the International Criminal Court (ICC).
- Lithuania supports the Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes (initiative of Liechtenstein).
- Lithuania supports joint international actions to promote responsibility and uphold the rule of law. In 2016 Lithuania has been actively engaged in preparation and has co-sponsored the UN General Assembly resolution (71/248) "International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to Assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of Those Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes under International Law Committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011".

### How is your organization assessing progress

This report is based on collected information inside the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from Lithuanian diplomatic missions abroad and using other reports, such as on development cooperation and humanitarian aid.

### Challenges faced in implementation

Over the recent years, there have been no signs that the trends of the degrading international security environment and growing division of the international community would be reversed. Furthermore, a lack of cooperation with ICC and (or) refusal to invoke other accountability mechanisms on the part of certain states continues to persist on the part of certain states. Unilateral actions are not effective. Broad agreement and understanding among states and actors across the globe should be reached to ensure wide participation in the implementation of this commitment.

### Next step to advance implementation in 2017

Continue to advocate for the full respect for international humanitarian and human rights law and the principles. Promote accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law.

**If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Ensure full**



### **access to and protection of the humanitarian and medical missions , what would it be**

It must strongly be underlined that violations of international law are not acceptable and that perpetrators of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes will be brought to justice. The responsibility of states to end impunity should be emphasized.

### **Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

#### **Keywords**

- ☒ Accountability to affected people      ☒ Humanitarian principles

#### **Agenda for Humanity**

- ☒ 2D - Take concrete steps to improve compliance and accountability      ☒ 2E - Uphold the rules: a global campaign to affirm the norms that safeguard humanity



## 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 |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

Violations of international law, international humanitarian law and international human rights law cannot be justified. International actors must act in accordance with the international law, perpetrators must be brought to justice. Taking this commitment Lithuania indicates its strong position to the core principles of humanitarian action: humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence, which are enshrined in the international humanitarian law and thus enables actors to provide effective humanitarian assistance to those in most need.

### Achievements at a glance

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- Lithuania supports the Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes (initiative of Liechtenstein).
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### How is your organization assessing progress

This report is based on information collected inside the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from Lithuanian diplomatic missions abroad and using other reports, such as on development cooperation and humanitarian aid, as well as evaluation of projects and situation in partner countries.

### Challenges faced in implementation

Over the recent years, there have been no signs that the trends of the degrading international security environment and growing division of the international community would be reversed. Furthermore, a lack of cooperation with ICC and (or) refusal to invoke other accountability mechanisms on the part of certain states continues to persist on the part of certain states. Unilateral actions are not effective. Broad agreement and understanding among states and actors across the globe should be reached to ensure wide participation in the implementation of this commitment.

### Next step to advance implementation in 2017

Continue to advocate for the full respect for international humanitarian law and international human rights law and the principles. Promote accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

### If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Take concrete steps to improve compliance and accountability , what would it be

It must be strongly underlined that violations of international law are not acceptable and that perpetrators of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes will be brought to justice. The responsibility of states to end impunity should be emphasized.





**Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

**Keywords**

- ☒ Accountability to affected people      ☒ Humanitarian principles

**Agenda for Humanity**

- ☒ 2E - Uphold the rules: a global campaign to affirm the norms that safeguard humanity



## 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 |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

This commitment reflects one of the priorities of Lithuanian development cooperation policy. The Interinstitutional Action Plan on Development Cooperation set Lithuanian development cooperation guidelines for 2017–2019 where SDG 5 is named as one of the priorities.

### Achievements at a glance

- Development cooperation projects in Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine contributed to women empowerment in the Eastern Partnership countries.
- Cooperation with DAC GENDERNET (OECD) was strengthened, active cooperation with the EU Commission through DG DEVCO continued, the first annual report on the EU Gender Action Plan presented.
- At the initiative of President of Lithuania and Chair of the Council of Women World Leaders Dalia Grybauskaitė, a letter calling on the international community to stop violence against women and to reduce its negative economic impact was handed to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.
- Lithuania contributed EUR 10,000 to the Global Acceleration Instrument for Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action, EUR 10,000 to UN Women for humanitarian aid in Fiji.
- Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Raimonda Murmokaitė and Permanent Representative to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva Ambassador Andrius Krivas joined the informal initiative "International Gender Champions".

### How is your organization assessing progress

This report is based on information collected inside the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from Lithuanian diplomatic missions abroad and using other reports, such as on development cooperation and humanitarian aid, as well as evaluation of projects and situation in partner countries.

### Challenges faced in implementation

Limited resources allows implementation of small-scale projects, with limited impact and number of participants/beneficiaries.

### Next step to advance implementation in 2017

The review of Lithuania's Action Plan for the Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and



Security approved by the Order of the Minister of Foreign Affairs in 2011 is being currently conducted. The reviewed version of the Plan is planned for 2017. Implementation of development cooperation projects in 2017 is continuing with a strong emphasis on gender as a horizontal goal and cross-cutting issue.

**If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Empower and protect women and girls , what would it be**

Women should be seen as agents of change.

**Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

**Keywords**

☒ Gender

☒ People-centred approach

**Agenda for Humanity**

☒ 1D - Develop solutions with and for people

☒ 2D - Take concrete steps to improve compliance and accountability

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

## 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 |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

Lithuania took important commitment to increase official development assistance to 0.33% ODA/GNI ratio by 2030. This implies both on the quality of the implementation of development cooperation and humanitarian aid which is directly related to the principles of effectiveness, transparency, accountability, efficiency, predictability.

### Achievements at a glance

- From 2017-2019, development and humanitarian actions and funds are lined up to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Development Agenda.
- The new edition of the Law on Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid was adopted in 2016. Main changes include: (1) transfer of management of development cooperation projects to a separate agency, (2) improved coherence of the national development cooperation policy at the implementation level and a encouragement for each public sector institution to become more active in the implementation of the Agenda 2030, (3) basis for better involvement of private sector in development cooperation as a donor or source of ideas/experience.
- Humanitarian-development link is strong both in theory and practice: from joint strategic documents to administration. Some development cooperation projects are based on humanitarian needs. In 2016 Lithuania increased humanitarian assistance by one-third in comparison to 2015.

### How is your organization assessing progress

This report is based on information collected inside the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from Lithuanian diplomatic missions abroad and using other reports, such as on development cooperation and humanitarian aid, as well as evaluation of projects and situation in partner countries.

### Challenges faced in implementation

Growing development-humanitarian needs vs. limited funds for development-humanitarian aid.

### Next step to advance implementation in 2017

- Promote the humanitarian-development nexus as a key element in ensuring the efficiency and effectiveness of assistance provided.
- In 2017 Lithuania will evaluate the impact of the above-mentioned amendments to the Law on implementation of development cooperation and humanitarian assistance.
- The Action Plan shall be revised (and this will be practiced annually) with the aim of increasing the number of implementing institutions as well as allocated funds.

### If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Deliver collective outcomes: transcend humanitarian-development divides , what would it be

A flexible, predictable and transparent donor is a great partner both to development and humanitarian actors and to affected people.

### Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives

#### Keywords

- ☒ People-centred approach



## Specific Initiatives

☒ Commitment to Action: Transcending the humanitarian - development divide

## Agenda for Humanity

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



## 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 |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

Lithuania took important commitments to increase official development assistance to 0.33% ODA/GNI ratio by 2030. This impacts both the quality of the implementation of development cooperation and humanitarian aid which is directly related to the principles of effectiveness, transparency, accountability, efficiency, predictability.

### Achievements at a glance

- In 2016 Lithuania for the first time approved the Interinstitutional Development Cooperation Action Plan for 2017-2019. Development and humanitarian actions and funds were lined up to contribute the implementation of the 2030 Development Agenda.
- The new edition of the Law on Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid was adopted in 2016. Main changes include: (1) transfer of management of development cooperation projects to a separate agency, (2) improved coherence of the national development cooperation policy at the implementation level and encouragement for each public sector institution to become more active in the implementation of the Agenda 2030, (3) basis for better involvement of private sector in development cooperation as a donor or source of ideas/experience.
- The humanitarian-development link is strong both in theory and practice: from joint strategic documents to administration. Some development cooperation projects are based on humanitarian needs. In 2016 Lithuania increased humanitarian assistance by one-third in comparison to 2015.

### How is your organization assessing progress

This report is based on information collected inside the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from Lithuanian diplomatic missions abroad and using other reports, such as on development cooperation and humanitarian aid, as well as evaluation of projects and situation in partner countries.

### Challenges faced in implementation

Growing development-humanitarian needs vs. limited funds for development-humanitarian aid.

### Next step to advance implementation in 2017

- Promote the humanitarian-development nexus as a key element in ensuring the efficiency and effectiveness of assistance provided.
- In 2017 Lithuania will evaluate the impact of the above-mentioned amendments to the Law on implementation of development cooperation and humanitarian assistance.
- The Action Plan shall be revised (and this will be practicing annually) with the aim of increasing the number of implementing institutions as well as allocated funds.

### If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Finance outcomes, not fragmentation: shift from funding to financing , what would it be

A flexible, predictable and transparent donor is a great partner both to development and humanitarian actors and to affected people.

### Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives

#### Keywords

- ☒ Accountability to affected people



## Specific Initiatives

☒ Commitment to Action: Transcending the humanitarian - development divide

## Agenda for Humanity

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



## Additional Reports

| Attachment  |
|---|
| <a href="#">Lithuanian humanitarian aid in 2016.pdf</a> |