



**SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
AND
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**STATEMENT
REGARDING ILLEGAL DETENTION OF NADEZHDA SAVCHENKO, UKRAINIAN
MILITARY AIR FORCE PILOT, BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

22 August 2014
Vilnius

The Committee on European Affairs and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

strongly condemn the illegal detention of the Ukrainian military air force pilot Nadezhda Savchenko and her custody in Voronezh, a city on the territory of the Russian Federation,

note that the actions of the law enforcement bodies of the Russian Federation, i.e. illegal detention and custody of the Ukrainian citizen Nadezhda Savchenko without ensuring her the right to defence, violate the fundamental principles of international law in the area of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

highlight that by denying Nadezhda Savchenko access to consular services of Ukraine in the Russian Federation and thus denying her the right to permanent consular protection, the Russian side violates its international obligations under the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of 1963 and provisions under the Consular Convention signed by the Russian Federation and Ukraine in 1994,

call on the authorities and law enforcement bodies of the Russian Federation to respect human rights and comply with their international obligations by conducting an objective investigation into the illegal detention and custody of Nadezhda Savchenko and by punishing the perpetrators; to immediately and unconditionally release Nadezhda Savchenko and other citizens of Ukraine illegally detained and kept in custody on the territory of the Russian Federation; and to create the conditions for their return to their homeland,

call on the national Parliaments of the EU Member States and the European Parliament to make a strict and responsible evaluation of this and other violations of human rights by the Russian Federation's authorities and build pressure in order to ensure compliance of the Russian Federation with international legal obligations.

Benediktas Juodka

Chair, Committee on Foreign Affairs

Gediminas Kirkilas

Chair, Committee on European Affairs