

SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
RESOLUTION
ON STRENGTHENING OF PARLIAMENTARY DIPLOMACY

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Vilnius

The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania,
being convinced that geopolitical security is one of the key priorities of our State's policy;
having regard to the fact that the threat to Lithuania's independence originating from the East is long-lasting and constant;

considering the hybrid war to be as one of Russia's most relevant aspects of confrontation with the West, which is aimed at destabilizing societies, and inciting ethnic, social and cultural discord;

being fully aware of the need to strengthen solidarity between Lithuania and other European Union Member States in addressing the challenges to the European security, European identity and the sovereignty of the Member States;

drawing attention to the insufficient political cooperation between the Nordic countries and the Baltic states and Poland (NBP9) which resulted in the Nordic countries and their major parties being less concerned with the regional security projects and initiatives;

stressing that the growing uncertainty in political systems of European states brings to power an increasing number of new political forces, therefore it is important for Lithuania to be able to react quickly and determine new channels for cooperation;

being convinced that the economic, political and military success of the Eastern Partnership countries in their transformation to become sovereign and European states strengthens the security of the whole region, including Lithuania, however, due to internal problems of the European Union a very limited attention is devoted to this issue;

having regard to the fact that the US leadership and NATO collective defence and security guarantees remain the essential pillar of the European security system,

emphasizes the importance of parliamentary diplomacy and international relations of political parties in the current geopolitical context;

calls for strengthening geopolitical cooperation between the Nordic countries and the Baltic states and Poland (NBP9) by setting up groups for international relations within the Lithuanian political parties which would develop party diplomacy initiatives, establishing close contacts with respective relevant political parties of these states;

encourages to employ all the effective political instruments, as well as party and parliamentary diplomacy instruments, promoting closer cooperation between the European Union and its individual member states with the associated partners – Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova, which are currently facing geopolitical challenges and internal crises;

points out that Lithuania must fully assist the Eastern Partnership countries in moving forward along their chosen path of democratic reforms that would strengthen the independence, autonomy and security of these countries, and ensure the welfare of their people;

proposes to strengthen regional cooperation, in particular at parliamentary level, between the states of the Baltic and Black seas (intermarium) in order to maintain a close link between the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova, supporting their determination to stay on the road to European integration, while the European Union membership perspective is difficult to implement in the near future;

encourages greater use of interparliamentary and party diplomacy in the European Union Member States so that the re-establishment of relations with Belarus would include the issue of the need for transparency and international control of the construction of the Ostrovets nuclear power plant;

invites to restore sustainable interparliamentary cooperation with Poland, which is very important to coordination of positions on regional security issues as well as elimination of long-standing obstacles hindering the improvement of bilateral relations based on mutual respect and understanding;

calls for particular attention to Germany with a view to contributing to the smoothest possible formation in Lithuania of a NATO battalion led by Germany and maintaining the deterrence policy towards Russia;

draws attention to the need to strengthen relations with the United Kingdom, which plays a particularly important role in both the European security system and maintaining Europe's close relations with the USA;

stresses the need to enhance the direct involvement with the US Congress, seeking new and unexplored opportunities for Lithuania's cooperation with the USA, thus securing the transatlantic relationship;

notes that all party and parliamentary diplomacy initiatives must be properly funded, taking account of the successful experience of Germany and Sweden.

Speaker of the Seimas

Viktoras Pranckietis