



LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS
SEIMAS

Lithuanian
Parliamentary
Mirror

www.lrs.lt



NEWSLETTER

2017 April
No 4 (59)

- SEIMAS CREATED THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE LITHUANIAN ELECTRICITY MARKET AGAINST ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY UNSAFE NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS
- ON 14 APRIL 2017, VIKTORAS PRANCKIETIS, SPEAKER OF THE SEIMAS, AND LITHUANIAN MPS MET WITH ZHANG DEJIANG, CHAIRMAN OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
- ON 24–27 APRIL 2017, VIKTORAS PRANCKIETIS, SPEAKER OF THE SEIMAS, WAS ON A WORKING VISIT TO GENEVA
- LITHUANIAN AND POLISH PARLIAMENTARIANS DISCUSSED THE CLEAN ENERGY PACKAGE
- BREXIT WAS A WAKE-UP CALL THAT SUMMONED THE EU'S UNITY

PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS

Seimas created the regulatory framework for the protection of the Lithuanian electricity market against electricity generated by unsafe nuclear power plants

On 20 April 2017, the Seimas adopted the Law on Necessary Measures against the Threats Posed by Unsafe Nuclear Power Plants in Third Countries.

“At the beginning of this year, Lithuania’s parliamentary political parties signed the Accord on Joint Actions against the Unsafe Nuclear Power Plant in Astravyets. The Accord states that the construction of the unsafe NPP in Astravyets, which is 40 km away from Vilnius, poses a threat to Lithuania and that all necessary steps should be taken to reduce the threat. The parties to the Accord unanimously support this Law. We will continue raising the issues of nuclear safety in the EU and international institutions,” says Viktoras Pranckietis, Speaker of the Seimas.

[MORE](#)

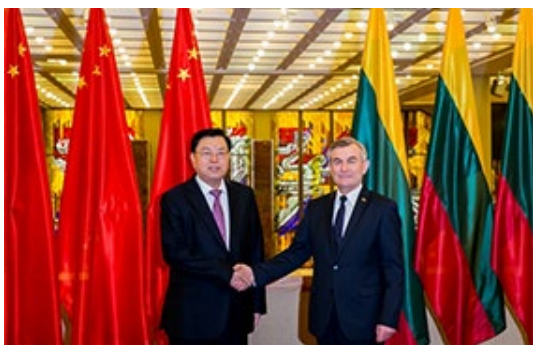
20 April 2017. Seimas ratified the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions

25 April 2017. Seimas ratified the Agreement establishing an Association between the European Union and its Member States, on the one hand, and Central America, on the other

25 April 2017. Seimas called for celebrating the Year of Tadeusz Kościuszko in Lithuania and the world

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: EVENTS, MEETINGS, VISITS

Viktoras Pranckietis, Speaker of the Seimas: *Lithuania and China have to continue to intensively search for new opportunities in each other's markets*



On 14 April 2017, Viktoras Pranckietis, Speaker of the Seimas, and Lithuanian MPs met with Zhang Dejiang, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China, and the delegation headed by him. At the meeting held in the Seimas, the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and the Speaker of the Seimas discussed bilateral cooperation between China and Lithuania. Both sides agreed that the existing potential of bilateral relations should have a positive impact on trade, transport and logistics, tourism, student exchanges, and encourage investment.

[MORE](#)

Speaker of the Seimas: *Belarus' behaviour worries not only Lithuania*



On 21 April 2017, Viktoras Pranckietis, Speaker of the Seimas, met with Rebecca Harms, MEP from Germany, and discussed further joint actions on the Astravyets nuclear power plant (NPP). The Speaker of the Seimas noted that Belarus failed to ensure the promised transparency and that the denial of access to the country for the group of MEPs was a highly disconcerting fact.

“The safety of the Astravyets NPP is a common concern for both Lithuania and the whole European Union (EU). It is very alarming that Belarus denied entry to the MEPs for unidentified ‘administrative reasons’. The NPP project poses critical nuclear and environmental threats to the EU neighbouring countries and creates unfair competition in the electricity market. A clear signal must be sent that the electricity produced in violation of international regulations on nuclear safety, security and transboundary environmental impact assessment will not be allowed to the EU,” said Mr Pranckietis.

[MORE](#)

On his visit to Geneva, the Speaker of the Seimas addressed nuclear safety, Ukraine's issues and Lithuania's engagement in the activities of CERN

On 24–27 April 2017, Viktoras Pranckietis, Speaker of the Seimas, was on a working visit to Geneva. The meetings were also attended by Eugenijus Gentvilas, Member of the Seimas, who was part of the Speaker's delegation. On 25 April 2017, the delegation under the leadership of the Speaker of the Seimas had a meeting with Martin Chungong, Secretary-General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union. On 26 April 2017, the Speaker's delegation had a meeting with Michael Møller, Director-General of the UN Office at Geneva. On 26 April 2017, the delegation under the leadership of the Speaker of the Seimas also visited the European Organization for Nuclear Research known as CERN where they met with Prof. Fabiola Gianotti, Director-General of CERN, and learnt about the activities of CERN. More about the visit see [HERE](#).

Lithuanian and Polish parliamentarians discussed the Clean Energy package



The delegation of the Committee on European Affairs, headed by Gediminas Kirkilas, Chair of the Committee, Deputy Speaker of the Seimas, visited Warsaw on 3–4 April 2017 at the invitation of the Chair of the European Union Affairs Committee of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland. The delegation of the Seimas Committee met colleagues from the Polish Sejm and Senate and discussed the most relevant EU and security matters, including energy security,

development of infrastructure projects in the region, further development of the EU, implications of Brexit, and the rights of Polish and Lithuanian nationals living in the UK.

[MORE](#)

Brexit was a wake-up call that summoned the EU's unity



On 7 April 2017, the Committee on European Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the European Information Office of the Information and Communication Department of the Office of the Seimas held a conference–discussion titled BREXIT: what it means for Lithuania and the European Union. The focus of the discussion was the impact of the UK's withdrawal from the EU (Brexit) on the European Union itself, the Republic of Lithuania, and the United Kingdom. The conference–discussion was attended by foreign ambassadors residing in Lithuania, Members of

the Seimas, officials of the Office of the President and the Government, civil servants of ministries and public institutions, and civil society representatives.

[MORE](#)

5 April 2017. [Members of the Committee on European Affairs met with the Irish Minister of State for European Affairs](#)

7 April 2017. [Committee on Legal Affairs met with the Delegation of Moldova's Constitutional Court](#)

20 April 2017. [Chair of the Committee on Rural Affairs met with his Latvian and Estonian counterparts](#)

EVENTS

Viktoras Pranckietis, Speaker of the Seimas: *forces hostile to Lithuania attempt to undermine the importance of locating the Act of Independence*



On 3 April 2017, Viktoras Pranckietis, Speaker of the Seimas, met with Prof. Liudas Mažylis from Vytautas Magnus University, who has found the Act of Independence of Lithuania in the Political Archive of the German Federal Foreign Office. The Speaker of the Seimas said that forces hostile to Lithuania attempt to undermine the fact, but this kind of propaganda does not affect Lithuanian citizens.

[MORE](#)



For more photos of the April 2017 events and meetings, see [here](#) or please visit the Seimas [Flickr account](#).

TEXT

Press Office of the Information and Communication Department
Jolanta Anskaitienė, Adviser, tel: +370 5 239 6508, e-mail: jolanta.anskaitiene@lrs.lt

LAYOUT

Neringa Motiejūnaitė-Lilienė, tel: +370 5 239 6204, e-mail: neringa.motiejunaite@lrs.lt

PHOTOGRAPH

Džoja Gunda Barysaitė, tel: +370 5 239 6215, e-mail: dzoja.barysaite@lrs.lt
Olga Posaškova, tel: +370 5 239 6205, e-mail: olga.posaskova@lrs.lt

Information and Communication Department
Loreta Raulinaitytė, Director, tel: +370 5 239 6762, e-mail: loreta.raulinityte@lrs.lt

Public Relations Unit of the Information and Communication Department
Artūras Zeleniakas, Head, tel: +370 5 239 6201; e-mail: arturas.zeleniakas@lrs.lt

If you do not wish to receive more newsletters in the future, please inform about it by e-mail: jolanta.anskaitiene@lrs.lt