

Latest developments of PTA in the EPTA member countries

Questionnaire for the national report at the Directors' meeting

Please fill out the questionnaire; and send it to the EPTA dir list before the meeting. Thank you!

Name of the PTA unit + Name of respondent

Committee for the Future of the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania (SEIMAS) / Chairman of the Future Committee, Prof. Raimundas Lopata / Substitute person Deputy Chairman of the Committee Lukas Savickas

Institutional developments

The Committee for the Future (C4F Lithuania) now has 19 members of the Seimas, representing for the majority parliamentary political groups. Members of the other Committees of the Seimas may become members of the Committee for the Future as well. The same rule equally applies only to the Seimas Committee on European Affairs. Currently 14 Committees, i.e. all Committees except for the Seimas Committee on Legal Affairs and the Seimas Committee on Foreign Affairs, are represented in the Committee for the Future. C4F Lithuania is the second committee in the Parliament according to the number of participants.

Professor **Raimundas Lopata**, a representative of the Liberals Movement Political Group, has been elected as the first Chair of the Committee. Mr **Lukas Savickas**, a representative of the Lithuanian Farmers and Greens Union Political Group, and Mr **Matas Maldeikis**, a representative of the Homeland Union-Lithuanian Christian Democrat Political Group, have been elected as Deputy Chairs.

Members:

Homeland Union – Lithuanian Christian Democrat Political Group: 5 members – Ms **Angelė Jakavonytė**; Ms **Paulė Kuzmickienė**; Mr **Andrius Navickas**; Ms **Rasa Petrauskienė**; Ms **Liuda Pociūnienė**; Mr **Arūnas Valinskas**.

Political group of Democrats 'For Lithuania': 2 members – Mr **Zigmantas Balčytis**; Ms **Laima Nagienė**.

Lithuanian Farmers and Greens Union Political Group: 2 members – Ms **Ligita Girskienė**; Ms **Asta Kubilienė**.

Liberals Movement Political Group: 1 member – Mr **Viktoras Pranckietis**.

Freedom Party Political Group: 2 members – Mr **Kasparas Adomaitis**; Ms **Monika Ošmianskienė**.

Lithuanian Social Democratic Party Political Group: 2 members – Ms **Rasa Budbergytė**; Mr **Kęstutis Vilkauskas**.

Labour Party Political Group: 1 member – Mr **Valdemaras Valkiūnas**.

Office of the Committee for the Future **now has 7 civil servants**. The Office staffs assists the Committee in organizing events related to the Committee's activities; according to competence, participates in the preparation of draft work plans and draft activity reports of the Committee; according to competence, helps prepare relevant information for the public about the work of the Committee and performs other functions.

The Future Committee cooperates with and has technological assessment reviews performed by representatives of the following institutions:

- Research Unit of the Information and Communication Department of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania;
- Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania;
- Bank of Lithuania;
- State Data Agency;
- Center for Strategic Analysis of the Government (STRATA)

Finished projects, selection:

Collaborating institutions have conducted research and analytical reviews in the field of science, technology, and innovation, at the request of the Committee. One of them:

- ‘Organization and implementation of digital technology strategic programs in the most competitive countries of the world and Lithuania’ reviewed how advanced foreign countries (OECD and China, Singapore, etc.) and Lithuania organize technological breakthroughs, how they manage, how they distribute resources, how they ensure efficiency (including quantum technologies, Web3, Big data, blockchain, semantic technologies, etc.)’;
- ‘Prospects and strategic assumptions of hydrogen energy in Lithuania’.
- ‘Socioeconomic transformations in the digitalization environment’. Issues covered: digitization and economic integration, inclusion and threats of digitization, groups of digital exclusion, socio-demographic vulnerability, etc.
- ‘Exponential Technologies: Quantum Computing and the Future of the World’, etc.

The main studies ordered by the Committee last year are these:

- ‘Possible impact of Russia's war against Ukraine on Lithuania’. This study briefly discusses three hypothetical scenarios of the impact of Russia’s war against Ukraine on Lithuania, focusing on demographic aspects: Scenario 1. Ukraine wins and a ceasefire/peace is achieved on Ukraine’s terms. Scenario 2. A frozen conflict. Scenario 3. Russia breaks the Ukrainian lines of defence. The study aims to familiarize politicians, academics, and the whole society in general with what is being discussed in the world about the future of Ukraine.
- ‘Involving citizens in public administration in Lithuania: is the north star?..’ The research was supposed to reveal attitudes, beliefs, and Lithuanian residents' behaviour related to their inclusion and participation in public administration. The aim was also to answer the question, of to what extent Lithuanian residents are inclined to get involved in public decision-making and use the instruments available to them, and what are the reasons for doing this. Research showed that progress in public administration is hardly possible without the successful involvement of citizens in public decision-making. The first step towards increasing citizens’ inclusion and participation could be the institutionalization of one of the forms of deliberative democracy – citizens’ assembly – in Lithuania. However, a serious challenge is that the beliefs, attitudes, and values of the Lithuanian population are not conducive to the growth and sustainability of the population’s involvement in public policy processes: confidence in one’s abilities to act in the political process is rated poorly; trust in country’s major political institutions is very low, etc.

Several principal political documents were adopted, taking into account the needs of today's democratic country and society and the issues that emerged during the Committee's meetings and discussions:

- On 18 February 2022, the Committee adopted [the Resolution on the Future of Demographic Policy and Social Development](#).
- On 2 December 2022, the Committee prepared the report on the foremost issues of the life of the state and society ‘Managing the future under conditions of uncertainty’. The Committee proposes to solve future challenges by strengthening the ecosystem of the country's future (foreseeable

management) based on the principle of universality and integrity. The Committee proposes to solve future challenges by strengthening the ecosystem of the country's future (foreseeable management) based on the principle of universality and integrity. For future management coordination centers to appear in important state institutions for coordinating solutions to complex and long-term challenges such as green transformation, digitization, and public management transformation; enhanced expert and analytical support for forecasting the future; a mechanism for supporting new scientific fields and attracting globally leading talents to Lithuania has been created.

This report was published as a publication of the Committee for the Future, 'Managing the future under conditions of uncertainty'.

- In the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania will take place the World Parliamentary Congress "Future of the World" organized by the Committee for the Future in 2023 on May 12-13. The main goal of the Congress is to strengthen the ability to foresee and manage the future in parliamentary practice. One would hope that the exchange of experience in the design of "future politicians" between members of the world's parliaments, representatives of parliamentary news services, and experts would deepen the understanding of the possibilities of parliamentary predictive management and strengthen connections useful for further cooperation.

Impacts

What significant societal or political impacts did your institute realize over the past year?

The Committee for the Future of the Seimas was leading in consideration of the Law on Official Statistics and State Data Management of the Republic of Lithuania. This law created the conditions for such legal regulation, which allows more flexible use of state data of massive volume and value. The state can now legally employ population, business, and other data collected in various state and departmental registers of the Republic of Lithuania and in state and municipal institutions, institutions, companies, state, and other information systems for solving different tasks or making important political, state and public welfare-creating decisions.

Public engagement

Please give one or more examples of projects in which public engagement was an important factor.

In 2022, the Committee for the Future, together with the Martynas Mažvydas Lithuanian National Library, brought together the Lithuanian academic community, business analysts, representatives of non-governmental organizations and experts from various fields in the virtual discussions of the informal Future fora 'Intellectual independence of Lithuania'. The committee organized about 20 discussions, during which speakers shared insights about the further future of the state, development issues and perspectives of individual areas.

As an example, the Committee discussed science and technology issues in the following meetings:

- 'New intellectual technologies: opportunities and Challenges' discussed technological progress and Lithuania's potential in their development.
- 'Socioeconomic transformations in the digitalization environment'.

New projects

- One of the major tasks of the Committee for the Future this year is to organize the discussion of the State Progress Strategy 'Lithuania 2050' in the Seimas.

The State Development Strategy is the most important long-term strategic document of the country. The Government is preparing this document, and the State Progress Council is supervising this process in cooperation with the Committee for the Future of the Seimas.

The Committee for the Future actively participated in the formation of the LT 2050 concept and preparation methodology, at the committee meetings and the informal discussions.

- During the VI (spring) session of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, it is planned to adopt the resolution prepared by the Committee for the Future 'On the future of Lithuanian

demographic policy.' In the draft resolution, the depopulation of Lithuania next to the Russian threat is recognized as a long-term and fundamental problem of the country's national security and a threat to the existence and survival of the Lithuanian nation and state, where the population of the state and its territory are the principal factor in the survival and development of the state.

- Committee for the Future of the Seimas in 2022 November 18 at the meeting decided to apply to the Seimas Board to form a working group for long-term science, technology, and innovation policy formation and related priority development directions. The purpose of which is to cover and foresee specific steps to create an accurate, accountable ecosystem of science, technology, and innovation, which would play a key role in the development of the Lithuanian economy, promoting the creation of higher added value-sustainable innovations and achieving the goals of the future State Progress Strategy 'Lithuania 2050'.

Plans for the future

Are there other plans for the future (e.g. special event, new publication series) or expected developments of your institute that you want to share?

The Committee for the Future of the Seimas started preparing a series of [Foresight studies](#). The first study 'Possible impact of Russia's war against Ukraine on Lithuania' was published in 2023 on February 23 and was presented during the international Vilnius book fair.

The following Future studies covering science, technology, and innovation issues are expected:

- 'Legal environment and development of artificial intelligence'.
- 'The relationship between the strategic development of science and technology and the policy of social development (the example of Japan, the context of other EU and world countries)', etc.

The Committee plans to release the White Book of Futures Ecosystem.

At the same time as the Committee's work, there are sometimes projects and events not foreseen in its work plan. In most cases, the Committee evaluates them taking into account strategic, necessary political decision-making, scientificity, novelty, relevance for the state and society, urgency, and importance.

Highlights

Is there anything you would like to present, discuss or give special attention to at the director's meeting?

Parliamentarians will discuss about current issues at the meeting.