



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

**STATEMENT
ON SOLIDARITY WITH THE BELARUSIAN PEOPLE FIGHTING FOR THE FREEDOM
OF THEIR COUNTRY**

5 August 2022
Vilnius

The Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania,

commemorating the second anniversary of the peaceful protests by the Belarusian people against the fraudulent presidential election in Belarus and marking the day of solidarity with Belarus together with the Belarusian people,

expressing deep solidarity and support for the Belarusian people fighting for freedom, democracy and human rights in Belarus,

stressing that the illegal regime of Alexander Lukashenko continues to brutally destroy its country's civil society and is considered an accomplice in Russia's war crimes in Ukraine by allowing to use the territory of Belarus for military aggression against Ukraine,

noting that Lithuania has never stopped and will not stop believing in the possibility of free choice for the Belarusian people and in the democratic future of our neighbouring state,

condemns the systematic repression against civil society and free media, as well as human rights violations in Belarus;

demands unconditional and immediate release of all political prisoners of the Belarusian regime and holding free, democratic elections in Belarus which meet international standards of impartiality and transparency;

rejects as unlawful the actions and decisions of the Belarusian regime that sacrifice the statehood, independence and sovereignty of Belarus by making it part of the Union State, dominated by Russia.

supports the efforts of Belarusian civil society and democratic opposition to resist the participation of the Belarusian regime in Russia's aggression against Ukraine and to independently decide on the future of the independent Belarus;

welcomes the active engagement, commitment and leadership of the Belarusian democratic opposition and its leader Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya in order to respond to the expectations of the Belarusian society in the struggle for the democratic future of Belarus;

urges the democratic forces of Belarus to continue their unanimous and consistent efforts to create a free, independent and democratic state of Belarus which respects the rule of law, its neighbours and international commitments;

calls on the parliaments and governments of the democratic states of the world to continue to support the people of Belarus fighting for their country's freedom and democratic future.

Chair of the Committee

Laima Liucija Andrikiene