



## SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

### RESOLUTION ON THE THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR II IN EUROPE AND THE VICTORY AGAINST NAZISM

7 May 2020 No XIII-2930  
Vilnius

The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania,

*noting* that in 2020 the world marks the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II, the most brutal global armed conflict in the history of humanity, which claimed tens of millions of lives;

*emphasizing* the uniqueness of the Holocaust, mass murders organised by the Nazis and local collaborators;

*encouraging* to remember and pay tribute to the victims of the Holocaust and their unique contribution to the global cultural and spiritual heritage;

*noting* that by signing the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact (or rather the Stalin-Hitler Pact) and its secret protocols in 1939 and thereby dividing Central and Eastern Europe, Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union, sought to destroy the statehood of Central and Eastern European countries, which in turn became one of the major causes for the outbreak of World War II, while the loss of the statehood of Central and Eastern European countries also served as one of the preconditions for the terrible Holocaust tragedy;

*also noting* that the end of World War II failed to bring freedom to Central and Eastern European countries; on the contrary, it led to totalitarian oppression and Soviet occupation, which lasted for five decades and was compounded by the genocide, war crimes, and brutal crimes against humanity, while in the meantime Western Europe was striving to overcome totalitarianism and its consequences;

*adding* that the elimination of the consequences of World War II for Central and Eastern European countries was mainly related to the withdrawal of the armed forces of the Soviet Union and subsequently of the Russian Federation from Central and Eastern Europe;

*recalling* that the secret protocols of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact of 1939 were condemned by the politicians of both countries, e.g. the Soviet Union condemned the secret protocols of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact of 1939 and recognised them as null and void by the Resolution of the Congress of People's Deputies of 24 December 1989 on the Political and Legal Assessment of the 1939 Soviet-German Non-Aggression Treaty, thereby also condemning the violations of peace and non-aggression treaties with third countries committed in implementing those protocols;

*expressing solidarity* with Central and Eastern European countries, which were occupied or even annexed as a result of the secret protocols of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact of 1939 and which the Russian Federation, however, now seeks to accuse of contributing to the outbreak of World War II;

*observing* the intentions of the Russian Federation to consolidate, even on the constitutional level, the concept of historical revisionism, which identifies with the crimes of the Soviet Union and allows the persecution of any efforts to investigate and condemn them;

*taking note of* the previous statements by the European Parliament and the parliaments of the Baltic States concerning the rewriting of history,

**expresses** its sincere respect for those who fought against Nazism;

**recalls with grief** the victims of crimes against humanity and war crimes;

**condemns** the historical revisionism and disinformation that the Russian Federation has employed to deny the role of the Soviet Union, as one of the key instigators of World War II, in an effort to shift the blame on the victims of the aggression and justify the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact and its secret protocols of 1939;

**calls on** the European Parliament, the parliaments of Central and Eastern European countries, international organisations, and the international community to refrain from condoning, and jointly oppose, the historical revisionism and disinformation perpetrated by the Russian Federation;

**stresses** that the historical revisionism and disinformation employed by the Russian Federation are also intended to justify the current aggressive policies and aggression of this country against its neighbouring countries, foster distrust in the Western community, and divide the European Union and NATO;

**invites** the regional and global academic community and civil society to continue investigating the crimes against humanity committed by totalitarian regimes, examine historical facts and spread the truth to prevent any tragedies of this scale from happening ever again.

Speaker of the Seimas

Viktoras Pranckietis