



SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

RESOLUTION ON THE ACT OF STATE TERRORISM PERPETRATED BY BELARUS AGAINST A CIVIL AIRCRAFT

25 May 2021 No XIV-345
Vilnius

The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania,

considering the forced landing of a Ryanair civil aircraft (flight FR4978) en route from Athens to Vilnius at Minsk airport on 23 May 2021 as an act of state terrorism perpetrated by Belarus;

noting that this operation, planned by the special services of Belarus to detain Belarusian journalist and opposition activist Raman Pratasievich at the airport, endangered the safety and lives of citizens of several Member States of the European Union and other countries as well as civil aviation, also violated the freedom of movement of the passengers;

considering that this unprecedented action by Belarus demonstrates the threat posed by the regime to all passengers inside and outside Europe and confirms that the Belarusian regime is ready to crack down on the opposition by any means,

calls on the Member States and institutions of the European Union:

- 1) to respond immediately to the threat posed by the Belarusian regime to international civil aviation and to ban overflight of Belarusian airspace by EU-based carriers;
- 2) to ban overflight of EU airspace by Belarusian airlines and to include the Belarusian state-owned company Belavia in the fourth package of targeted EU sanctions, banning it from using airspace of the EU Member States;
- 3) to adopt as soon as possible the complete fourth package of targeted EU sanctions, additionally listing all the persons and organisations responsible for this act; to start work on the fifth package of targeted EU sanctions against EU-exporting and regime-related entities as well as the individuals who contributed to the hijacking of the Ryanair aircraft;
- 4) to discontinue the European Union's sectoral cooperation, technical and financial assistance instruments and other cooperation programmes with Belarus implemented by Belarusian national and local authorities, without the European Commission applying any financial corrections in respect of the EU Member States and legal entities operating therein;

invites international partners to take joint action in the United Nations, NATO, the G7 and other international organisations, also in other formats regarding the assessment of threats

posed by the Belarusian regime and the release of Raman Pratasevich, Sofia Sapega and other persons detained and convicted by the Belarusian regime for political reasons;

calls on the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to immediately conduct an international investigation of the incident that occurred on 23 May 2021 and to suspend Belarus' membership of ICAO for the period of this investigation;

invites NATO member countries and other international partners to impose sanctions against Alexander Lukashenko's regime and to deprive the regime of access to Interpol and other international organisations to continue attacks on European democracy;

calls on the European Aviation Safety Agency to take a decision on the unreliability of Belarus' air traffic control services;

calls on international financial institutions, the EU Member States' financial and export credit and guarantee institutions and agencies to discontinue the funding, guarantee and assistance mechanisms for public projects in Belarus that directly or indirectly benefit Alexander Lukashenko's regime.

Speaker of the Seimas

Viktorija Čmilytė-Nielsen