



## SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

### **RESOLUTION ON THE CONDEMNATION OF THE SEXUAL CRIMES COMMITTED IN UKRAINE BY THE ARMED FORCES OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, PROSECUTION OF PERPETRATORS AND ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS**

8 November 2022 No XIV-1502  
Vilnius

The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania,

*acting pursuant to* the provisions of Resolution No XIV-930 of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania of 24 February 2022 on the Aggression of Russia and Belarus against Ukraine, Resolution No XIV-941 of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania of 17 March 2022 on Active Measures to Ensure the Security of the Civilian Population and Critical Infrastructure in Ukraine, Resolution No XIV-1010 of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania of 12 April 2022 on Condemning the Russian Federation's Aggression and War Crimes in Ukraine and Resolution No XIV-1070 of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania of 10 May 2022 on the Recognition of the Actions of the Russian Federation in Ukraine as Genocide and the Establishment of a Special International Criminal Tribunal to Investigate the Crime of Russian Aggression,

*observing* clear evidence that the armed forces of the Russian Federation under the leadership of President Vladimir Putin systematically use sexual violence against Ukraine's women, men and children,

*recalling* that sexual violence during war is a criminal act attributed to crimes against humanity and war crimes under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,

*having regard to* the fact that the Republic of Lithuania was the first of the States Parties that ratified the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court to appeal to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court regarding the need to investigate international crimes committed by the Russian Federation in Ukraine,

*stressing* that the Republic of Lithuania, represented by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania, participates and is taking other procedural steps in the case Ukraine v. Russian Federation before the International Court of Justice,

*noting* that the Republic of Lithuania intervenes as a third party in a case before the European Court of Human Rights concerning gross and systematic violations by the Russian

Federation of the provisions of the Convention for Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, which seeks to protect the rights of victims and to ensure compensation for them,

*underlying* that the Office of the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Lithuania, invoking the principle of universal jurisdiction, is conducting a pre-trial investigation into the actions of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus in Ukraine, since the Criminal Code of the Republic of Lithuania provides for liability for the treatment of human beings prohibited under international law, including liability for rape, sexual violence, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution and forced pregnancy or enforced sterilization, where a state policy directed against any civilian population is conducted on a widespread scale or systematically,

*recalling* that, on the initiative of Lithuania, a Joint Investigation Team was set up within the framework of Eurojust to investigate war crimes and crimes against humanity in cooperation with the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court,

**strongly condemns** the continuing military aggression by the Russian Federation, the previous and further use of sexual violence on a systematic and large scale in support of the policy of the Russian Federation, and other war crimes and crimes against humanity committed against Ukrainian people;

**fully supports** the actions of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in initiating and participating in judicial proceedings regarding the international crimes being committed by the armed forces of the Russian Federation, including those related to sexual violence against Ukrainians;

**advocates** further active efforts of the institutions of the Republic of Lithuania to bring to justice all perpetrators, including the leadership of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus, for their role in organising and committing war crimes and crimes against humanity, as well as for the crime of aggression;

**calls on** other states to invoke the principle of universal jurisdiction and to open pre-trial investigations into the war crimes and crimes against humanity, including the crimes related to systematic sexual violence, which were committed and continue to be committed on the territory of Ukraine by persons belonging to the armed forces of the Russian Federation;

**calls on** the Member States of the European Union and other international partners to join the initiative of the Baltic States to establish the Special International Criminal Tribunal with a view to bringing the political and military leaders of the Russian Federation to justice for the crime of aggression in Ukraine;

**calls on** other states also to engage in other international legal proceedings concerning the responsibility of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus and their state officials,

members of the armed forces for committed and ongoing international crimes and to contribute to ensuring justice for Ukrainian people;

**calls on** the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations Human Rights Council to take all possible steps within their remit to investigate the sexual and other crimes committed by the Russian Federation and to assist victims of such crimes;

**urges** the governments of the Republic of Lithuania and other states to initiate all necessary actions to provide all necessary medical and psychological assistance to the victims of sexual crimes, committed by the armed forces of the Russian Federation, who are staying on the territory of these states;

**expresses** its support for all Ukrainians against whom the armed forces of the Russian Federation have used sexual violence or in any other way violated their human rights protected by international law.

Speaker of the Seimas

Viktorija Čmilytė-Nielsen