



SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

RESOLUTION ON EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO THE LITVAKS OF THE WORLD

19 May 2022 No XIV-1105
Vilnius

The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania,

having regard to the fact that the 5th World Litvak Congress, organised by the Jewish Community of Lithuania, will take place in Lithuania from 23 to 26 May 2022,

highlighting the particular contribution of Lithuanian Jews and their descendants, known worldwide as Litvaks, in establishing Lithuania's ties with the world,

adding that Litvaks are a large and honourable Jewish community with more than 600 years of history and that many representatives of this community are helping to bring Lithuania closer to countries with the Jewish diaspora,

considering that Litvaks are an integral and vital part of modern Lithuania,

reminding that the Lithuanian Jews played a special role in the creation of both Lithuania and Israel — they have been, are and will continue to be among the most active figures in Israeli society, business, culture and politics, and have been active in all the parliaments of democratic Lithuania, both between the two world wars and since the restoration of Lithuania's independence; many of Lithuania's Jews, cultural, scientific and business representatives, continue to create in Lithuania or promote their homeland in the world,

honouring the victims of the Holocaust perpetrated by the Nazis and their local collaborators during the Second World War,

welcomes the opening of the 5th World Litvak Congress;

expresses its sincere gratitude to the Litvaks of the world for:

1) successful public diplomacy that serves Lithuania by presenting the country around the world and helping to build relationships with investors;

2) participation in the establishment of the Republic of Lithuania and the State of Israel;

3) creation of Yiddish and Hebrew culture in Lithuania;

4) promotion of the name of Lithuania in the world through the works of famous artists;

5) participation in Zionist underground activities that encouraged to leave the repressive Soviet occupation regime for the State of Israel, their historical homeland;

6) giving of meaning to the Righteous Among the Nations in the largest Holocaust history museum of Yad Vashem;

7) contribution to the enhancement of the potential for economic cooperation between the Republic of Lithuania and the State of Israel;

8) involvement in the fight against the apartheid regime in the Republic of South Africa;

9) century-long contribution to the building of Europe;

10) participation in the political, economic, cultural and scientific life of the United States and of the Western democratic world;

invites Litvaks around the world to continue to foster ties with Lithuania, where they are always welcomed by thousands of friendly people ready to implement common ideas.

Speaker of the Seimas

Viktorija Čmilytė-Nielsen