



## SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

### **RESOLUTION ON THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

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Vilnius

The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania,

*expressing its appreciation of* the cordial and long-term historical ties between the Republic of Lithuania and the United States of America (US),

*acknowledging* the decisive role of the US and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in ensuring security and stability in Europe and throughout the world,

*appreciating in particular* the US policy of non-recognition of the occupation and annexation of the Baltic States as enshrined in the Sumner Welles Declaration of 23 July 1940,

*emphasising* Lithuania's strong support for democratic values, peace and security pursued through Lithuania's membership of NATO, the European Union (EU), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and the United Nations,

*noting* that Lithuania is a responsible NATO member country that adheres firmly to the commitment to allocate 2 per cent of its gross domestic product (GDP) for defence needs, and contributes to ensuring security in the region and the world by participating in international missions and operations, taking leadership in the areas of democracy development, energy and cyber security, and expressing readiness to organise the Summit of NATO Heads of State and Government in Vilnius in 2022,

*stressing* that the US is the key strategic partner and ally in ensuring the security, stability and prosperity of Lithuania and other Baltic States, and that the US military power is the major factor in ensuring NATO's defence and deterrence in the Baltic Sea Region,

*taking note of* the US support that is key for the democratic development of the Eastern Partnership countries – Ukraine, Georgia, Moldova and Belarus,

*committing itself* to consolidating the strategic partnership with the US in the field of defence and seeking permanent presence of the US armed forces in Lithuania,

*guaranteeing* Lithuania's commitment to actively contribute to the implementation and strengthening of the provisions of the NATO Strategic Concept, taking into account the needs of the allied forces deployed in Lithuania, including the provision of the necessary infrastructure,

**confirms** that Lithuania commits itself to a responsible membership of NATO by increasing the annual share of GDP to defence with a view to reaching 2.5 per cent in 2030, and by modernising the armed forces and contributing to international allied operations;

**expresses** its firm will to fulfil its Host Nation support obligations, to provide appropriate military training conditions for the troops of the Lithuanian Armed Forces and allied forces, and to develop the infrastructure of training areas with a view to encouraging the allies to organise joint exercises in our region;

**seeks to** maintain long-term and consistent US support for the development of capabilities of the Baltic States, and calls on the US Congress to support and strengthen the Baltic Security Initiative, which would allow successful implementation of regional projects of the Baltic States through the financial instruments offered by the US for this purpose;

**supports** the initiative of US President-elect, Joe Biden, on the Summit for Democracy in 2021, which would encourage the leaders of world democracies to focus on a unified response to the challenges posed by autocracies with a view to seeking free and democratic elections in Belarus;

**takes note that** that EU-US cooperation forms the basis of transatlantic security and prosperity, which both sides are interested in; Lithuania, therefore, stands ready together with the US to further enhance transatlantic relations and strengthen NATO's visibility as well as military deterrence and defence posture, broader European and transatlantic integration, swifter NATO expansion towards Ukraine and Georgia or other partner countries seeking NATO membership;

**notes** that the fostering of NATO's fundamental values of freedom, democracy, multilateralism, human rights, democratic values and the rule of law leads to stronger political unity and cohesion within NATO, and **brings forward a proposal** to establish, in Lithuania, a NATO Centre of Excellence for Democracy Resistance;

**supports** stronger economic and trade cooperation between the EU and the US with a view to eliminating the existing trade barriers and concluding new trade and investment agreements by enhancing mutual cooperation on standards and technology, and **encourages** the strengthening, in a joint effort of the EU and the US, of the international trading system and the fight against distortions in world trade and practices incompatible with the market economy;

**commits itself** that Lithuania will continue to actively contribute to the United Nations initiatives in the fields of arms control, non-proliferation and disarmament, in reinforcing the fight against terrorist organisations and other criminal non-state actors;

**underlines** that Lithuania will seek to further strengthen cooperation with the US in the fields of energy, cyber security and prevention of other hybrid threats and actively support the regular dialogue between the US and the three Baltic States on the issues of the Partnership for Transatlantic Energy Cooperation (P-TEC) with a view to achieving the goals of Lithuania's energy independence, energy security and energy infrastructure development;

**confirms** that Lithuania will continue the fight against disinformation and propaganda campaigns carried out by hostile states and will, in cooperation with the US, take active and consistent action to detect misleading and malicious information activities, prevent the spread of disinformation, identify sources thereof and provide truthful facts;

**expresses** its support for and solidarity with the position of the US that 5G infrastructure in NATO and EU Member States should be developed only with the participation of reliable manufacturers meeting the criteria of transatlantic security;

**confirms** Lithuania's support for the Three Seas Initiative, which will contribute to the implementation of important transport, energy and digitalisation projects, help mobilise the attention and funding of the key EU partners required for the implementation of these projects, as well as involve the associated Eastern Partnership countries of the EU in this initiative;

**ensures** that Lithuania will actively contribute to greater security of the EU by shaping and implementing the EU Common Security and Defence Policy, and supporting the initiatives complementing NATO and open to transatlantic partners;

**notes** that it will promote closer bilateral cooperation between Lithuania and the US in the fields of people-to-people contacts, political parties, parliaments, think-tanks, academia, science and research, advanced technologies and innovations, university and study exchange programmes, and mass media, as well as increase the representation of state institutions of the Republic of Lithuania in the US;

**stresses** that Lithuania has always been and will remain a reliable US partner in the world, Europe and the Baltic Sea Region.

Speaker of the Seimas

Viktorija Čmilytė-Nielsen