



LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS NUOLATINĖ ATSTOVYBĖ
PRIE TARPTAUTINIŲ ORGANIZACIJŲ VIENOJE

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
TO THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN VIENNA

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Verbal Note

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Lithuania to the International Organizations in Vienna presets its compliments to all Permanent Missions and Delegations of all participating States to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the Conflict Prevention Centre and, in accordance with Decision 2/09 of the Forum of Security and Cooperation, has the honour to transmit the Lithuanian response to the Information Exchange on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Lithuania to the International Organizations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Permanent Missions and Delegations of the OSCE participating States and to the Conflict Prevention Centre the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, 15 April 2015



To:
All Permanent Missions/Delegations to the OSCE,
Conflict Prevention Centre of the OSCE
Vienna

QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE CODE OF CONDUCT ON POLITICO-MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY

Section I: Inter-State elements

1. Account of measures to prevent and combat terrorism

1.1 To which agreements and arrangements (universal, regional, sub-regional and bilateral) related to preventing and combating terrorism is your State a party?

a) United Nations Conventions:

1. *Convention on Offences and Certain Other Offences Committed on Board Aircraft* – Tokyo 14/09/63; entry into force in Lithuania – 19 February 1997;
2. *Convention on the Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft* – The Hague 16/12/70; entry into force in Lithuania – 3 January 1997;
3. *Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Aircraft* – Montreal 23/09/71; entry into force in Lithuania – 3 January 1997;
4. *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Internationally Protected Persons, Including Diplomatic Personnel* – New York 14/12/73; entry into force in Lithuania – 23 October 2002;
5. *Convention Against the Taking of Hostages* – New York 17/12/79; entry into force in Lithuania – 2 February 2001;
6. *Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material* – Vienna 26/10/79; entry into force in Lithuania – 6 January 1994;
7. *Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Aviation, complementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Aircraft* – Montreal 24/02/88; entry into force in Lithuania – 3 January 1997;
8. *Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation* – Rome 10/03/91; entry into force in Lithuania – 30 April 2003;
9. *Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Fixed Platforms on the Continental Shelf* – Rome 10/03/88; entry into force in Lithuania – 30 April 2003;
10. *Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection* – Montreal 01/03/91; entry into force in Lithuania – 21 June 1998;
11. *International Convention on the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings* – New York 15/12/97; entry into force in Lithuania – 17 March 2004;
12. *International Convention for the Suppression of Financing of Terrorism* – New York, 09/12/99; entry into force in Lithuania – 20 February 2003;
13. *International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism* - New York 13/04/2005; entry into force in Lithuania – 19 July 2007;
14. *Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material* – 08/07/2005; ratified on 3 June 2008;
15. *Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation* – London 14/10/2005 – not a State Party;
16. *Protocol to the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf* – London 14/10/2005 – not a State Party;
17. *Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Relating to International Civil Aviation* – Beijing 10/09/2010 – not a State Party;
18. *Protocol Supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft* – Beijing 10/09/2010 – not a State Party;
19. *The United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime* – New York 15/11/2000; entry into force in Lithuania – 9/05/2002.

b) Council of Europe Conventions related to terrorism:

1. *European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism CETS No: 090* – Strasbourg 27/01/1977; entry into force in Lithuania – 8 March 1997;
2. *Protocol amending the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism (2003) CETS No: 190* – Strasbourg 15/5/2003; ratified by Lithuania – 12 September 2005;
3. *Convention on Cybercrime CETS No: 185* – Strasbourg 23/11/2001; entry into force in Lithuania – 1 July 2004;
4. *Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism CETS No: 196* – Warsaw 16/05/2005; signed on 10 October 2007;

5. *Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism (2005) CETS No: 198* – Warsaw 16/5/2005 – Not a State Party;
6. *European Convention on Extradition CETS No: 024* – Paris 13/12/1957; entry into force in Lithuania – 18 September 1995;
7. *Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Extradition CETS No: 086* – Strasbourg 15/10/1975; entry into force in Lithuania – 18 September 1995;
8. *Second Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Extradition CETS No: 098* – Strasbourg 17/3/1978; entry into force in Lithuania – 18 September 1995;
9. *European Convention on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters CETS No: 030* – Strasbourg 20/4/1959; entry into force in Lithuania – 16 July 1997;
10. *Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters CETS No: 099* – Strasbourg 17/3/1978; entry into force in Lithuania – 16 July 1997;
11. *Second Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters CETS No: 182* – Strasbourg 8/11/2001; entry into force in Lithuania – 1 August 2004;
12. *European Convention on the Transfer of Proceedings in Criminal Matters CETS No: 073* – Strasbourg 15/5/1972; entry into force in Lithuania – 24 February 2000;
13. *Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime CETS No: 141* – Strasbourg 8/11/1990; entry into force in Lithuania – 1 October 1995.

c) Other regional, sub-regional or bilateral agreements or arrangements:

1. *Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the Republic of Hungary on cooperation in combating terrorism, illicit drug trafficking, organized crime and other major crimes* – Vilnius 04/03/97; entry into force 20/11/02.
2. *Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the Republic of Turkey on cooperation in combating terrorism, organized crime, illicit circulation of (trafficking in) narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and other major crimes* – Vilnius 02/06/97; entry into force 12/08/04.
3. *Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan on cooperation in combating organized crime, illegal drug and psychotropic substances trafficking, terrorism and other crimes* – Astana 11/05/00; entry into force 21/08/01.
4. *Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany on the cooperation in combating organized crime, terrorism and other major crimes* – Vilnius 23/02/01; entry into force 10/07/03.
5. *Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the United States of America Concerning Cooperation in the Area of the Prevention of Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, and the Promotion of Defence and Military Relations* – Vilnius 10/10/02; entry into force 24 April 2003.
6. *The Protocol to Amend and Extend the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the United States of America concerning Cooperation in the Area of the Prevention of Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, and the Promotion of Defence and Military Relations* – Vilnius 30/11/09; entry into force 23/04/10. The Protocol was complemented and extended the Agreement until 2017.
7. *Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the Republic of Belarus on cooperation in combating organized crime, illegal drug and psychotropic substances trafficking, terrorism and other crimes* – Vilnius 03/10/05; entry into force 17/07/07.
8. *Agreement between the Republic of Lithuania and the Kingdom of Spain on Co-operation in Detecting, Investigating and Preventing Criminal Offences* – Madrid 03/12/07; entry into force 07/02/09.
9. *Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the Slovak Republic on Co-Operation in Detecting, Investigating and Preventing Criminal Offences* – Bratislava 10/06/08; entry into force 14/03/09.

1.2 What national legislation has been adopted in your State to implement the above-mentioned agreements and arrangements?

1. *Law on Implementation of Economic and other International Sanctions* of 22 April 2004 – stipulates the procedure for imposition, change and termination of the non-military international sanctions imposed by the United Nations and other international organisations, as well as the European Union.
2. *Law on the Control of Strategic Goods* of 5 April 1995 (last amendments of 6 April 2006) – establishes the conditions of control of export, import and transit of military equipment and of mediation related thereto as well as of activities that may contribute to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and conventional arms.
3. *Law on the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing of 19 June 1997* – establishes institutions and means of prevention in National legislation,
4. *Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania No 237 of 1 March 2005 on the Approval of the List of the States to Which the Export or Transit of the Goods Listed in the Common Military List is*

Prohibited and for which Brokering in Negotiations and Transactions in the Goods Listed in the Common Military List is Prohibited, as amended on 1 June 2006, 31 January 2007, 30 December 2008 and 7 December 2011.

5. *Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania No 820 of 4 June 2002 on the measures for the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions 1333(2000), 1373(2001), 1388 (2002) and 1390 (2002)* – imposes sanctions on Osama bin Laden, Taliban and Al Qaeda.
6. *Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania No 113 of 6 February 2008 on the measures for the implementation of international sanctions listed in EU Council Common Position 2001/930/CFSP on combating terrorism.*
7. *Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania No 472 of 16 May 2008 on implementation of political sanctions that prohibit persons to arrive to or transit through the territory of the Republic of Lithuania* – establishes a procedure of incorporating the decisions of UN Security Council sanctions committees into national legislation.
8. *Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania No 796 of 29 June 2011 on the adoption of the Programme for the development in 2011-2019 of the security of electronic information (cybersecurity)* – establishes guidelines for the development of cybersecurity.
9. *Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania No. 1266 of 13 December 2006 (last amendments of 11 January 2014) on the establishment of the Commission for the coordination of the Electronic information security (Cybersecurity) and on the adoption of its statute* – describes the organizational structure of institutions, fighting cybercrime as well as their functions.

1.3 What are the roles and missions of military, paramilitary and security forces and the police in preventing and combating terrorism in your State?

Law on the Basics of National Security of 19 December 1996 (last amendments of 21 October 2014) provides that the State Security Department (SSD) coordinates anti-terrorism activities of the institutions of the Republic of Lithuania. SSD is an intelligence agency implementing terrorism prevention measures and coordinating anti-terrorist measures implemented by other national law enforcement institutions.

The Interdepartmental Coordination Commission against Terrorism (ICCAT), established in 2002, conducts national coordination of terrorism prevention. The main functions of ICCAT include dealing with inter-institutional issues concerning prevention of terrorism.

ICCAT includes representatives from the Office of the Government, Ministries of Justice, Health Care, Foreign Affairs, National Defence, Environment, Energy, Transport and Communication, Finance, Interior and Economy, Prosecutor General's Office, the Police Department, the Second Investigation Department, the Second Department of Operational Services under the Ministry of National Defence and the State Security Department.

ICCAT is chaired by the Director General of the SSD. Its meetings are held once in three months and its decisions are compulsory for all national authorities involved in combating terrorism.

In order to implement terrorism prevention functions, Counter-terrorism Directorate was established within SSD in 2005. It is responsible for conducting antiterrorist intelligence, collecting information on terrorist financing, radicalization and recruitment processes, operational information concerning terrorism-related organized crime and development of the general terrorism prevention measures.

ICCAT is actively involved in international cooperation on a multilateral and bilateral basis.

The interior institutions (the Police Department; the State Border Guard Service; the Fire Prevention and Rescue Department; the Financial Crime Investigation Service; VIP Security Department, etc.) are under the administration of the Ministry of the Interior and perform specific functions of state internal order maintenance. The main tasks of the interior institutions are the following: crime prevention and control; the ensuring of public order; the protections of state border; the managing crisis extreme situations and ensuring of immediate emergency aid in the case of fire, industrial disaster or another accident; VIP protection.

The missions and tasks of the interior institutions ensuring the prevention of terrorism and implementing the combat against terrorism are regulated by the Order of the Minister of Interior on the Implementation of the Republic of Lithuania Programme to combat terrorism adopted to implement the Programme of the Republic of Lithuania to combat terrorism. The interior institutions aim to prevent terrorism work in the following directions: (i) strengthening control of illegal immigration; (ii) control and prevention of organized crime group activities.

The Armed Forces of the Republic of Lithuania are tasked to contribute to the state efforts in preventing and combating terrorism. Lithuanian Armed Forces contribute their counter-terrorist capabilities to anti-terrorism initiatives by NATO and other organizations.

The Armed Forces are ready to be invoked within the territory of Lithuania in peacetime in case law enforcement institutions are not equipped with sufficient capabilities or capabilities in possession are not enough to respond to terrorist attacks. The Armed Forces contributes to the protection against terrorist attack of such objects as the Nuclear power plant or other critical infrastructure objects.

Lithuanian Armed Forces are taking active part in supporting international anti-terrorist efforts outside Lithuania. From 2002 to 2006 the Armed Forces were involved in anti-terrorist operation "Enduring Freedom" in Afghanistan. From 2005 to 2013, as a part of the International Security Assistance Force, Lithuania undertook a lead in Provincial Reconstruction Team in the province of Ghor, Afghanistan.

- 1.4 Provide any additional relevant information on national efforts to prevent and combat terrorism, e.g., those pertaining *inter alia* to: financing of terrorism; border controls; travel document security; container and supply chain security; security of radioactive sources; use of the Internet and other information networks for terrorist purposes; legal co-operation including extradition; safe havens and shelter to terrorists and terrorist organizations.

The Programme for the Development of Electronic Information Security (Cyber-Security) for 2011–2019 was approved by the resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on 29 June 2011. The purpose of the Programme is to determine the objectives and tasks for the development of electronic information in order to ensure the confidentiality, integrity and accessibility of electronic information and services provided in cyberspace, safeguarding of electronic communication networks, information systems and critical information infrastructure against incidents and cyber-attacks, protection of personal data and privacy, as well as to set the tasks, implementation of which would allow total security of cyberspace and entities operating in this medium.

The Law on Cyber Security was approved on 11 December, 2014. The Law establishes national cyber security system, determinates the institutions which form and implement cyber security policy as well as defining their rights and responsibilities, determinates rights, functions and responsibility of managers of state information resources, managers of critical information infrastructure, internet service providers and hosting service providers and sets cyber security measures and minimal organizational and technical cyber security requirements for State information resources, critical information infrastructure, internet and hosting services.

2. Stationing of armed forces on foreign territory

- 2.1. Provide information on stationing of your States armed forces on the territory of other participating States in accordance with freely negotiated agreements as well as in accordance with international law.

The law on international operations, military exercises and other military events establishes that the Republic of Lithuania in recognition of its international obligations can send its military units to participate in various international military operations abroad. According to the Law on Treaties, treaties on the stationing of the armed forces of the Republic of Lithuania and their status on the territories of foreign states shall be subject to ratification by the Parliament.

In 2014 Lithuania continued its military contribution to international operations. In total, 341 servicemen participated in international operations in 2014. Lithuania has contributed to the NATO, EU and UN, including Operation Sangaris (CAR). Statistics of the participation is provided in the Table 1 below.

Table1. Participation in international missions and operations

Mission/operation	Period (2014)	Number of servicemen
Afghanistan: NATO-led ISAF operation	2014 01-2014 12	310
Afghanistan: UNAMA	2014 01-2014 12	2
Kosovo: NATO-KFOR	2014 06-2014 12	3
Somalia: NATO-Ocean shield	2014 05-2014 12	1
Mali: EUTM Mali	2014 01-2014 12	10
Turkey: NATO-PRISM	2014 04-2014 09	5
CAR: Operation Sangaris	2014-04-2014-05	10
Total	341	

3. Implementation of other international commitments related to the Code of Conduct

3.1. Provide information on how your State ensures that commitments in the field of arms control, disarmament and confidence- and security-building as an element of indivisible security are implemented in good faith.

According to Article 7 of the *Law on Control of Weapons and Ammunition*, all weapons, weapon accessories and ammunition which are prohibited by international agreements of the Republic of Lithuania shall be prohibited in the Republic of Lithuania.

The following provisions of the *Criminal Code of the Republic of Lithuania* criminalize activities that are contrary to Lithuania's commitments in the field of arms control and disarmament:

Article 112. Use of Prohibited Means of Warfare

A person who, in violation of treaties to which the Republic of Lithuania is party or universally accepted international practices regarding means of warfare or methods of warfare, orders the use of or uses in hostilities prohibited means of warfare or methods of warfare

shall be punished by imprisonment for a term of three up to ten years.

Article 199. Smuggling

<...> 2. A person who, without going through the customs control or otherwise avoiding it or without an authorization, transports across the state border of the Republic of Lithuania firearms, ammunition, explosives, explosive, radioactive materials or other strategic goods, toxic, highly active, narcotic or psychotropic substances or precursors of narcotic or psychotropic substances

shall be punished by imprisonment for a term of three up to ten years.

Article 253. Unauthorized Possession of Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives or Explosive Materials

1. A person who, without an authorization, acquires, stores, carries, transports or handles a firearm, ammunition, explosives or explosive materials

shall be punished by arrest or by imprisonment for a term of up to five years.

2. A person who, without an authorization, produces, acquires, stores, carries, transports or handles at least three firearms, the ammunition, explosives or explosive materials of a large explosive power or in a large quantity

shall be punished by imprisonment for a term of four up to eight years.

Article 253(1). Unauthorized Intermediation in the Transfer of Military Equipment

1. A person who, without an authorization, acts as an intermediary in transferring military equipment to a state non-Member State of the European Union

shall be punished by deprivation of the right to be employed in a certain position or to engage in a certain type of activities or by a fine or by arrest or by imprisonment for a term of up to three years.

2. A legal entity shall also be held liable for an act provided for in this Article.

Article 257(1). Production of Installations for the Production of Explosive Materials, Explosives or Radioactive Materials or Development or Distribution of Production Technologies or Specifications Thereof

1. A person who unlawfully produces, stores, transports, transfers or handles machinery or other installations directly intended or adapted for the production of explosive materials, explosives or radioactive materials or unlawfully develops or distributes technologies or specifications of the production of explosive materials, explosives or radioactive materials

shall be punished by a fine or by arrest or by imprisonment for a term of up to four years.

2. A legal entity shall also be held liable for the acts provided for in this Article.

3.2. Provide information on how your State pursues arms control, disarmament and confidence- and security-building measures with a view to enhancing security and stability in the OSCE area.

a) Implementation of CSBMs:

In 2014, Lithuania executed designated area inspection to Kazakhstan and received designated area inspection from Belarus (according to Section IX of the Vienna Document 2011 (VD)):

According to Section III (Risk Reduction) of the VD Lithuania took part in 2 OSCE states parties' observation missions to Ukraine and in 1 US lead observation mission to Ukraine.

According to Section X (Regional Measures) of the VD Lithuania executed evaluation visit to Belarus and received evaluation visit from Belarus.

According to Section IV (Contacts) of the VD Lithuania participated in 2 visits to Air Bases (to the Czech Republic and to Ireland).

In addition, as a State Party to the Open Skies Treaty in 2014 Lithuania received an observation flight from Belarus and the Russian Federation state group party.

b) Participation in military exercises:

In 2014 Lithuanian contribution to NATO NRF was: water purification unit (12 persons), Joint Logistic support group JLSG (1 officer), Medium Transportation platoon (30 persons), Mine Counter Measure Command ship with staff (55 persons – only for the second half of 2014). There was no contribution foreseen to the European Union Battle Group (EU BG) for 2014.

The most important exercises in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania were the following:

In June 2014 USAREUR organized traditional international military exercise with three Baltic states SABRE STRIKE 2014. This year the exercise involved 4 500 personnel from 10 NATO and partner nations: Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, UK and USA. SABRE STRIKE 2014 was combined with BALTIC HOST 2014 and “BALTOPS 2014” (a US Navy Europe-led exercise taking place in the Baltic region) exercises.

In May 2014 tactical field training exercise of the Mechanized Infantry Brigade “Iron Wolf” took place. It involved around 1 500 troops from Lithuania and the USA.

In November 2014 a battalion-level field training exercise (FTX) IRON SWORD 2014, which involved 2 300 troops from Canada, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Lithuania, Luxembourg, UK and USA took place in Lithuania.

In May 2014 NATO CIS interoperability exercise STEADFAST COBALT took place in Kaunas, Lithuania. It involved deployment of a large number of personnel coming from NATO, Multinational and National elements.

c) Participation in international missions – see Section I para. 2.1.

Section II: Intra-State elements

1. National planning and decision-making process

1.1. What is the national planning and decision-making process in determining/approving military posture and defence expenditures in your State?

All decisions concerning Lithuanian defence policy and planning as well as development of the Armed Forces are made by the democratically elected civil authorities.

The major issues of national defence are discussed in and coordinated by the National Defence Council which consists of the President of Lithuania, the Prime Minister, the Speaker of the Parliament, the Minister of National Defence and the Chief of Defence. The Council is headed by the President of Lithuania.

Decisions concerning mobilization, declaration of the state of war, the use of Armed Forces and defence against armed aggression are made by the President and the Parliament. Decisions concerning peace-time deployments of the Armed Forces are approved by the President.

The long-term development plans of the National Defence System as well as budgetary appropriations for the Ministry of National Defence are approved by the Parliament, which also exercises parliamentary oversight over the National Defence System. Moreover, the Parliament approves limit numbers of the servicemen and statutory civil servants.

The Ministry of National Defence (MoND) has a central role in the defence policy-making and defence management. In order to fulfill its tasks, the MoND plans its activities by issuing planning documents, which represent the long-term, mid-term and short-term planning process. The long-term planning documents include the National Defence System Development Programme and the Defence Planning Assumptions. The National Defence System Development Programme is based on the National Security Strategy and the Military Strategy and indicates long-term directions of the development of the National Defence System. This Programme has been reviewed and adopted in December 2013.

The Guidelines of the Minister of National Defence represent the medium-term (six-year) planning document. These Guidelines are aimed at ensuring effective functioning of the National Defence System. Current Guidelines for 2015-2020 were adopted in January 2015. The document identifies the national level of

ambitions, establishes priorities for the development of the National Defence System and envisages general provisions of the future commitments related to the membership in NATO and the EU. The short-term planning document is the Strategic Plan of the Ministry of National Defence which is reviewed annually.

Total defence expenditure of Lithuania in 2014 constituted 1111.1 Mil. LTL (391.5 Mil. USD) or 0.89 % of GDP.

1.2. How does your State ensure that its military capabilities take into account the legitimate security concerns of other States as well as the need to contribute to international security and stability?

See Section I paragraph 3.2 and Section II paragraph 1.1.

2. Existing structures and processes

2.1. What are the constitutionally established procedures for ensuring democratic political control of military, paramilitary and internal security forces, intelligence services and the police?

Democratic civilian control of the Armed Forces is one of the basic principles of the development of the National Defence System. It is embodied in the Lithuanian Constitution, the Law on the Basics of National Security, the National Security Strategy, the Law on National Defence System Organization and Military Service, the Law on Principal Structure of the Armed Forces as well as in other legal acts, decision making process and national defence management arrangements. All senior MoD officials – the Minister, the Vice-ministers and the Chancellor of the Ministry must be civilians.

The *Seimas* (the Parliament):

- considers the programme of the Government, including security and defence issues, presented by the Prime Minister and decides whether to give assent to it;
- supervises the activities of the Government, and may express no-confidence in individual Ministers;
- approves the State budget and supervises the implementation thereof;
- imposes direct administration and martial law, declares state of emergency, announces mobilization, and adopts decisions to use the Armed Forces.
- adopts a law establishing the structure of national defence;
- adopts programmes for national security measures submitted by the Government;
- establishes by law the overall annual numbers of the regular armed forces and active reserves;
- adopts laws that approve the disciplinary statutes of the armed forces;
- approves National Security Strategy and the Long-term State Programmes for the Strengthening of Security;
- determines the organization, development, needs for the provision with weapons of and assignments to the Armed Forces;
- annually passes the law establishing the principal structure of the military forces: the general limits on the number of professional military service, compulsory initial military service and active reserve servicemen in the system of national defence, statutory servants of the system of national defence, number of senior officers of each rank, generals and admirals, and number of permanent combined units, units and the military elements equivalent thereto

The Parliamentary *Committee on National Security and Defence* deals with national security and defence matters. Together with the Foreign Affairs Committee, it holds regular hearings on Lithuania's participation in international operations. The Committee also discusses proposals and presents conclusions on the appointment of a military attachés and representatives in the military missions of the Republic of Lithuania to foreign states.

The Parliament has established the *Commission for Parliamentary Scrutiny of Criminal Intelligence Operations*. It is a permanent commission responsible for execution of the parliamentary control over criminal intelligence operations. The main tasks of the commission are:

- exercising control over the protection of the constitutional rights and freedoms while executing criminal intelligence operations;

- supervision that the activities of the subjects of criminal intelligence correspond to the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Lithuania;
- analysis of the legal acts regulating criminal intelligence activities and their compatibility to the laws.

According to the Constitution, the *President* is the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the State and has the following powers:

- appoints and dismisses, upon the assent of the Parliament, the Commander of the Armed Forces and the Head of the Security Service;
- confers the highest military ranks;
- adopts, in the event of an armed attack which threatens State sovereignty or territorial integrity, decisions concerning defence against such armed aggression, the imposition of martial law as well as mobilization, and submit these decisions to the next sitting of the Parliament for approval;
- declares a state of emergency according to the procedure and in cases established by law, and present this decision to the next sitting of the Parliament for approval;

Under the Law on the Organization of the National Defence System and Military Service, the President and the Parliament issue resolutions on mobilization, declaring a state of war, deploying Armed Forces and defence against armed aggression in accordance with procedure established by the Constitution and the Law on Basics of National Security. The President of the Republic of Lithuania approves deployment areas of the Armed Forces in the peacetime, the territorial boundaries of their maneuvering activities and the resolutions on transferring military units to another deployment area.

According to the Constitution, the *Government* of the Republic of Lithuania:

- protects the inviolability of the territory of the Republic of Lithuania;
- prepares a draft State Budget and submits it to the Parliament; executes the State Budget and submits to the Parliament a report on the execution of the budget.

Under the relevant legislation the Government or its authorized institution issues resolutions on acquisition of armaments, and development of supply support within the National Defence System. Under the Constitution, the Government, the Minister of National Defence and the Commander of the Armed Forces are accountable to the Parliament for the command and management of the Armed Forces.

Democratic civilian control of the *Armed Forces* is established by the Constitution, the Law on the Organization of the National Defence System and Military Service as well as other legal documents. The Parliament regulates the development of the Armed Forces. The Parliament exercises parliamentary control over the National Defence System in accordance with procedures established by law. All senior MoD officials – the Minister, the Vice-ministers and the Chancellor of the Ministry must be civilians. The President of the Republic of Lithuania appoints and dismisses the Commander of the Lithuanian Armed Forces upon the approval of the Parliament.

Persons performing actual military service or alternative service, as well as officers of the national defence system, the police and the interior, non-commissioned officers, re-enlistees, and other paid officials of paramilitary and security services who have not retired to the reserve may not be Members of the Parliament or members of municipal councils. They may not hold elected or appointed office in the State civil service, nor may they take part in the activities of political parties and organizations.

The Commander of the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union – voluntary paramilitary organization – submits annual reports on the activity of the Union to the Minister of National Defence and to the Parliamentary National Security and Defence committee. Commander of the Union is appointed by the Order of the Minister of National Defence with approval of the Parliamentary National Security and Defence Committee and the General Meeting of the Union. Minister of National Defence has the right to suspend or recall the Commander of the Union.

The *Minister of Interior* is appointed by the President of the Republic of Lithuania upon the proposal of the Prime Minister. The Minister of Interior is accountable to the Parliament, the President and is directly subordinate to the Prime Minister. The activities of the Ministry of the Interior are organized on the basis of the strategic plans of activities, approved by the Government and accorded to the program of the Government, which is approved by the Parliament. The Minister of Interior is authorized to exercise control over police activities. According to the Internal Service Statute, the officers of the interior institutions are not allowed to be members of political parties or to participate in any other political activity. Officers cannot take duties/position as political appointees.

The Police Commissioner General has established the Procedure of internal control of police bodies. The Police Commissioner General is appointed for the term of five years and can be removed from office by the President. The Police Commissioner General is directly subordinated to the Minister of Interior and is accountable to the President. According to the Internal Service Statute, the police officers are not allowed to be members of

political parties or to participate in any other political activity.

The Law on State Security Department stipulates that the *State Security Department* is accountable to the Parliament and the President. The President with the approval of the Parliament appoints and dismisses the General Director of the State Security Department.

The *Second Investigations Department* under the Ministry of National Defence – body responsible for intelligence and counter-intelligence activities – is subordinated to the Minister of National Defence and accountable to the Parliament, the Government and the President of the Republic of Lithuania.

2.2. How is the fulfillment of these procedures ensured, and which constitutionally established authorities/institutions are responsible for exercising these procedures?

The *Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Lithuania* supervises the legality of activities by all government officials. *Administrative courts* are established to protect the rights of individuals against unauthorized actions of public bodies and officials.

The *Seimas Ombudsmen* investigate complaints concerning the abuse of office of government officials and has a right to apply for a court ruling regarding their dismissal.

2.3. What are the roles and missions of military, paramilitary and security forces, and how does your State control that such forces act solely within the constitutional framework?

According to the Law on the Organization of the National Defence System and Military Service, the National Defence System must be developed in accordance with the regulations of the Constitution and the Law on Basics of National Security. The Parliament regulates the development of the Armed Forces. The Parliament exercises parliamentary control over the National Defence System in accordance with procedures established by law.

Under the same Law the President of the Republic of Lithuania and the Parliament issues resolutions on mobilisation, declaring a state of war, deploying Armed Forces and defence against armed aggression in accordance with procedure established by the Constitution and the Law on Basics of National Security. The President of the Republic of Lithuania approves deployment areas of the Armed Forces in the peacetime, the territorial boundaries of their maneuvering activities and the resolutions on transferring military units to another deployment area.

The Government or its authorized institution issues resolutions on acquisition of armaments, and development of supply support within the National Defence System. The Government, the Minister of National Defence and the Commander of the Armed Forces is accountable to the Parliament for the command and management of the Armed Forces.

The *Land Forces* are responsible for military protection of the State territory and the defence of the State. The *Air Forces* control Lithuanian air space and organize its protection and defence as well as provide support to the Land Forces and the Naval Forces in time of military conflict. The Air Forces also exercise search, rescue and special operations. The *Naval Forces* control, protect and defend the territorial waters and the exclusive economic zone, protect the coast and navigation activities, perform convoying, evacuations, implementation of search and rescue missions and special missions. The *Special Forces* are responsible for the special reconnaissance, direct actions and military support.

The Commander of the Armed Forces determines the specific functions and missions for separate regular force branches, combined units and independent units, in line with defence plans and needs.

According to the Law on the Organization of the National Defence System and Military Service, active service servicemen are not allowed to be members of a political party or to participate in any other political activity. Servicemen cannot take duties/position as a political appointee. The Lithuanian Riflemen's Union is a voluntary paramilitary organization, which strengthens state's defence capabilities, raises the sense of citizenship and national consciousness, develops state's defence educational activities, assists Police and Civil Protection and Rescue system institutions. The Minister of National Defence appoints the Commander of the Riflemen's Union. The Constitution of Lithuania, the Law on the Basics of National Security, the Law of Riflemen's Union (last amendments of 16 December 2014), and other legal acts form the legal basis for the activities of the Riflemen's Union.

With regard to mechanisms to assure that military, paramilitary and security forces act solely within the constitutional framework – see Section II paragraph 2.1.

3. Procedures related to different forces personnel

3.1. What kind of procedures for recruitment and call-up of personnel for service in your military, paramilitary and internal security forces does your State have?

a) Military recruitment

The Constitution stipulates that defence of the State of Lithuania against a foreign armed attack shall be the right and duty of each citizen of the Republic of Lithuania. Citizens of the Republic of Lithuania must perform military or alternative national defence service according to the procedure established by law.

The Military Conscription Law establishes three options for conscription:

1. Permanent Mandatory Initial Military Service (9 months);
2. Basic Military Training (70-90 days);
3. Junior Officers' Commander Training (160-200 days) for higher school students.

The Law foresees substitution of conscription by the Basic Military Training (BMT) course. The Parliament of Lithuania approves the number of citizens who have not undergone primary mandatory military service or have not acquired basic military training in any other way, to participate in BMT. Call-up to the BMT is based on a voluntary basis and citizens between 18 and 38 years old may take part in it. If stated number of participants is not reached voluntarily, compulsory call-up procedures will be started and citizens between 19 and 26 years old (or up to 38 years old, when they have university education) are conscripted. In 2014 766 conscripts finished BMT course. Participants, who successfully completed BMT and wish to become professional soldiers, are considered to have undergone primary mandatory military service and might be invited to sign the contract for professional military service.

In 2014 488 prepared reservists completed the refreshment training.

In 2013 with a call up of about 450 reserve militaries for iterative reserve training the reserve manning and preparation for defence needs resumed for the second time in 10 years. It is planned that the quota of those acquiring basic military training at BMT courses and refreshing military knowledge at the iterative reserve training exercises would steadily increase from 450 in 2013 up to 800 in 2020.

The Minister of National Defence, after the approval of an appropriate country, has the right to employ an officer or a reserve officer from a NATO member state as a military adviser or expert under a fixed-term contract.

The membership in the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union is based on voluntary principle. Members of the Union are divided into riflemen and young riflemen from 11 to 18 years. The latter have no right to carry or use a weapon. Riflemen, who are fit for military service and are included into active military reserve, form combat units of the Union, and participate in national defence activities in coordination and cooperation with the Armed Forces. Commander of the Lithuania's Riflemen Union is appointed by the Minister of National Defence.

b) Recruitment for internal service

The procedures of recruitment to Internal Service are laid down in the Statute of Internal Service. An applicant to the internal service has to be a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania and have a good command of the Lithuanian language; to have an unblemished reputation, not younger than 18 years old and not older than 30 (a person having university education or higher non-university education - not older than 35 years); an applicant's state of health should allow to work in internal service; the physical readiness should also allow to work in internal service; must be graduated from professional education establishment of the interior or other educational establishment or introductory training courses of the professional education establishment of the interior.

The Minister of the Interior or the authorized heads of the central interior bodies may set supplementary requirements for persons applying to particular subdivisions of the interior bodies. Supplementary requirements pertain to intellectual, physical, and practical abilities, state of health, moral and psychological suitability to serve in particular subdivisions.

The head of the interior institution, taking into account the needs of the interior institution and upon the approval of the Minister, has the mandate to recruit persons to the internal service if their age does not exceed the age limit set in the Statute.

There may be supplementary requirements, namely, a person cannot be recruited to the internal service when there is a negative conclusion of the Central Medicine Expertise Commission concerning the suitability of a person for specific position; if a person was convicted for a crime irrespective of whether conviction for the commission of previous crime has expired, also if a person is convicted for a negligent crime or misdemeanor and the previous conviction has not expired; if a person already served as a statutory officer, judge, notary, prosecutor, barrister, or served within the system of national defence and was dismissed for actions compromising the rank of the officer; for the activity compromising the rank of the judge; for the breach of professional and ethical rules of notaries, for the compromising of the rank of prosecutor, for the breach of professional and ethical rules of barrister, for the legal breaches compromising the rank of soldier or the national defence institutions; if a person was dismissed from the civil service for professional misdemeanor and 5 years have not passed since the day of his dismissal; if a person is appointed to the position in the interior institution where his/her spouse, partner, close relative or a spouse's relative, according to the functions would

be related by direct subordination; if a person is a member of the organization forbidden by the laws.

It is forbidden to employ a person to the internal service if any certified compromising data is available. The decision upon the suitability of a person to the service is made by the head of the central interior institution.

3.2. What kind of exemptions or alternatives to military service does your State have?

According to the Constitution, citizens can apply for an alternative national defence service.

The Law on the Basics of National Security stipulates that the alternative national defence service is an alternative to general military service as an auxiliary service for those, who's religious or pacifist convictions do not allow them to serve bearing arms. The purpose of this service is to develop citizens and provide them with an opportunity to contribute, in alternative ways, to national defence and enhancing of national security. This service is organized by the Ministry of National Defence for the purposes of national protection and defence.

3.3. What are the legal and administrative procedures to protect the rights of all forces personnel as well as conscripts?

The Law on the Organization of the National Defence System and Military Service regulates that Institutions of the National Defence Services' must act in accordance with the Constitution, laws and other legal acts, including international agreements Lithuania is a party to.

A serviceman's civil rights - the protection of his private life, guarantee to the place of service, freedom to participate in associations, choice of residence and free migration, inviolability of the official (service) apartment, freedom to methods of meetings, group petitions, dissemination of information and expression of the opinion - are limited by the laws and the approved statutes to the extent necessary for the conduct of the servicemen duties, and to ensure military obedience and objectives of the service. A serviceman is guaranteed the freedom of thought, religion, and conscience. The human dignity of every serviceman must be respected. Any person serving in the Armed Forces cannot be compelled to serve any other person or a group of persons other than those conducting his/her official duties.

A serviceman, whose guaranteed rights have been violated, may seek redress from his immediate superior or the Inspector General of the Armed Forces. The aforementioned persons must immediately investigate the facts and take actions necessary to eliminate the violations.

The Service Statute provides that if a serviceman gets an order, by implementing which he would break an oath or make a clear criminal act, he shall not carry out the order and shall urgently address the immediate superior. If the immediate superior issued this order, the serviceman shall address the next standing senior superior.

According to the Criminal Code of the Republic of Lithuania, a serviceman who unlawfully demands that another serviceman behave according to his instruction or who humiliates another serviceman by using mental coercion shall be punished by arrest or by imprisonment for a term of up to two years. A serviceman who humiliates or terrorizes another serviceman by using physical violence or a weapon shall be punished by imprisonment for a term of up to five years. A serviceman, who commits the abovementioned acts, where this causes serious consequences, shall be punished by imprisonment for a term of four up to eight years.

Further, a serviceman who issues a clearly unlawful order or forces another serviceman to execute such an order, also a serviceman who executes a clearly unlawful order, where this causes serious consequences, shall be punished by imprisonment for a term of two up to eight years.

4. Implementation of other political norms, principles, decisions and international humanitarian law

4.1. How does your State ensure that International Humanitarian Law and Law of War are made widely available, e.g., through military training programmes and regulations?

Lithuania has ratified all major international humanitarian law (IHL) instruments. Since 2000 the Ministry of National Defence coordinates implementation of IHL. The Commission on the Implementation of International Humanitarian Law established in 2001 as an advisory body to the Minister of National Defence, coordinates dissemination of international humanitarian law and related topics.

Among other activities the Commission also organizes national and international seminars, courses and workshops on international humanitarian law and related topics for militaries and civil servants.

During pre-mission training these topics are also introduced to the militaries selected for international operations. The Military Academy has number of training programmes on officers' professional ethic, international law, international humanitarian law and other international rules governing the armed conflict. The subject of international humanitarian law is also included in curriculum of the Armed Forces School, all

levels of police personnel; it is also an optional course in the Law faculties of the leading universities as well as in the Institute of International Relations and Political Science.

National Society of the Red Cross (RC) provides courses on the International Red Cross and Red Crescent movement, International Committee of the Red Cross, RC Emblem and the Lithuanian RC to the military leaving for international operations. The Society also participates in providing information and organizing courses, seminars and workshops on international humanitarian law to the representatives of the armed forces and general public.

Together with other relevant information on International Humanitarian Law, texts of international agreements and other international instruments of international humanitarian law are available in the libraries of military and civil establishments.

All information related to implementation of the international humanitarian law in Lithuania is placed on the website of the responsible authority – the Ministry of National Defence (www.kam.lt). The texts of international humanitarian law documents ratified by the Republic of Lithuania can also be accessed at the Seimas (Parliament) website: (http://www3.lrs.lt/dokpaieska/forma_1.htm).

4.2. What has been done to ensure that armed forces personnel are aware of being individually accountable under national and international law for their actions?

The Law on the Organization of the National Defence System and Military Service stipulates that "Nobody shall give a serviceman or any element of the Armed Forces the order which breaks an oath, which is clearly unlawful, or which violates all generally accepted principles and standards of international law. A superior officer who issues such an order shall be prosecuted under the law". It also states that if a clearly unlawful order is issued, under the law a serviceman shall not follow the order and shall report it to the superior officer to the leader who has issued the unlawful order.

In the Criminal Code of the Republic of Lithuania, a separate chapter is dedicated to crimes against humanity and war crimes. The person would be criminally liable for genocide (Article 99), treatment of persons prohibited under International Law (Article 100), killing of persons protected under International Law (Article 101), deportation of civilians of an occupied state or transfer of the civilian population of an occupying State (Article 102), causing bodily harm to, torture or other inhuman treatment of persons protected under International Humanitarian Law, violation of norms of international humanitarian law concerning protection of civilians and their property in time of war (Article 103), forcible use of civilians or prisoners of war in the armed forces of the enemy (Article 105), destruction of protected objects or plunder of national valuable properties (Article 106), delay in repatriation of prisoners of war (Article 107), delay in release of interned civilians or impeding repatriation of other civilians (Article 108), unlawful use of the emblem of the Red Cross, Red Crescent, Red Crystal and the United Nations Organization or another universally recognized emblem (sign) or designation (Article 109), aggression (Article 110), prohibited military attack (Article 111), use of prohibited means of warfare (Article 112) and marauding (Article 113).

For criminal responsibility related to executing an order – see Section II para. 3.3.

4.3. How does your State ensure that armed forces are not used to limit the peaceful and lawful exercise of human and civil rights by persons as individuals or as representatives of groups nor to deprive them of national, religious, cultural, linguistic or ethnic identity?

See above.

4.4. What has been done to provide for the individual service member's exercise of his or her civil rights and how does your State ensure that the country's armed forces are politically neutral?

The Law on the Organization of the National Defence System and Military Service regulates that Institutions of the National Defence Services must act in accordance with the Constitution, laws and other legal acts, including international agreements Lithuania is a party to.

Servicemen exercise their human rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania. A serviceman's civil and political rights – the protection of private life, guarantee to the place of service, freedom to participate in associations, choice of residence and free movement, inviolability of the official (service) place of residence, freedom of assembly, group petitions, dissemination of information and expression of the opinion – are limited by the laws and the approved statutes to the extent necessary for the conduct of the servicemen duties, and to ensure military discipline and objectives of the service. Freedom of thought, religion and conscience shall be guaranteed for a serviceman and cannot be restricted. The human dignity of every serviceman must be respected. Any person serving in the Armed Forces cannot be compelled to serve any other person or a group of persons other than those conducting his/her official duties.

Active service servicemen are prohibited from participating in political activities including:

- 1) membership in a political party or a political organization;
- 2) active participation of the servicemen in the meetings or other public actions organized by political parties and political organizations and expressing political convictions or political demands or directly supporting a political party or a political organization;
- 3) servicemen's political statements, articles or speeches publicly voicing disagreement with the policy declared and implemented by a democratically elected government of the State (the Seimas, the President of the Republic, the Government) or publicly raising political demands to the government of the State. A serviceman shall terminate his membership and activity in a political party or a political organization upon commencing to initial mandatory or professional military service for the duration of the service.
- 4) Servicemen may participate in the activities of associations and other non-political alliances, also in other non-political activities aiming to foster moral, national, patriotic and civic democratic values, provided that participation in such activities does not interfere with performance of direct duties of a serviceman.

4.5. How does your State ensure that its defence policy and doctrine are consistent with international law?

The Constitution stipulates that international treaties ratified by the Parliament are a constituent part of the legal system of the Republic of Lithuania. It also states that in implementing its foreign policy, the Republic of Lithuania shall follow the universally recognized principles and norms of international law.

The Constitution, the National Security Strategy, the Law on the Basics of National Security and other legal acts, constituting a foundation of the Lithuanian defence system and defence policy, ensure the respect of the provisions and spirit of the international law

Section III: Public access

1. Public access

1.1. How is the public informed about the provisions of the Code of Conduct?

There are no specific measures on the information about the Code of Conduct, but the public is being informed about implementation of national measures related to provisions of the Code.

1.2. What additional information related to the Code of Conduct, e.g., replies to the Questionnaire on the Code of Conduct, is made publicly available in your State?

All information provided in this report is available from unclassified sources.

1.3. How does your State ensure public access to information related to your State's armed forces?

Public access to information is embedded in the Constitution as well as in the Law on Provision of Information to the Public and other legal documents.

The public access to information on security and defence cannot be barred except in cases where information is qualified as a state secret. Public information on national defence issues is disseminated by various media means as well as by state institutions.

The Ministry of National Defence of Lithuania releases and updates the defence policy and Armed Forces related information on its Internet site (www.kam.lt).

The texts of all laws related to the national defence policy and Armed Forces can be accessed at the Seimas (Parliament) website without charge: (http://www3.lrs.lt/dokpaieska/forma_1.htm).

According to the Law on the Basics of National Security, the Government is obliged to submit an annual report to the Parliament on the developments of the National Security System. The Parliament holds a debate on the Report of the Government and adopts a resolution thereof. The National Defence policy and assignments approved by the Parliament must be put on the public record.

Section IV: Information on women, peace and security

Following the adoption of the Technical update of the Questionnaire on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security (FSC.DEC/2/09 1 April 2009), the delegations of Denmark, Germany, Canada, Estonia, Finland, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland and the Czech Republic issued the Interpretative Statement under Paragraph

IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE (FSC.DEC/2/09 1 April 2009, Attachment 1). In this statement, they expressed intent to expand the scope of their replies to the Questionnaire to include information on women, peace and security. Lithuania is glad to provide this information for the sixth consecutive year.

I. Prevention

Subject of gender equality (including the United Nations Security Council (hereinafter – the UNSC) Resolution No 1325) is incorporated into the education programmes of all levels of military personnel (Military Academy of Lithuania, Division General Stasys Raštikis Lithuanian Armed Forces School and General Adolfas Ramanauskas Combat Training Centre).

It is obligatory to listen to a lecture on different gender issues to the persons who are going to the international operations. 15 lectures (1 hour) on equal opportunities of women and men were given to the soldiers going to the international operations and missions in 2014. Information related to the concept of gender, importance of gender aspects in international operations, legislation adopted on these issues (Security Council resolution, NATO and national legislation) were presented during the lectures. The total number of participants is 190.

The subject programs of the General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania include topics related to the implementation of the questions analysed in the UNSC Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security:

- During the course “International Organizations and International Operations” the students are introduced to structure, activities, major documents of the United Nations (hereinafter referred to as - UN), content of the UNSC Resolution 1325 (2000) and implementing measures during the international operations;
- During the course “Fundamentals of Political Science” lecturers are given on the direction of feminism and women's movements for equal rights, specific countries and international policy measures, which ensure women's rights and protecting their safety are analysed, as well as the UNSC Resolution 1325 (2000);
- During the course “International Conflicts and their Management” (bachelor's and master's degree programs) it is analysed in what way the UN resolutions, in particular the UNSC Resolution 1325 (2000) are applied in the conflict zones.

Under the Statute of Military Discipline, sexual harassment is considered a gross violation of military discipline and is punished by disciplinary measures.

Since 2010 gender perspective was integrated into military planning processes at tactical and operational levels, as well as in all exercises conducted by the Lithuanian Armed Forces.

II. Participation

The legislation of the Republic of Lithuania in the field of national defence provides for gender equality in the national defence system. There are no gender-based limitations with respect to military service as both women and men have a right to serve in all services and can occupy positions in the Armed Forces. Further, there are no admission quotas with respect to the type of service or military training and studies. In the process of selection of military personnel for deployment to international operations no gender based criteria are applied. 25% of women occupied decision-making positions in the Ministry of National Defence and 6,5% – in the Armed Forces.

A seminar-discussion “The United Nations Resolution 1325. Women, Peace and Security: the Peculiarities of Implementation” was organized by Dr. Gražvydas Jasutis, the senior lecturer of the Department of Political Science at the Institute of University Studies, in the Military Academy of Lithuania (MAL) on 11 November 2014. The seminar was attended by the teachers and personnel of the MAL and cadets studying in accordance with the bachelor's degree program in Political Science at the Political Science Department. During the meeting the UNSC Resolution 1325 (2000) was presented, conformity of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) operation to it and women's role in Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) was discussed, the statistical data about the role of women in decision-making and involvement in peace negotiations were presented. For example, 7 percent of women took part in the peace negotiation delegations since 1982 and 3 percent in signing of the peace agreements. Women's problems in post-conflict situations, particularly the sexual exploitation of women and children in refugee camps, and very topical issue - combatant status dilemma also were discussed.

Percentage of women: in total, women accounted for 11.5% of the total number of soldiers and cadets. 9,8% from the total number of persons admitted to the professional military service, 17,9% from the total number of persons admitted to the volunteer service, 10,6% from the total number of persons admitted to the basic military training (data: 2013).

Women are involved in the process of operation planning and decision making. Servicewomen are assigned to positions where they need to directly communicate with the local population. This provides an opportunity to take into account concerns and problems encountered both by male and female population. Furthermore, in the area of operations Lithuanian military and civilian personnel established contacts and co-operation with various governmental and non-governmental organizations those deal with gender-related topics.

In average women represented about 4,6% of all military personnel that were deployed in NATO operations. There were no cases of exploitation and abuse perpetrated by Lithuanian uniformed peacekeepers.

III. Protection

There were no cases of exploitation and abuse perpetrated by Lithuanian peacekeepers in 2014.

IV. Other information

At the end of 2014 – beginning of 2015 a review process of the Lithuanian NAP was initiated and is planned to be finalized in April 2015.

Contact information

Provide information on the national point of contact for the implementation of the Code of Conduct.

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