



**LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS NUOLATINĖ ATSTOVYBĖ  
PRIE TARPTAUTINIŲ ORGANIZACIJŲ VIENOJE**

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

No. 1.1.5-141

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Lithuania to the International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to all Missions and Delegations to the OSCE and to the Conflict Prevention Centre and has the honour to present, at enclosure, Addendum One to Lithuania's response to the Questionnaire on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security for 2010 that was circulated on 15 April 2010.

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

Vienna, 25 May 2010



To:

All Missions and Delegations to the OSCE  
The Conflict Prevention Centre  
VIENNA

**Information exchange  
on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security**

**Republic of Lithuania**

*Addendum 1*

Information on women, peace and security

Reporting period: 2009

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.

*1. Operational planning and operations*

In 2009, 11,6 % of the Lithuanian military personnel were women, although the proportion of women in the decision making positions is still relatively low (15,86 % out of all serving women against 30,12 % of all serving men).

The legislation of the Republic of Lithuania in the field of national defence provides for gender equality in the Lithuanian Armed Forces. 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 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.

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 that deal with gender-related topics.

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

## *2. Social protection and care*

As the part of implementation of the Governmental programme of equal opportunities for men and women for period of 2005- 2009, the Law on Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service was amended in 2005 by prolonging maternity leave for military servicewomen and discarding the provision that following such leave, in case there is no appropriate position available, the person is sent into retirement. In 2006, paternity leave was extended to military servicemen.

The Ministry of National Defence is implementing the program “Let’s be together”, which provides an opportunity for the families of the military personnel to meet, participate in social activities, and consult the officials of the national defence system. If needed, meetings with psychologists or military chaplains are held.

## *3. Education and training*

The cadets of the Military Academy of Lithuania are taught the fundamentals in the field of gender equality.

Gender issues are included into the pre-mission training. Military personnel are informed about the traditions and customs in the area of operation. In particular, for servicemen and women awareness is raised about status of women and local customs in the host nation. In the course of preparation, the military personnel are also instructed on the provisions of international humanitarian law related to the special protection of women in the armed conflict.

Physical preparation and training is differentiated between genders accordingly.

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