

APPROVED

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Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania of
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LITHUANIA'S ACTION PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

I. GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE LITHUANIA'S ACTION PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

1. For the first time in the UN history, the United Nations Security Council (hereinafter – the UNSC) Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security (hereinafter – Resolution No. 1325) assesses the role and experience of women in situations of armed conflict. One of the characteristics of contemporary armed conflict situations is the fact that they mostly adversely affect civilians, particularly women and children. The number of women combatants is also, willingly or not, increasing. In spite of everything, the role of women is not being acknowledged and their experience is not being analysed.

2. UNSC Resolution 1325 urges Member States to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management, and resolution of conflict; incorporate the materials on the protection, rights and the particular needs of women, on the importance of involving women in all peacekeeping and peace-building measures, as well as on HIV/AIDS awareness training into their national training programmes for military and civilian police personnel in preparation for deployment; to increase the financial, technical and logistical support for gender-sensitive training efforts. These areas constitute the basis of the Lithuanian Action Plan for the implementation of the UNSC Resolution 1325.

3. The drafting of the Lithuanian Action Plan implementing the UNSC Resolution 1325 stems from the obligations of Lithuania as an active member of the UN and a country seeking a status of a non-permanent member of the UNSC for the period 2014-2015, and from the fact that by now several tens of countries have drafted national implementation plans and their number is constantly increasing. The EU and NATO have also drafted their Action Plans for the implementation of the UNSC Resolution 1325 in their operations and missions, and they assess the progress achieved every year. The 10th Anniversary of the adoption of the UNSC Resolution 1325 gives a chance to newly evaluate the position of women in conflict regions and their contribution to conflict prevention, peacekeeping processes and rebuilding the region after conflict. The content of the Resolution is significant for Lithuania in terms of strengthening the role of women both in the Lithuanian society and in the international framework, as well as in the context of the country's membership in NATO and the EU, both of which pay considerable attention to the implementation of the UNSC Resolution 1325, and finally in terms of implementing the objectives of foreign policy, security policy and development cooperation policy and taking part in international missions building and maintaining peace. In the course of its presidency in international organisations Lithuania shall, among other objectives, support a comprehensive and active role of those organisations in the field of equal opportunities for women and men as well as the initiatives in the field of protection of women's rights.

4. Lithuania supported the adoption of the UNSC Resolutions 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009) and 1960 (2010), supplementing the UNSC Resolution 1325 and protecting the rights and situation of women. The National Programme of Equal Opportunities for Women and Men for

2010–2014 (*Official Gazette*, 2010, No. 56-2757), approved by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania Resolution No. 530 of 4 May 2010, for the first time raises the issues of equality of women and men in the system of national defence. The situation analysis has been carried out, the problems have been identified, the objectives and specific actions have been formulated as well as the necessary funds have been determined. The Programme also includes actions that take into consideration the obligation formulated in the UNSC Resolution 1325 to train experts on gender equality matters who could train the Lithuanian personnel deployed to operations and missions.

5. The Action Plan drafted in accordance with the legal acts in force establishes goals, objectives and specific actions to be implemented. The Action Plan for the implementation of the UNSC Resolution 1325 shall be implemented in Lithuania by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Plan Coordinator), the Ministry of National Defence, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Social Security and Labour, the Ministry of Health, and the Police Department under the Ministry of the Interior. The majority of objectives and goals outlined in the UNSC Resolution 1325, such as an active international activity with a view to ensuring the implementation of the Resolution in international organisations, support to initiatives of other countries, non-tolerance of violence against women during situations of conflict and the like shall be implemented using diplomatic actions that do not require separate funding.

6. In order to achieve successful implementation of the UNSC Resolution 1325 in Lithuania it is necessary that the society, particularly young people, become familiar with the Resolution and accepts it. Therefore, a proper presentation of the UNSC Resolution No. 1325 represents one of the key objectives.

7. Ensuring equal opportunities for Lithuanian women to take part in the prevention of conflicts and rebuilding peace, involving women in decision-making at all levels, expanding the involvement of women in peacekeeping operations and missions both in the civilian and military fields and creating the respective necessary conditions constitutes an important objective. Regardless of the existing legal basis ensuring the participation of women in military or police forces, it is necessary to actively motivate women, to provide career planning guarantees and ensure adequate service conditions; to promote the service in the Lithuanian Armed Forces and the Lithuanian Police during meetings with upper class high-school students by presenting equal opportunities for women and men to become police officers or soldiers of professional military service or active reserve and by emphasising the existing favourable conditions for women; next to the examples involving successful service of men, to show examples of successful service of women in the Lithuanian Armed Forces and the Lithuanian Police on the websites administrated by the divisions of the system of national defence and the Police Department under the Ministry of the Interior.

8. Yet another important objective lies in educating and training all the Lithuanian participants in international operations and missions on the matters of women's rights, violence against women and their unfavourable situation in conflict regions, so that once the Lithuanian representatives are on missions they not only know what to focus on but are also able to competently evaluate the circumstances and act accordingly.

It is expected that this Action Plan will raise awareness among the general public on the equal opportunities for women and men and the UNSC Resolution 1325; it will become customary to train the experts taking part in operations and missions on the matters related to the UNSC Resolution 1325; the institutions responsible for the implementation of the actions of the Plan will more closely cooperate with non-governmental organisations for women, the Office of Equal Opportunities Ombudsperson and the Centres for Gender Studies of the universities; Lithuania will raise its own experts on gender equality, and finally the number of women participating at decision-making at all levels will increase.

9. The implementation of the Action Plan shall be coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

II. GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS OF THE ACTION PLAN

No.	Name of Goal, Objective and Action	Implementation Timetable	Responsible institution
1.	Goal: Increased influence of women's contribution to international peace, security and democracy processes both on a national and international levels		
1.1.	Objective: To motivate women to work in the fields of prevention of conflicts in national, regional and international institutions, to take part in international military and civilian operations and missions and, when participating there, to pay greater attention to solving the problems of local women		
1.1.1.	Action: To draw up a list of Lithuanian women who are potential candidates for positions in international organisations and to train these candidates	Continually	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
1.1.2.	Action: To increase the number of women as mission experts included in the secondment reserve of persons and to improve their qualification	Continually	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
1.1.3.	Action: To finance development cooperation projects that aim at developing and promoting economic independence and entrepreneurship of women; at training women as participants in the process of peace and democracy development; at developing their motivation and capabilities; at promoting the participation of women in political and economical decision-taking; at protecting women and girls from violence, particularly sexual abuse and human trafficking in conflict regions, and at rehabilitation and reintegration of the victims of violence and human trafficking	Every year	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
1.1.4.	Action: When participating in international operations and missions, to organise events, meetings and lectures for local women and their organisations on the social integration of women	Every year	Ministry of National Defence
1.2.	Objective: To present the national Action Plan implementing the UNSC Resolution 1325 to the Lithuanian society, as well as to educate and to train the personnel of institutions on the issues raised in the UNSC Resolution 1325		
1.2.1.	Action: To prepare and to make available on the websites of the institutions the information materials and (or) visual materials on the UNSC	Continually	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
		Continually	Ministry of

	Resolution 1325 and its implementation and to update the materials		National Defence
		Continually	Ministry of the Interior
		By 2014	Police Department under the MOI of the Republic of Lithuania
		Continually	Ministry of Social Security and Labour
1.2.2.	Action: To organise trainings on the contents of the UNSC Resolution 1325 for the personnel of the institutions and the personnel being sent to international operations and missions	Every year	Ministry of National Defence
		Every year	Ministry of the Interior
		By 2014	Police Department under the MOI of the Republic of Lithuania
1.2.3.	Action: To present to the personnel of non-governmental organisations the opportunities of contributing to national and international actions implementing the UNSC Resolution 1325	Periodically, (by inviting to reporting meetings)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
1.2.4.	Action: To conduct a research regarding the spreading of possible sexual or gender-based harassment in the Lithuanian Armed Forces and regarding the procedure for hearing complaints	2012	Ministry of National Defence
1.2.5	Action: To carry out the implementation of the attitude of soldiers and employees of the national defence system towards equal career opportunities for women and men in the system of national defence	2013	Ministry of National Defence
1.2.6.	Action: To familiarise the leading personnel of the Lithuanian institutions with the significance of the UNSC Resolution 1325 and the activities of the international community with regard to its implementation	Depending on the need	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
1.2.7.	Action: To strengthen cooperation with research institutes and urge them to integrate the aspect of gender equality into their activities, programmes and projects on the matters of peace and conflict resolution	2012, 2014	Ministry of Foreign Affairs

1.3.	Objective: To actively contribute to international initiatives supporting and implementing the UNSC Resolution 1325 and its supplementing documents, particularly in the fields of women's security and protection of women's rights		
1.3.1.	Action: To support international initiatives for participation in international projects and events that implement the provisions of the UNSC Resolution 1325 and to support the initiatives for the protection of women's rights	Continually	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
		2013, 2014	Ministry of National Defence
		Continually	Ministry of Social Security and Labour
		Continually	Ministry of Health
1.3.2.	Action: To organise an international conference on the topic of the UNSC Resolution No. 1325 and its implementation	2013	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
1.3.3.	Action: To support the rule of law initiatives, including gender-sensitive efforts, by creating a legal system in post-conflict countries and by delegating prosecutors and police officers to positions in the rule of law missions	Continually	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
