

POLITICAL NEWS



LT, DK, HU and US soldiers during LT Armed Forces Day in Vilnius.
Photo: [Ministry of National Defence Republic of Lithuania](#)

TWEETS & QUOTES



Lithuania MFA @LithuaniaMFA · Nov 21

Lithuania and all other #EU Member States did not support Russia's res. at #UN which attempts to manipulate history
goo.gl/5K3K3m



Petro Poroshenko @PoroshenkoEng · Nov 24

Lithuania is ready to share the experience in the construction of LNG-terminals and the elimination of dependence from Russian gas supply.



Linas Linkevicius @LinkeviciusL · Nov 26

I join the call to end violence against women. It damages the future of our societies. #WhiteRibbonDay .

Sharing Experience with Ukraine

Ukraine faces huge challenges, but at the same time, it has to implement difficult but necessary reforms. We must and can help Ukraine, said President Grybauskaitė in the meeting with President Poroshenko of Ukraine in Kyiv 24 November. The Presidents [co-chaired the seventh session of the Council of Presidents of the Republic of Lithuania and Ukraine](#). Lithuanian Minister of National Defense Juozas Olekas told that [Lithuania will provide assistance to Ukraine based on the country's needs](#). More Ukrainian troops will come to Lithuania for training, Lithuania will provide medical assistance and rehabilitation for a bigger number of injured Ukrainians; the formation of the trilateral Lithuanian-Polish-Ukrainian brigade will be stepped up. Lithuanian Energy Minister Rokas Masiulis offered to supply natural gas to Ukraine and to help the country in building a liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal. Lithuania also expressed its readiness to provide expert assistance in the economic, legal, transport and other fields.

Ready for Euro

[Lithuania's preparations for the adoption of the euro next year seem overall well on track](#), the European Commission (EC) has said, calling on Lithuania's authorities to address the remaining concerns related to euro introduction and to increase consumers' confidence so as to ensure smooth euro changeover.

Disapproving Attempts to Manipulate History

Lithuania and all other EU Member States have abstained in the UN General Assembly vote on the Resolution on Combating Glorification of Nazism and Other Contemporary Forms of Racism put forward by the Russian Federation 21 November. [EU made a very strong Explanation of Vote deploring Russia's attempts to raise issues which are far from being related to combating racism and puts emphasis on monopolising one-sided interpretation of history as the recent attempts to justify the Ribbentrop-Molotov pact indicate](#). The EU highlighted that illegal actions of Russia and its violations of international law in Ukraine under the pretext of fighting Nazism are unacceptable. The EU has once again reiterated its commitment to comprehensive fight against racism and underlined its readiness to continue a constructive debate on this issue.

The TTIP - Top Priority

At a conference "[The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership: a Strategic Opportunity](#)", held in Vilnius 25 November, Chancellor of the Government Alminas Mačiulis stressed that it was very important to speed up implementation of decisions to conclude negotiations on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) between the EU and the USA as soon as possible. "The TTIP is among our top priorities in the field of external trade. It is a unique project that offers an opportunity to strengthen the EU and US economies by creating an ambitious and open free trade area", said the Chancellor.

ECONOMY NEWS

Lithuania's qualities

#4 Business friendly environment

	LT	LV	PL	DE	SE
Corporate profit tax	0 - 15%	15%	19%	< 33%	22%
VAT	21%	21%	23%	19%	25%
Dividends	0-15%	0%	0-19%	0-25%	0-30%
Personal income tax	15%	24%	< 32%	< 45%	< 57%
Social security tax	9% employee 30.98% employer	10.5% employee 23.59% employer	Total 35%	Total ~40%	7% employee < 31.42% employer

Source 1: Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Lithuania

Source 2: Sorainen Tax Card 2014

#2 BEST PLACE TO INVEST IN EUROPE



Source: Baseline Profitability Index 2014, Foreign Policy

DOING BUSINESS IN LITHUANIA



Source: Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Lithuania, 2013

WE SUGGEST

Trakai History Museum

Interactive narrative of the history of Trakai Castle



Peikko's New Factory

[Peikko Group, from Lahti, Finland, has set up a new factory in Kaunas.](#) The company specializes

in concrete connections and composite structures. "The unit in Kaunas produces components for frame structures mainly in the Nordics. In Lithuania, we have the latest machinery and equipment, which makes integration between a design program and production systems possible. This way we can direct the whole factory", the company's general manager, Topi Paananen, said. With new investments and products, the company is aiming for revenue of 200 million euro in the future.

Joining Euro Benefits the Firms

[Many Danish companies will benefit from Lithuania joining the euro zone said Žygimantas Mauricas, Nordea chief economist.](#) While director of the Danish Chamber of Commerce in Lithuania Thomas Solupajev-Ronlev said that "Lithuania traditionally has strong skills in technical solutions and in setting up efficient production processes. Danish companies have a more commercial approach and an eye for global markets. The combination of these skills will enhance both Danish and Lithuanian companies". Close to 200 Danish companies are doing business in the Baltic country at present. Danish companies operate primarily in logistics, IT and production in Lithuania.

CULTURE, SCIENCE

Lithuanian Diplomacy Star Award

A honorary sign of the Lithuanian Foreign Ministry, Lithuanian Diplomacy Star, [was awarded to the Kazickas Family Foundation for fostering the Lithuanian spirit and the Lithuanian culture.](#) Foreign Vice-Minister Mantvydas Bekešius conferred the award to the daughter of the foundation's founder, board chairwoman Jūratė Kazickaitė.





Lithuanian Culture Centre in Belgium

[The Lithuanian Culture Centre in Belgium opened its doors](#) on 24 November. It features a children's school, an adult choir and will hold children's upbringing seminars and the Lithuanian language courses for foreigners. Chairman of the Lithuanian community in Belgium Arnoldas Pranckevičius says that the Lithuanian Culture Centre in Brussels is a unique example of the initiative by the Lithuanian Diaspora to care not only for the education of children, but propagating the Lithuanian language in mixed families by offering language courses to non-native speakers.

Posthumous Doctorate

[The University of Calcutta has decided to confer a posthumous doctorate to Lithuanian traveller and anthropologist Antanas Poska](#) who undertook an incredible journey to India on a motor bike all the way from Vilnius in 1929.

UPCOMING EVENTS

 4-7 Dec.	First International Craft Fair in the Baltic States <i>Craftvilnius</i> , Litexpo, Vilnius.	 15 Jan.	TEDxKids, Day in a Future School , Vilnius.
 Until 4 Jan.	The new exhibition of Dainius Liškevičius Labyrinthus presents a complex project that integrates the forms of architecture, sculpture and installation, Vilnius.	 11 Apr.	TED Vilnius , at Lithuanian National Drama Theatre.

Disclaimer: Information based on BNS, Invest Lithuania, The Lithuania Tribune, Delfi.

