NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1.   The aim of the National Security Strategy of the Republic of Lithuania is to provide a vision of the state's development, its national interests and the actions required for their implementation. The National Security Strategy establishes the basic goals and means of the national security policy. It encompasses political, diplomatic, defence, economic and other spheres of the state's policy.

1.2.   The Republic of Lithuania implements its National Security Strategy through a system of long-term political provisions and means, enabling to preserve the sovereignty of the state, its territorial integrity, democratic constitutional order, human and civil rights and freedoms, and a safe environment of individual, by confronting security challenges, dangerous conditions, threats, crisis situations or military conflicts.

1.3.   The Republic of Lithuania perceives its security as preserving its sovereignty and territorial integrity, internal security and order, democratic foundations, economic security of all legal entities and population and protection of its natural environment.

1.4.   The National Security Strategy defines basic goals of specialised strategies and doctrines in separate areas of the state policy. These strategies must be directly based on the provisions of the National Security Strategy of the Republic of Lithuania and they must be revised every time the National Security Strategy of Lithuania itself is updated.

1.5.   The agenda for the security policy of the Republic of Lithuania until the next review of the National Security Strategy will be determined by the following distinguishing features of the current security environment:

1.5.1. final preparations for entry into NATO and the EU;
1.5.2. addressing the challenge of international terrorism.

2. BASIC ASSUMPTIONS OF SECURITY POLICY

2.1.   After five decades of occupation, the Republic of Lithuania restored its independence on March 11, 1990 and has since been developing as a modern, politically, economically, socially and culturally mature democracy, actively pursuing integration into the organisations of democratic states adhering to the same values. Dismantling of the Soviet bloc and the restoration of freedom and independence have created appropriate conditions for the Republic of Lithuania to define its security interests and policy.

2.2.   The current situation of the Republic of Lithuania within the international security system is as favourable as at the latter decade. The independence of the Republic of Lithuania is universally recognised and respected, growth in the economy is improving steadily, friendly relations and practical co-operation with the neighbours are being maintained, national minorities have been successfully integrated into Lithuanian society, ten years of experience of functioning democratic institutions has been accumulated, democratic civil control of the military has been efficiently established, and integration into the global and Western institutions is advancing successfully.

2.3.   Currently the majority of traditional and new challenges to the security of the Republic of Lithuania are transnational in nature. Internal political, military, economic, ethnic or other crises can exert a major influence upon other states both neighbouring and further afield. Therefore, the Republic of Lithuania considers international security as indivisible and seeks to ensure its security as an integral and indispensable part of the security of the broader regional, European and global community of states. Alongside the national efforts to ensure security, in accordance with its assets and together with the international partners, the Republic of Lithuania contributes to security and stability in other regions of Europe, and she is resolved to accept the assistance of international partners if a crisis would arise in Lithuania. Therefore, the Republic of Lithuania pledges by mutual political, military and economic commitment, to ally with states that adhere to the same political, social, cultural, and moral values. At the same time, the Republic of Lithuania attaches particular importance to cooperation with all neighbouring countries with the objective of assuring the stable functioning of democracy, civil society and free market economies in these countries. Joining and participating in those international bodies that recognise and promote these values is an essential element of the National Security Strategy of the Republic of Lithuania. In this regard NATO and the EU occupy a special place among such institutions with Lithuanian membership in each as the highest priority.

2.4.   At present, the Republic of Lithuania does not observe any immediate military threat to national security and as a result does not regard any state as its enemy. The security policy of the Republic of Lithuania is open, transparent and non-confrontational. It is not directed against the legitimate interests of any other state.

2.5.   Globalisation in relation to the national security of the Republic of Lithuania is considered as objective process, which is inevitable due to the scientific, technical, economical and other progress of mankind civilisation, the intensification of mutual interdependence of various countries and regions, and international economical, political and cultural integration processes, at large extent stipulated by above mentioned factors. The main result of globalisation in the area of security – internationalisation of factors determining world's security and stability. In seeing its future as a part of secure Europe and secure world, Lithuania is open to the globalisation processes. Globalisation does not mean automatic and total levelling of national identity. On the contrary, it gives opportunity to enrich national culture, civilisation and societal political practice by most valuable world's achievements in the corresponding areas, and, the other way round, to make best achievements of Lithuania an integral part of world's cultural and civilisation heritage. Therefore the Republic of Lithuania does not consider globalisation as a threat to the national security.

3. SECURITY INTERESTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

3.1.   Vital interests. The security of the Republic of Lithuania is based on protection of national interests. To secure vital interests, every possible means of protection are employed. A basic precept of national security is that failure to protect vital interests will result in *immediate and serious* threat to the existence of the state of Lithuania and its people. Vital interests are the following:

3.1.1. sovereignty of the Republic of Lithuania, territorial integrity and democratic constitutional order;

3.1.2. respect and protection of human and civil rights and freedoms;

3.1.3. peace and prosperity of the state.

3.2. Primary interests. These are the interests that if not protected, could eventually affect the vital interests of the Republic of Lithuania. Primary interests are the following:

3.2.1. global and regional stability;

3.2.2. freedom and democracy in Central and Eastern Europe and the Baltic States;

3.2.3. open and predictable security policy of all countries in the Euro-Atlantic area;

3.2.4. ensuring alternative energy supplies and supply of resources that are of strategic importance;

3.2.5. a region free of environmental dangers.

4. CHALLENGES, DANGERS AND THREATS

4.1. Challenges, dangers and threats that are non-military in nature arise as a consequence of globalisation, therefore, individual states cannot respond to them alone. Such transnational factors as terrorism, organised crime, arms proliferation, drug traffic, the illegal migration, and the spread of epidemics defy state borders and become international security challenges, dangers and threats. The probability that they will continue to spread is increasing.

4.1.1. Terrorism poses a serious security threat to the global community, and therefore to Lithuania as well. However, this threat is largely external to the Republic of Lithuania. The internal situation and the historical heritage of Lithuania do not provide conditions for the formation of a broad domestic network of terrorism. This danger stems primarily from abroad:

4.1.1.1. The Republic of Lithuania may become a potential target of international terrorism. Acts of terrorism may be directed against infrastructure or other objects of strategic importance to national security as well as the objects of foreign states in Lithuania.

4.1.1.2. The Republic Lithuania may become a transit country for international terrorism focused on the other countries. The following circumstances could intensify the threat of domestic terrorism:

4.1.1.2.1. occurrences of political extremism in the Republic of Lithuania;
4.1.1.2.2. social and economical differentiation may trigger conditions for social terrorism (acts of such terror may be directed against either state or private institutions, if they are perceived by groups with grievances as the source of their worsening social situation);
4.1.1.2.3. expansion of globalisation around the world and strengthening of anti-globalist movements may fuel the activities of local elements of these movements and create conditions for specific terrorism (under cover of opposition to globalisation, environment pollution, and other related issues).

4.1.2. While the likelihood of direct military confrontation in the region is low, demonstrations of military force, provocations, and the threat to use force remain a danger to the security of the Republic of Lithuania.

4.1.3. Overwhelming dependence of the Republic of Lithuania on the strategic resources and energy supplies of one country or the concentration of foreign capital representing economy, in which free market is not secured or unstable, in one or several economic sectors of strategic importance to national security is a potential danger not only for economic prosperity but also for the security of the country.

4.1.4. Certain economic conditions may constitute dangers to the security of the Republic of Lithuania, the well being of its population, independence of the state or constitutional order. These could be the following:

4.1.4.1. succession of assets and control over sectors and objects of strategic importance to national security, while pursuing political goals, as well as acting in a manner that violates economic security;
4.1.4.2. inferior functioning of economic and energy sectors and deranged functioning of the objects that are of strategic importance to national security, their improper usage or non-usage, interfering with the interests of the state.

4.1.5. Uneven social and economic development that increases the gap in living standards between different social groups may present a dangerous condition. It may become apparent as a result of a decline in the living standards of certain social groups, accompanied by an increase in unemployment, and it may at the same time trigger social and political extremism. This danger may also cause the growth of crime, which is a factor of danger to national security.

4.1.6. The spread of theories, religious doctrines, and ideologies that are inhuman, racist, instigate ethnic or religious hatred, assault the values of human rights, or propagate and justify violence or genocide constitute a threat that is a precondition, or source, of many other security challenges.

4.1.7. Corruption poses a particular danger, because it damages legitimate individual and national interests and discredits the rule of law and the confidence of the citizens in the values of democracy and democratic institutions of government.

4.1.8. Activities of groups of organised and financial crime constitute a major threat to the state and society. Of particular concern are activities related to the proliferation of drugs and arms, trade in people, illegal business and corruption.

4.1.9. Activities of foreign intelligence agencies directed against the Republic of Lithuania constitute a serious threat to national security. These activities are characterised by the use of traditional and unconventional methods as well as new technologies to obtain information, compromise and influence military capabilities, political processes, and other areas of social and economic life. The disclosure or leaking of classified information to other countries would not only pose a threat to the security of the Republic of Lithuania but would also undermine the credibility of the Republic of Lithuania.

4.1.10. Weapons of mass destruction, their components and technologies for their production remain a global danger. The growing number of group of states and subjects in

possession of such weapons, or who seek to acquire them, and the possibility that nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons may be used as a means of blackmail or terror is of particularly serious concern.

4.1.11. The uncontrolled migration poses a challenge to national security, although the Republic of Lithuania currently is not the main target of migration flow. A wave of migration may occur as a result of regional conflicts, which could evolve into a source of instability for the whole of Europe and at the same time could pose a danger to the interests of the Republic of Lithuania.

4.1.12. Industrial accidents, natural calamities, epidemics, or ecological disasters are also dangers to security of the Republic of Lithuania.

4.2. The above listing of threats and dangers is dynamic and is therefore subject to change dependent on internal, regional and global events and conditions.

5. SECURITY POLICY OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

5.1. Major Goals and Objectives:

5.1.1. The principal goals of national security of the Republic of Lithuania are to secure the vital and primary national interests, neutralise threats, and prevent dangerous conditions developing into threats. Among these, protection of vital interests has the highest priority.

5.1.2. The major objectives are friendly relationships with foreign countries, regional stability, peace and integration into the Euro-Atlantic area.

5.1.3. In the short term, the major objective is to become a member of NATO, upon invitation during the Alliance Summit that will be held in Prague in November 2002, and a member of the European Union.

5.2. Strategic concepts and implementation guidelines:

5.2.1. The fundamental strategic concept of the Republic of Lithuania is to consolidate the accomplishments and the positive changes of the last decade and make them irreversible. In this regard the Republic of Lithuania considers NATO and EU enlargement, by extending invitations to join to all countries prepared for membership, including the Republic of Lithuania, as the most appropriate and credible means to consolidate these historical achievements. Membership of the Republic of Lithuania in NATO and EU, as well as membership of the other two Baltic states, Estonia and Latvia, will ensure their long-term security and will also enhance the security and stability of the whole Baltic region and therefore it will be a long-term security gain for all states in the region.

5.2.2. The security policy of the Republic of Lithuania provides for the use of military force in cases of individual or collective self-defence against external aggression in accordance with Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania as well as other laws and international commitments, or as part of international peace operations in support of Chapter VI or VII of the United Nations Charter in accordance with the rules of the use of armed force in operations.

5.2.3. Following the approval of the National Security Strategy, specialised strategies and doctrines must be prepared and revised. In this regard, the main principles in the areas of diplomacy (foreign policy), military affairs and intelligence (defence policy), internal security (public security, economic policy, social security, environment and cultural heritage), are the following:

5.2.3.1. Domestic stability and prosperity. Internal and foreign policies of the Republic of Lithuania are focused on fostering internal social and economic stability. This involves boosting public security, as well as stability of fiscal and monetary policies, intensification of foreign trade, encouragement of economic development, privatisation, social support, campaigns against corruption, reinforcement of civic society, development of culture and civilisation, and full-fledged integration into international economic and cultural organisations. Priorities of security policy are:

5.2.3.1.1. Internal security. One of the highest priorities in ensuring the national security of the Republic of Lithuania is the fight against organised crime and corruption. These threats to social stability have a negative impact on public security as well as economic development;

5.2.3.1.2. Human and Civil rights. The Republic of Lithuania guarantees to comply with international law regarding the rights of citizens and persons within its territory. These include full respect for the rights of minorities and ethnic groups;

5.2.3.1.3. Legitimate interests of society. The Republic of Lithuania guarantees to protect the legitimate interests of individuals within its territory against criminal offences. This involves establishing and implementing effective policies of crime control and prevention;

5.2.3.1.4. Stable economic growth. A strategic priority for national security of the Republic of Lithuania is the formation of conditions for economic growth so as to ensure a higher quality of life for its citizens;

5.2.3.1.5. Social security and stability. An important element of security is to eliminate negative consequences of structural economic reforms and external impact on employment level of population, as well as to reduce illegal employment. Every citizen is entitled to have sufficient conditions for social, cultural and economic development. The formation of a socially self-supporting, unified and at the same time stable society is a basic element of the security of the Republic of Lithuania.

5.2.3.2. Deterrence and reliable defence. State defence consists of military security, as well as civil resistance. It is one of the main instruments of state security policy. More detailed defence policies and strategies have to adhere to these four strategic principles:

5.2.3.2.1. Democratic control of the military to include fostering citizenship and patriotism, and ensuring mutual trust and confidence between the military and the civilian population.

5.2.3.2.2. Deterrence based on defence rather than offence to include reinforcement of defence system and capabilities of the Republic of Lithuania.

5.2.3.2.3. Total and unconditional defence.

5.2.3.2.4. Euro-Atlantic solidarity and collective defence to include fulfilment of international commitments and active international military co-operation (diplomacy, assistance to the armed forces of the other states).

5.2.3.3. Euro-Atlantic stability and integration: The security system of the Republic of Lithuania is being developed as a part of common European security and transatlantic defence system. Therefore, foreign and internal policies are focused on full-fledged and comprehensive integration into the Euro-Atlantic area. Within their areas of responsibility, all State institutions must prepare policies aimed at ensuring the objectives of stability and integration into the Euro-Atlantic region:

5.2.3.3.1. Integration into NATO and EU: membership in NATO and EU, to include full support to the enlargement process, are two equally important priorities of security policy of the Republic of Lithuania. The processes of integration into NATO and EU strengthen and complement each other. Membership in one of these two organisations (NATO or EU) does not substitute for the membership in the other.

5.2.3.3.2. Active participation in maintaining peace and international stability: the Republic of Lithuania gives priority to conflict prevention, diplomacy, and international legal measures. Of particular importance is the priority given to participating in international crisis management, preventing the proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, participating in international arms control regimes, and establishing policies and legislation to address new security challenges, dangers, and threats.

5.2.3.3.3. Promotion of good neighbourly relations and regional co-operation: the Republic of Lithuania gives priority to co-operation throughout the Baltic Sea Region, Northern Europe, and with the Russian Federation. Lithuania develops and strengthens multilateral and bilateral relations. Specific policies have also been established such as the policy of pragmatic selective co-operation with Belarus.

5.2.4. Legislation: systemic efforts are being made to harmonise the national legal base with the legal acts of the EU and NATO. Legal and institutional mechanisms for implementation of membership commitments have been identified. Upon the analysis of implementation of the National Security Strategy, the Government initiates the adoption of new, or amendments to existing, laws.

5.2.5. General resource priorities: with regard to distribution of resources in the various areas that directly affect overall security of the Republic of Lithuania, priority is given to activities, that enhance economic growth, social stability, fostering of civil society and threat response capabilities with particular attention to activities associated with integration into NATO and the EU.

6. PRIMARY ACTIONS AND MEANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGY

6.1. Shaping the security environment. In shaping and implementing security policy Lithuania strictly adheres to the universally accepted principles of international law, established by the United Nations Charter of 1945, the Helsinki Final Act of the Conference for Security

and Co-operation of 1975, and other documents of international law. Major actions and means in shaping security environment are:

6.1.1. Integration into NATO. The Republic of Lithuania considers NATO membership as a principal means of ensuring both internal and regional security and stability in the future. The Republic of Lithuania has allocated certain assets for the actions aimed at qualifying for the membership in NATO. Key among these are the following:

6.1.1.1. Membership Action Plan. The Republic of Lithuania continues to implement the Annual National Programme of Integration into NATO, updated every year according to the initiative of the Membership Action Plan until membership of the Alliance is achieved. The Republic of Lithuania continues to allocate necessary share of state's expenses for strengthening national defence and interoperability with NATO in accordance with the political consensus of the parliamentary parties on the goal of membership in NATO and their Agreement on the defence policy. In co-operation with non-governmental organisations and the media, the Government keeps the Lithuanian public constantly informed about the issues of NATO policy, the advantages of membership of the Republic of Lithuania in this organisation, and her future responsibilities as a member of the Alliance.

6.1.1.2. NATO activities. The Republic of Lithuania furthers an active co-operation with the Alliance and the applicants for membership within the framework of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council, Partnership for Peace (PfP), and Planning and Review Process (PARP) and uses this co-operation as a part of preparation for the membership in NATO. In accordance with available resources, the Republic of Lithuania continues to make an active contribution to NATO led international peacekeeping operations.

6.1.1.3. Cooperation with NATO Member states. In pursuit of NATO membership, and to further strengthen regional security, the Republic of Lithuania continues expanding and developing bilateral and multilateral political, security, and defence cooperation with NATO member states, in order to:

6.1.1.3.1. consolidate the national security system of the Republic of Lithuania;
6.1.1.3.2. reinforce national and international crisis management capabilities;
6.1.1.3.3. implement NATO standards in various areas;
6.1.1.3.4. encourage political support of the Governments and Parliaments of NATO member states for membership of the Republic of Lithuania in NATO.

6.1.1.4. Strategic Partnership with the United States of America. The Republic of Lithuania continues to develop its relations with the United States of America as a strategic partner. The Republic of Lithuania considers the United States of America as the main partner of European security. The implementation of the 1998 Charter of Partnership between the US and the Baltic States continues to be instrumental in the development of the strategic partnership with the US. The Republic of Lithuania also maintains its historical and cultural links with the Lithuanian minority in the United States, which is the largest Lithuanian community abroad, and develops these links as an important aspect of its strategic partnership with the United States. The Republic of Lithuania continues to provide political and practical support for the antiterrorist campaign

of the US, after they became the target of terrorist attacks on 11 September 2001.

6.1.1.5. Co-operation with NATO Aspirant countries. The Republic of Lithuania continues to develop political and defence co-operation with countries, which pursue similar security policy objectives: Estonia, Latvia, and other states of 'Vilnius process', i.e. those, who are seeking membership in NATO and are implementing Membership Action Plans. The Republic of Lithuania seeks to develop military projects, created under trilateral military co-operation together with Estonia and Latvia, including joint military units, education institutions, and defence infrastructure, as future integrated part of NATO military structure.

6.1.1.6. Strengthening representation in NATO institutions. During the process of integration into NATO and taking into account that membership may soon be a reality, the Republic of Lithuania is increasing and strengthening its diplomatic representation, and the representation of institutions, forming and implementing security policy, at the NATO Mission, specialised committees and agencies, as well as in the Headquarters and Commands.

6.1.2. Integration into the European Union. As a part of the on-going work associated with membership in the EU, an important objective for the Republic of Lithuania is to close accession negotiations by the end of the year 2002 and to be ready for membership by 1 January 2004. To this end, the Republic of Lithuania seeks to harmonise its legal system and procedures with those of the EU *acquis communautaire*, by implementing administrative and economic reforms. The Lithuanian Government informs the public about EU objectives, achievements, distinct policies, as well as the consequences and responsibilities that will arise as a result of Lithuania's future EU membership. Other important actions for the Republic of Lithuania are:

6.1.2.1. solidarity with the EU's Common Foreign Policy and participation together with the EU in the process of developing a European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) that complements and strengthens the transatlantic partnership between Europe and the United States;

6.1.2.2. cooperation with EU members and institutions, efficient use of assistance provided by the EU and its member states to Lithuania;

6.1.2.3. administrative adjustment inside the state;

6.1.2.4. strengthening Lithuanian diplomatic and institutional representation in EU institutions and specialised agencies.

6.1.3. Strengthening international cooperation and good neighbourly relations. The Republic of Lithuania is carrying out a range of activities and means focused on improving the strategic environment of neighbouring regions. The most important actions are as follows:

6.1.3.1. Cooperation in the Baltic Sea region. The Republic of Lithuania seeks to promote stability and prosperity in the Baltic Sea region. The security dimension of this cooperation consists of the following actions:

6.1.3.1.1. trilateral security cooperation with Estonia and Latvia, including joint military projects;

6.1.3.1.2. close multilateral and bilateral cooperation with Northern Europe states: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, which assist Lithuania in its preparation for NATO and EU membership;

6.1.3.1.3. participation in multilateral initiatives to include strategic partners into cooperation of the region, especially the EU and its separate member states and the United States, and to promote inclusion of Russia in practical and mutually beneficial cooperation with the West;

6.1.3.1.4. active participation in the work of the Council of Baltic Sea States.

6.1.3.2. Strategic Partnership with Poland. The Republic of Lithuania develops co-operation with Poland as a strategic partner. This co-operation continues at all levels: between the parliaments of the two countries, their governments, various institutions, universities, local and municipal authorities, and non-governmental institutions, which foster interpersonal contacts. The Republic of Lithuania seeks to learn from the experience of Poland (and other new NATO members) gained by joining NATO and adapting to its requirements. Due to her geographical location, Poland is considered an indispensable link in the process of integration of the Lithuanian economy, information, communications, transport, energy and infrastructure into Western European systems, and in the process of inclusion of her defence infrastructure into NATO's integrated military structure.

6.1.3.3. Relations with the Russian Federation. One of priorities of the Republic of Lithuania is to enhance mutual confidence with Russia in the area of international security. The Republic of Lithuania makes constructive use of the multinational arms control system and confidence and security building measures; implements bilateral confidence and security building measures agreed with Russia; and takes unilateral security and defence policy initiatives to increase openness with respect to Russia and other neighbours. The Republic of Lithuania supports multinational initiatives that seeks to include Russia more closely in relevant practical co-operation with the North Atlantic Alliance, and participates actively in such initiatives. The Republic of Lithuania cooperates with Russia in assuring her military transit to and from the Kaliningrad region through the territory of the Republic of Lithuania in accordance with mutually acceptable and legally regulated measures. This transit is executed in accordance with regulations approved by bilateral agreement, reviewed on an annual basis, and conforming to the laws and requirements of other normative acts of the Republic of Lithuania. The Republic of Lithuania is satisfied with the current military transit arrangements. The approach of NATO and EU membership of the Republic of Lithuania does not alter its inclination to cooperate with Russia, and to ensure that Russian civil, commercial, and military transit through the territory of Lithuania on the terms that do not contradict to Shengen *acquis*.

6.1.3.4. The Republic of Lithuania is particularly interested in political, social, economic and ecological stability in the Kaliningrad region. Instability can cause serious problems associated with smuggling, organised crime, uncontrolled migration and pollution of the neighbouring countries, including

the Republic of Lithuania. Other interests of the Republic of Lithuania with regard to the Kaliningrad region include the promotion of good neighbourly relations, and economic, trade and cultural partnership, and improving economic development and the standard of living so that it compares more favourably with neighbouring countries, particularly those approaching the EU membership.

6.1.3.5. Relations with Belarus. The Republic of Lithuania, as a democratic country and neighbour of Belarus, is interested in the establishment of democratic norms and principles in this country, together with prosperity for its people and internal stability. The Republic of Lithuania implements tactics of pragmatic selective cooperation at a practical level. This tactics beside other issues encompasses cooperation on border protection and border control institutions, application of confidence and security building measures, cooperation with non-governmental organisations of Belarus and representatives of media. The Republic of Lithuania would expand the area of cooperation upon the strengthening of democratic trends in Belarus.

6.1.3.6. Interregional cooperation. The Republic of Lithuania takes an active role in sharing the experience gained from security cooperation in the Baltic sea region with interested states in other regions, in particular Central Europe, the Balkans, the Transcaucasus, and Central Asia.

6.1.3.7. Participation in international peace operations, crisis management and prevention. The Republic of Lithuania gives priority to participation in operations led by organisations that acquire the mandate of the United Nations Security Council. The Republic of Lithuania is developing its military and civil police forces, which are included in the UN register, as permanent standby forces. The Republic of Lithuania also intends to take part in international agreements that constitute the basis of the multinational Standby High Readiness Brigade (SHIRBRIG), assigned to carry out operations of the UN, and take an active part in the activities of this brigade. The Republic of Lithuania will continue to contribute to conflict prevention, peace making, peace-building initiatives, and other diplomatic, civil police and monitoring missions led by the UN, OSCE and other international organisations.

6.1.3.8. Weapons of Mass Destruction. The Republic of Lithuania cooperates with foreign partners and international organisations, and strictly applies all regulations and conventions defined in international agreements limiting proliferation or prohibiting Weapons of Mass Destruction, their components and technologies for their production. The same applies to limiting proliferation or prohibiting of nuclear, chemical and biological materials.

6.1.3.9. International arms control. The Republic of Lithuania regards international arms control regimes and confidence and security building measures as important element of the world's and particularly European security. The Republic of Lithuania takes an active part in UN and OSCE arms control regimes. While participating in multilateral regimes, the Republic of Lithuania also consults with the individual countries on application of bilateral confidence and security building measures and actively prepares for the possibility of joining international arms control regimes and confidence and

security building measures, such as the adapted 1990 Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty and 1997 Open Sky treaty. The Republic of Lithuania supports and already adheres to the provisions of the Ottawa Convention on the prohibition of anti-personnel mines, and seeks to prepare as efficiently as possible for the future ratification and full implementation of its provisions.

6.1.4. Responding to international security challenges and dangers. The Republic of Lithuania places the highest priority on taking specific measures in the fight against terrorism, corruption, organised crime, trade in people, drug trafficking, illegal migration, smuggling, and responding to other challenges of modern society such as crime related to informational technologies and telecommunications. Together with foreign partners and international organisations, the Republic of Lithuania creates, ratifies, and implements instruments of international law, paying special attention to the resolutions of the UN Security Council, promotes inter-institutional cooperation of police forces, border control services, customs and special services on a bilateral basis as well as through international organisations such as Interpol and Europol.

6.1.5. Prevention of terrorism. The anti-terrorism program includes:

6.1.5.1.   participating in the fight of the international community against terrorism;
6.1.5.2.   developing general anti-terrorist legislation;
6.1.5.3.   protecting potential targets against terrorist attack – including critical infrastructure;
6.1.5.4.   identifying individuals involved in ordering and executing possible terrorist acts;
6.1.5.5.   identifying and removing potential sources of terrorist funding;
6.1.5.6.   establishing clearly defined procedures for investigating acts of terrorism;
6.1.5.7.   constant preparedness for eliminating crisis situations caused by acts of terrorism;
6.1.5.8.   reinforcing counter-terrorist intelligence capability.

6.2.   Strengthening internal, economic and social security:

6.2.1. Crime control and prevention. A new model for a crime control and prevention system is being formed in Lithuania, the application of which will allow consistent and complete elimination of the main causes and conditions of development of crime and rational use of the allocated resources. The role of local authority institutions is reinforced in the process of creating a safe living environment. Activities of pre-judicial investigation institutions are being strengthened in investigating and revealing crimes and their efficient intercommunication and interaction with prosecution office is being ensured. Smooth implementation of the new Criminal Code and Criminal Process Code is being pursued. Priority in the sphere of crime control is given to the fight against organised crime and corruption. Measures are taken in order to destroy the economic potential that has been illegally accumulated by the criminal structures thus reducing organised crime. Prevention of money laundering conforming to the international standards is being implemented and protection of witnesses and victims is being reinforced. The fight against corruption is executed through implementation of measures of corruption prevention, comprehensively eliminating causes of this phenomenon: the national legal basis is being improved (National anti-corruption programme has been adopted) by harmonising Lithuanian legal acts with EU legal acts, and by including the norms of the international law. In order to prevent illegal migration and cross-boarder expansion of

crime, the development of state border protection system is being continued by means of implementing the EU requirements for state border control, introducing the control of individuals and vehicles crossing the border in conformity with international requirements, and forming professional State border protection service. Besides, the national *Shengen* information system is being established.

6.2.2. Protection of information. In accordance with international standards, legal regulation of security of informational technologies is being improved, protection of the critical informational systems of the state is being strengthened, appropriate control of implementation measures for security of information technologies and data is being ensured.

6.2.3. Environmental protection. The main sources of atmospheric pollution in Lithuania are the transport, energy, and industry sectors. Lithuania is implementing agreements on requirements for air protection in order to prevent injurious effect of improper quality of air on the health of people and the ecosystems. To achieve this goal, measures such as transport pollution reduction, energy saving measures and technologies of progressive production and purification of pollution, and the use of local and renewable energy sources, are to be introduced rapidly and effectively. International requirements regulating the management of chemical materials and preparations are being implemented in order to avoid harmful effects of such materials on the health of population and environment. Protection from the danger of radiation is a priority of national security in Lithuania, because there is a potential source of nuclear pollution – *Ignalina* Nuclear Plant. In accordance with the laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania, control of nuclear waste material and monitoring of the environment of nuclear energy sites are being implemented. The management and disposal of nuclear waste and used nuclear fuel is priority action in ensuring secure environment.

6.2.4. Social security. In order to ensure social security of the inhabitants of the country, an effective labour, social insurance and social support system is being created and implemented in accordance with the EU law.

6.2.4.1. Implementation of the Programme to increase employment allows to overcome the negative consequences of economic restructuring and the external impact on the employment of population and the labour market, increase employment of population and balance the labour market. Regional policy allows overcoming imbalances in regional development with regard to the labour market, employment and social development.

6.2.4.2. The measures of the Labour code, the State programme for safety and health of the workers and other programmes are being applied in order to ensure the necessary requirements of labour relations, payment, safety at the workplace etc. so that the working conditions would considerably improve as a result.

6.2.4.3. In order to maintain internal security, social partnership is being improved by inclusion of non-governmental organisations into the decision-making process. Coordination of measures of social insurance and social support ensures that all citizens are provided with social protection, and measures of social support are guaranteed for the people who need it the most.

6.2.4.4. The goal of the reform of the pension system is to provide an opportunity to the population of the Republic of Lithuania to acquire greater social guarantees. With the final implementation of the reform of the pension system, a three-level

pension system will become operational, consisting of current financing, compulsory accumulation and voluntary accumulation levels.

6.2.4.5. Programme of Implementation of strategy for poverty reduction in Lithuania seeks to reduce poverty and social isolation and overcome extreme poverty. With the reform of monetary social support, the creation of a common monetary social support system based on the principle of income and property evaluation is being pursued. This system will enable the reduction of poverty and will ensure that family members receiving social support also have the incentive to return to the labour market and thus enhance economic activity. Institutional development and allocated financing are aimed at ensuring the implementation of reforms and programmes listed above.

6.2.5. Economic security. In order to ensure the national security of Lithuania in the economic sectors that are of strategic importance, it is established which strategic objects will belong to the state by ownership right and in which objects private national or foreign capital will be allowed, provided that the controlling decision power is retained by the state. A single national investor, or an investor from a foreign state, is not allowed to dominate in one or several economic sectors that are of strategic importance. Capital of unclear origin is prevented from penetrating into the economic objects of the country. The state attaches a high priority to the actions that are planned to strengthen the economy of the country. Such actions are focused on creating conditions for stable economic growth, ensuring a higher quality of life for the citizens of Lithuania, and increasing the competitiveness of the economy. The main activities for ensuring sustainable economic development of the Republic of Lithuania are related to smooth integration into the single market of the EU. Priority has been given to the following actions:

6.2.5.1. further implementation of structural reforms;
6.2.5.2. assurance of conditions of macroeconomic stability;
6.2.5.3. creation of favourable environment for the investment and business, benefiting to economic development;
6.2.5.4. implementation of employment policy, encouraging small and medium seized business and regional development;
6.2.5.5. export incentives;
6.2.5.6. establishing obligatory energy reserves;
6.2.5.7. ensuring stable fiscal and monetary policy;
6.2.5.8. diversification of sources of energy supply;
6.2.5.9. preparing the economic infrastructure and transport for operation under extreme and critical conditions.

6.2.6. Protection of cultural heritage. The Republic of Lithuania observe the provisions of the UNESCO's Convention concerning the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage stating that the risk of cultural and natural heritage destruction increases not only for traditional reasons, but also because of changes of social and economic conditions. It is important to the Republic of Lithuania to join the international agreements and other global efforts to preserve cultural heritage while in particular focusing on the protection of heritage during periods of possible conflicts. The Republic of Lithuania seeks to create economic, technological, informational, legal, cultural and educational conditions ensuring the creativity of the society, enabling to transfer common European and global cultural values to the cultural context of Lithuania, and preserving unique national character enriching the culture of the world.

6.3. Enhancing response and readiness capabilities:

6.3.1. Improving military capabilities. As a result of positive changes in the strategic environment of the Republic of Lithuania, ongoing economic growth and taking into account the requirements and readiness levels necessary to meet international commitments, the Republic of Lithuania continues to revise its defence structures and capabilities. The main focus in this work is directed at:

6.3.1.1. optimally balanced capabilities, necessary to address dangerous situations and threats and to carry out international commitments must be compatible with the available resources enabling creation of these capabilities;

6.3.1.2. creating and exercising on a regular basis highly qualified, well commanded and properly trained armed forces. These capabilities are developed primarily to meet the internal security needs of the defence of the Republic of Lithuania. At the same time their interoperability with NATO is pursued, the capacity to fulfil international commitments being the main criterion. These capabilities are based on analysis of military threat, evaluation of actual resources and risk assessment. Priority is given to the development of effective, reliable and mobile land forces;

6.3.1.3. further development of host nation support capabilities.

6.3.2. Strengthening intelligence, counter-intelligence and protection of classified information. Intelligence and counter-intelligence is carried out by the national security institutions, operating in accordance with the law. The Republic of Lithuania is implementing and improving measures for the protection of the state and military secrets. Particular attention is focused on the verification system for confirming the suitability of personnel who will be working with confidential state and service information in compliance with NATO requirements and the new technologies as well as other areas related to protection of communications and informational systems.

6.3.3. Improving Crisis Management and Response Capabilities. In order to ensure national security in the area of crisis management, their detection and prevention, the crisis management system is being established in Lithuania. This will improve the ability of the Republic of Lithuania to take part in international crisis management. The crisis management system is being prepared for efficient functioning in the pre-crisis situations, ensuring comprehensive monitoring of dangerous situations and threats, crisis detection, preparation and implementation of preventive measures. The main means and measures for improving crisis management and response capabilities are the following:

6.3.3.1. priority is given to enhancing the preventive role of the crisis management system in order to detect dangerous situations and threats and eliminate the possibilities of their occurrence and development;

6.3.3.2. to establish, in compliance with international standards, civil safety and rescue institutions capable of managing crisis extreme situations and to meet the needs of society in this sphere – to ensure immediate emergency aid in the case of fire, industrial disaster or another incident.

6.3.4. Strengthening civil resistance system. Establishment of a high quality mobilisation system ensuring regular training of the reserve, and capabilities including those

necessary for organisation of civil resistance in the case of foreign military aggression. This aspect of national security is directly linked to the principle of total and unconditional defence. This principle commits each and every citizen to resist aggression by all means possible, including military defence and guerilla actions, non-conformity of civilians, non-collaboration with occupation administration and other methods. Civil resistance stems from the determination of the nation to fight for its freedom and the determination of every citizen to resist the aggressor in every possible way. The system of civil training for civil resistance is organised by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the law regulates its functioning. On a regular basis citizens are trained in various means of resistance and civil safety. Fostering of patriotism and training in resistance means and skills will remain a constituent part of compulsory education.

7. FINAL PROVISIONS

7.1.   At present, the Republic of Lithuania is in the process of becoming fully integrated in the Western security structures. The Republic of Lithuania is fully prepared to undertake the commitments inherent in NATO membership. Membership in this organisation will give Lithuania an unprecedented level of military, political and economic security.

7.2.   Membership in the EU will provide the Republic of Lithuania with conditions for improvement of the level of economic prosperity and provide non-military guarantees of security. Integration into the democratic Western societies stimulates economic growth, internal stability and pave the way for the new opportunities of cooperation to counteract organised crime and to respond to natural or industrial calamities.

7.3.   It is anticipated that the conditions, which could affect the vital interests of the Republic of Lithuania, will remain stable in the future. However, the global dynamic development will present new challenges, dangerous conditions and threats and therefore in the future the Republic of Lithuania must be prepared to adapt accordingly. Long-term strategies will continue to be pursued in compliance with political, economic, social, military and cultural interests based on values acknowledged and respected by the democratic world.

7.4.   The National Security Strategy is a flexible and open document regularly adjusted to the major changes in the internal or external security environment.

7.5.   The procedures for preparation, adoption, implementation and review of the National Security Strategy are established by the Law on the Basics of National Security of the Republic of Lithuania.