# **LITHUANIAN DEFENCE SYSTEM:** Facts and Trends



### **DETERMINATION TO DEFEND**

2.06% OF GDP IN 2018 and further increase of defence expenditures

Intensive **MODERNISATION** of the Lithuanian Armed Forces (infantry fighting vehicles, self-propelled howitzers, surface to air missile systems)

Number of **MILITARY PERSONNEL** in 2016: + 24% increase since 2014

1st in Europe to reconstitute CONSCRIPTION

Most modern **URBAN WARFARE** training facility in the Baltic region

1st among Allies to conduct large scale PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ABOUT PROPAGANDA

# Budget RAPID GROWTH OF DEFENCE EXPENDITURES



On 17 January 2017 Lithuanian Parliament adopted the new National Security Strategy and committed to allocate **2% of GDP in 2018** and to **steadily increase defence expenditures** further on.

### RANK IN NATO BY DEFENCE EXPENDITURES AS PERCENTAGE OF GDP



BREAKDOWN OF DEFENCE EXPENDITURES IN 2016



# Expanding capabilities of the Lithuanian Armed Forces NEW DEFENCE CONCEPT

New structure of the Land Force – closer alignment of peacetime and wartime structures to increase readiness



Land Force development is a priority for Lithuania.

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### NATIONAL RAPID REACTION FORCE



- > Established in 2014.
- > Two battalion-sized battle groups are ready to act in 2–24 hours.

> Could be used to respond to hybrid threats in peacetime upon the decision of the President.

 Annual large scale live exercises using unconventional scenario with civilian institutions.

## MAIN MODERNIZATION PROJECTS



### 2016-2021

Infantry fighting vehicle BOXER-VILKAS Two infantry battalions

Greater mobility, force protection and firepower



### 2016-2019 Self-propelled

PZH2000 Howitzers One artillery battalion





### 2017-2020

Norwegian–US advanced surface to air missile system NASAMS

Robust and proven air defence system

More than EUR 2.5 billion planned for modernisation of the Lithuanian Armed Forces in 2017–2022.

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## **IMPROVEMENT OF TRAINING FACILITIES**

New and modern Urban Warfare Training Facility for national and international combat training, first such centre in the Baltic region, opened 2016 in Pabradė.





🕂 modernisation of Kazlų Rūda, Rokai and Kairiai training areas

Doubling the size of training areas. Better training facilities for the national forces and our Allies. Possibility to train a battalion using Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System (MILES).



# Lithuanian Support for NATO's Enhanced Forward Presence LITHUANIA PROVIDES









## Commitment to International Security: PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS, TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING MISSIONS





#### Areas of support

- Lithuania together with the US, UK, Canada, Poland and other partners provides practical support to Ukraine's defence reforms.
- Lithuanian Armed Forces' military advisor has been coordinating international assistance to the reform of the Ukrainian Armed Forces NCO corps since mid 2016.
- Lithuanian military advisers have been directly involved in setting up and further developing SOF within the Ukrainian Armed Forces.
- > Development of a joint Lithuanian-Polish-Ukrainian brigade
- The Lithuanian Embassy in Ukraine has been carrying out the role of the NATO Contact Point Embassy since 2015.

#### Numbers

- Lithuanian Armed Forces instructors with the US and UK counterparts have trained 5
  battalions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces in 2016.
- Humanitarian and other material assistance for the Ukrainian Armed Forces has reached close to 1.9 mln. EUR in 2014–2016.
- Lithuania provided medical rehabilitation for 122 wounded Ukrainian soldiers from 2014–2016.
- Throughout 2016 over 200 Lithuanian Armed Forces instructors trained Ukraine's Armed Forces.
- 64 Ukrainian instructors have been trained in Lithuania since 2014.
- 63% of Lithuanian citizens support military assistance to Ukraine.

# Enhancing Society Resilience growing importance of THE LITHUANIAN RIFLEMEN'S UNION

Lithuanian Riflemen's Union is a paramilitary organisation promoting patriotic education and civil resistance.



Lithuanian Riflemen's Union's budget has grown more than 2,5 times from 2014 to 2017.



Number of riflemen has increased +38% since 2013.



Closer cooperation in training with National Defence Volunteer Force (Homeguard).

## STRONG PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THE LITHUANIAN ARMED FORCES AND NATO



### INFORMATION AND AWARENESS RAISING CAMPAIGN



Since 2014 the Ministry of National Defence has published 3 manuals for citizens on what actions to take in case of an emergency and in war-time situations.

English language version can be found online: http://kam.lt/download/51276/ka%20turime%20 zinoti%20en.pdf



#### Cooperation with NGO's:

**38** NGO's initiatives related to patriotic education and defence have been partially financed by the Ministry of National Defence in 2016.

# Recognising Propaganda and Information Warfare:

More than **200** events and presentations for NGO's, state and municipality officials, schools & universities, business representatives in 2016





### STRENGTHENING CYBER SECURITY



**Defence** is the main government institution responsible for cyber security since 2015.

#### National Cyber Security

**Centre**, responsible for cyber security of state institutions and critical information infrastructure, established in 2015.

Law on Cyber Security entered into force in 2015.



> Monitoring system is installed

representatives from **36** private and

public institutions, and academia.

governmental networks, among them 3 cyber incidents related to foreign intelligence services were eliminated.

#### FIND MORE



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