

Lithuania

Lithuania is a party to all non-proliferation treaties in the area of weapons of mass destruction: the 1925 Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, the Treaty on Non- Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction, as well as the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

Lithuania annually submits its declaration to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and transparency reports regarding the implementation of the Biological and Toxic Weapons Convention.

The Law Amending the Law on the Export, Import and Transit Control of Strategic Goods stipulates that the Ministry of Economy shall be in charge of the control of export of dual-use items and technology and of export, import and transit of military equipment and mediation related thereto and shall exercise the control in conjunction with other State institutions. In order to implement this Law and secondary legislation, a Commission to deal with the issues of export, import and transit of strategic goods and mediation related thereto has been formed.

The Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania prohibits weapons of mass destruction on the territory of Lithuania. Lithuania does not provide any form of support to non-State actors that attempt to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery. Any such support is prohibited under Lithuanian legislation.

The CC imposes criminal liability on persons who order or carry out a military attack prohibited under international humanitarian law using weapons of mass destruction (Art. 111, p. 2 of the CC. imprisonment for a term of 10 to 20 years or life imprisonment) and on persons who disseminate radioactive, biological or chemical noxious substances, preparations or micro organisms (Art. 250, p. 1 of the CC . imprisonment for a term of 5 to 15 years). A prohibition to produce, refine or transport biological weapons or the substances used in the production thereof is not explicitly covered in the Lithuanian criminal laws. At present, the storage or transportation of biological weapons would be qualified as preparation to use weapons of mass destruction (Art. 21 and Art. 111, p. 2 of the CC) or as preparation for a terrorist act (Art. 21 and Art. 250, p. 3 of the CC), or as aiding to prepare or commit the above-mentioned crimes (Art. 24, p. of the CC), or this would not incur any criminal liability at all.

It actively participates in the NPT Review process and BTWC annual meetings. Lithuania takes part in BTWC meetings and supports the Work Programme adopted in 2003. Effective BTWC verification provisions would strengthen trust in the prohibition regime of biological and toxic weapons.

Lithuania has been actively engaged in activities of an informal group of countries chaired by Japan, so-called Friends of the Additional Protocol.

Lithuania has developed a reliable system of the protection of national borders. Units of the State Boarder Guard Service have 365 ionising radiation meters, including 24 fixed detection systems. There are eight systems designated to detect only radioactive materials installed at the outside border of the European Union. The border control point at the Vilnius International Airport has 16 systems, which detect nuclear and radioactive materials.