

## **Joint Statement on the outcomes of the Lithuanian-Ukrainian Intergovernmental Consultations**

**by Prime Minister of Ukraine Denys Shmyhal and  
Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania Gintautas Paluckas**

We, the Prime Minister of Ukraine, Denys Shmyhal, and the Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania Gintautas Paluckas met today, 20 December 2024, in Kyiv in the framework of the visit of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to Ukraine as a sign of unwavering commitment to supporting Ukraine and its people.

This visit and first-ever Government-to-Government consultations between Ukraine and Lithuania underscores the long-lasting, deep friendship and strategic partnership between Ukraine and Lithuania. It highlights the enduring significance of our common historical, political, economic, and cultural connections, as well as solidarity and mutual respect shared between our States, Governments, the Ukrainian and Lithuanian peoples.

We confirm our united resolve to end the Russian Federation's illegal, unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine and to restore Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders, extending to its territorial waters. Ukraine's victory remains the highest shared priority for Ukraine and Lithuania.

We call on our international partners to continue standing with Ukraine whatever the victory over the Russian aggressor takes, emphasizing the need for the entire international community to accelerate and increase the delivery of military assistance to Ukraine aligned with Ukraine's needs, to lift any restrictions beyond those provided for by international law and to enable Ukraine to effectively exercise the right of self-defense throughout 2025 and beyond.

We highlight the importance of the full and systemic implementation of the commitments under the bilateral Agreement on Security Cooperation, signed by the President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy and the President of Lithuania Gitanas Nausėda on June 27, 2024, in Brussels.

In this regard, Ukraine deeply appreciates Lithuania's support to Ukraine delivered so far (1 billion 545 million EUR) and its pledge to seek to provide annual support for Ukraine's security and defence sectors amounting to 0.25% of Lithuania's GDP in the coming years. We commend the Lithuanian Government for its steadfast commitment to this obligation, underscoring its strategic importance to Ukraine's defense but also for the security and stability of the whole Europe, as well as for the destiny of the entire rules-based international order.

We highlight the necessity of comprehensive support for joint cooperation projects in the defence sector between Ukraine and Lithuania, including joint production, financing the Ukrainian defense production (including within the framework of the Zbroyari initiative), localization of production or collaborative defence projects, joint efforts in the fields of demining and rehabilitation, exchanges of lessons learnt and expertise in defense and civil defense preparedness for institutions and society.

Furthermore, we welcome the signing in November this year of two Memorandums of Understanding between the Ministries of Defence of Ukraine and Lithuania regarding further

development of defense industry cooperation and the establishment of a practical mechanism to support the Ukrainian Defence and Security Forces through Lithuania's contributions to the Ukrainian defence industry. These Memorandums aim to intensify the production and delivery of drones, ground and naval systems, electronic warfare solutions, and other technological defense innovations. They also focus on expanding production capacity in both countries for ammunition and other critical components.

Together, these efforts represent a significant step toward achieving Ukraine's victory.

Ukraine is grateful for Lithuania's steadfast support of the efforts aimed at achieving a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace for Ukraine. Lithuania will continue supporting the Ukraine's Peace Formula as the only viable way to restore such a peace. Following the First Global Peace Summit in Switzerland in June 2024, Ukraine commends Lithuania's active participation in the implementation of the Peace Formula, and co-chairmanship of the working group on Point 6 "Withdrawal of Russian troops and cessation of hostilities". Ukraine also welcomes and strongly supports Lithuania's commitment to take active role in the implementation of "Safe Pathways Home" initiative, led by Canada and Norway.

Ukraine notes with appreciation the readiness of the new Government of Lithuania to continue providing necessary support to Ukraine in the framework of bilateral political dialogue and interagency cooperation and through wider efforts of the international community, including, but not limited to:

- Consolidating international support for the Ukraine's Victory Plan, aimed at significantly strengthening Ukraine and thus creating necessary preconditions for achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace;
- Accelerating and increasing the delivery of necessary weaponry, including long-range systems tailored for Ukraine's needs, and removing all restrictions for the use of existing systems, which are essential prerequisites for achieving Ukraine's victory;
- Working on all possible ways to further expand support and training of the Ukrainian Armed Forces as well as increase their efficiency, thus strengthening Ukraine's self defense capabilities;
- While recognizing critical significance of military support provided by the United States, working with the European nations to take greater role in stopping Russia's aggression, preventing and deterring Russia's further military advancement in Ukraine and potential future aggression in Europe.
- Urging allies and partners in a collective manner to substantially and urgently invest into Ukraine's defense industry, buying locally produced equipment and ammunition.
- Supporting Ukraine's membership in NATO, which represents the only viable security guarantee, while doing its utmost to build a consensus among Allies to invite Ukraine to join the Alliance as soon as it is possible;
- Reiterating unacceptability and fully dismissing Russia's 2021 ultimatums and continuing the unwavering support for the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, extending to its

territorial waters, and including through active cooperation in the framework of the International Crimea platform;

- Committing to a steadfast support for Ukraine's accession to the European Union with reflection of this priority in the preparation of the new EU budget for 2028–2034 and the Lithuanian side's readiness to provide political and advisory assistance throughout the accession process on both bilateral and multilateral bases;
- Continuing financial, humanitarian, and other assistance to Ukraine, fostering Ukraine's economic, energy stability and resilience, promoting democratic reforms necessary for Ukraine's integration into the European Union and strengthening civil society in Ukraine;
- Developing international transport corridors with Ukraine together with the common Lithuanian-Ukrainian Free Rail initiative with the aim to ensure resilience of the transport sector and its readiness to contribute to long-term growth of Ukraine's economy;
- Proactively supporting within the EU to increase sanctions pressure on Russia, including but not limited to, eliminating reliance on Russian fossil fuels by banning LNG imports, reducing dependence on Russian nuclear technology, and limiting Rosatom's activities. This also includes holding the Russian "shadow fleet" accountable by restricting the circumvention of existing sanctions and imposing new measures to reduce revenues fueling Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine;
- Supporting Ukraine's efforts to hold Russia, its political and military leadership, and their accomplices accountable for crimes under international law committed in or against Ukraine, including for the crime of aggression, as well as for the massive damage caused to individuals, entities and the state of Ukraine;
- Supporting of speedy implementation of decisions for utilizing immobilised Russian assets, and reinforcing efforts for preparation of EU decisions to use not only profits from such assets but the assets themselves to support Ukraine;
- Facilitating the return to Ukraine of prisoners of war, illegally deported children, and unlawfully detained civilians;
- Maximizing efforts to further isolate the Russian Federation, including its membership in international organizations and bodies, closing and banning Russian state-affiliated institutions that spread disinformation and propaganda, and restricting Russia's influence in other areas, including the economy, finance, science, culture, sport, tourism, and social media;
- Providing the interaction and mutual support within the international organisations, including when it comes to building a more active support by the executive structures of these organizations to Ukraine.

Ukraine highly appreciates the hospitality and assistance of Lithuania in providing home to Ukrainians, who had to flee from Russia's war of aggression, in creating favourable conditions for employment, medical care, education in Ukrainian language.

We acknowledge the importance of and fully support the Joint Declaration signed by the Prime Ministers of Lithuania, Estonia, and Latvia on 22 November 2024 in Vilnius, establishing a uniform regional approach toward the control of sensitive items with battlefield relevance. We call on other EU member states to join this initiative, emphasizing that the circulation of sensitive items and technologies critical to combat operations intensifies Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, facilitates war crimes, and threatens the security of the Republic of Lithuania and other States in the region, and the entire European Union.

We recognize Ukraine as one of the world's largest contributors to global food security, with its food exports feeding 400 million people across 100 countries. It is therefore critical that Ukraine continues to supply grain without hindrance to those who depend on it for survival. We commend Lithuania's unwavering support for the "Grain from Ukraine" initiative, demonstrated during all three International Summits on Food Security held in Kyiv in 2022–2024, as well as its total allocation of €4 million to fund this vital effort. This support is exceptionally important in addressing global food security challenges, and we look forward to the continued commitment by Lithuania in this regard.

We reaffirm our commitment to strengthening the strategic partnership between Ukraine and Lithuania in addressing shared challenges and advancing common goals, including through the active dialogue within the Intergovernmental Ukrainian - Lithuanian Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation and Cooperation in the Areas of Science and Technology.

**Prime Minister of Ukraine**

**Denys Shmyhal**

**Prime Minister of the  
Republic of Lithuania**

**Gintautas Paluckas**