ORGANISATION OF ASYLUM AND MIGRATION POLICY IN LITHUANIA

Vilnius, 2012
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>CONTENTS</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ABBREVIATIONS</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td><strong>INTRODUCTION: AIM AND METHODOLOGY</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.</td>
<td>Aim</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.</td>
<td>Methodology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td><strong>OVERVIEW OF LITHUANIA’S POLITICAL, LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.</td>
<td>Overview of the political system and institutional framework</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.1.</td>
<td>Political system</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.2.</td>
<td>Institutions</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2.</td>
<td>Overview of legal acts</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2.1.</td>
<td>Political documents</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2.2.</td>
<td>Laws and other legal acts</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td><strong>DEVELOPMENTS IN ASYLUM AND MIGRATION SYSTEMS</strong></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1.</td>
<td>Institutional developments</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.</td>
<td>Political and legal developments</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td><strong>PROCEDURES OF IMMIGRATION</strong></td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.</td>
<td>Asylum and migration</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.1.</td>
<td>Entry procedures</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.2.</td>
<td>Entry conditions</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.3.</td>
<td>Legal residence</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.4.</td>
<td>Integration</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.5.</td>
<td>Citizenship</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.6.</td>
<td>Access to the labour market</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.7.</td>
<td>Return</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2.</td>
<td>Links with other policy areas</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td><strong>ANALYSIS OF ASYLUM AND MIGRATION SYSTEMS</strong></td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>SCHEME OF MIGRATION INSTITUTIONS</strong></td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>SOURCES</strong></td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LT EMN NCP</td>
<td>European Migration Network National Contact Point for the Republic of Lithuania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLE</td>
<td>Lithuanian Labour Exchange at the Ministry of Social Security and Labour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MD</td>
<td>Migration Department under the Ministry of the Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RRC</td>
<td>Refugees Reception Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSSL</td>
<td>Ministry of Social Security and Labour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DS</td>
<td>Lithuanian Department of Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRC</td>
<td>Foreigners’ Registration Centre of the State Border Guard Service under the Ministry of the Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLSA</td>
<td>Law on the Legal Status of Aliens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MI</td>
<td>Ministry of the Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LBGS</td>
<td>State Border Guard Service under the Ministry of the Interior</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Introduction: Aim and methodology

1.1. Aim

The aim of the present study is to present the Lithuanian institutions shaping and implementing Lithuania’s migration and asylum policy.

Organisation of migration and asylum policy in Lithuania was discussed for the first time in a study prepared in 2008 by the European Migration Network National Contact Point for the Republic of Lithuania (LT EMN NCP). Since 2008, new legal acts have been adopted changing the functions of some institutions implementing migration and asylum policy, hence the present (second) study aims at providing up-to-date information and reflecting the situation at the end of 2011.

The study has been prepared in compliance with specifications of the European Migration Network.

1.2. Methodology

The study was prepared using the method of document analysis: the mentioned 2008 LT EMN NCP study was relied upon, Lithuanian legal acts in the field of migration and asylum currently in force and information on the websites of state institutions and agencies were examined. Moreover, use has been made of the migration yearbooks prepared by the Migration Department under the Ministry of the Interior (MD), the information provided on the websites of the Lithuanian Department of Statistics (DS) and other institutions with a view to providing statistical data.

2. Overview of Lithuania’s political, legal and institutional system

This section presents the main institutions, agencies and organisations of Lithuania functioning in the field of migration and asylum and reviews the principal legal acts.

2.1. Overview of the political system and institutional framework

2.1.1. Political system

The Republic of Lithuania is a multi-party parliamentary republic. In Lithuania, the legislative power is granted to a single chamber parliament (the Seimas), the executive power – to the Government. The head of the State is President of the Republic. The judicial power is exercised by independent courts of general jurisdiction and administrative courts. Local self-government in Lithuania is implemented by elected municipal councils.

The key issues of state government are determined and state policy is formed by laws. The laws are passed by the Seimas, and draft laws may be proposed by Seimas members, the President of the Republic, the Government and groups of 50 000 citizens entitled to suffrage. Draft laws are most often submitted by Seimas members and the Government, but consultations over the draft laws are held also with the public, thus the organisations and persons concerned can contribute to formation of state policy.

---

1 That study and the synthesis report prepared by the European Migration Network may be accessed at: http://emn.intrasoft-intl.com/Downloads/prepareShowFiles.do?sessionid=D6992131DF6BAB1C762BF4A00B113A26?entryTitle=08.
2 The Government is formed by the Prime Minister and 14 ministers. Each minister heads a separate ministry.
3 The territory of Lithuania is divided into 60 municipalities.
2.1.2. Institutions

The main Lithuanian institutions shaping and implementing migration policy are as follows:

1. **Ministry of the Interior (MI)** is the main institution engaged in formation and supervision of implementation of migration policy. Through its administrative division – the Public Security Policy Department,\(^4\) the MI shapes state policy in the area of migration (with the exception of economic migration), organises, controls and co-ordinates its implementation, ensures implementation of state policy in the visa area. Moreover, the MI administers the External Borders Fund and the European Return Fund under the EU General Programme “Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows”.

2. **Migration Department under the Ministry of Interior** is the main central institution implementing state policy in the area of migration (with the exception of economic migration).\(^5\) The MD deals with visa, immigration, asylum, citizenship issues, issues residence permits, aliens’ travel documents, adopts decisions on expulsion or returning of aliens, prohibition to enter Lithuania, controls the stay and residence of aliens in Lithuania, analyses the reasons for illegal immigration.

   The MD does not have any territorial divisions, but provides methodological assistance to migration services.

3. The Public Police Migration Board of territorial police agencies, its divisions, subdivisions and groups (migration services)\(^6\) are the main territorial institutions dealing with the issues related to migration (with the exception of economic migration). Migration services receive applications of aliens for issuance of residence permits, travel documents, in certain cases – visas, receive applications for granting of asylum, citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, in certain cases adopt decisions on the issuance of residence permits, verify letters of invitation for aliens to enter Lithuania, control the illegal stay of aliens in the country, carry out prevention of illegal immigration, adopt decisions on imposition of the obligation on aliens to depart from Lithuania, draw up reports of administrative offences, detain the aliens illegally staying in the country.

   The activities of migration services are controlled and co-ordinated by the **Police Department under the Ministry of the Interior**. Migration issues are handled by the Migration Division of the Public Police Board.\(^7\)

4. **State Border Guard Service under the Ministry of the Interior** (SBGS)\(^8\) protects the state border and exercises control of illegal immigration. The SBGS detains and identifies the aliens unlawfully crossing the state border, issues visas at the border, adopts decisions on imposition of the obligation on aliens to depart from Lithuania, executes decisions on deportation of aliens, granting of the permission to pass in transit, receives applications for granting of asylum. The SBGS consists of the central headquarters and territorial and other divisions.\(^9\)

5. **Foreigners’ Registration Centre (FRC)** of the State Border Guard Service under the Ministry of the Interior is an institution which houses detained aliens and provides with accommodation asylum seekers. The FRC carries out investigation of the identity of aliens, examines the circumstances of their case, executes expulsion of aliens from Lithuania, may organise or participate in joint EU flights in the cases of expulsion of aliens.

---

\(^4\) This Department includes the Migration Affairs Division (7 civil servants).

\(^5\) According to data of the end of 2011, the MD consisted of 71 civil servants, including 12 civil servants in the Division on Asylum Affairs.

\(^6\) There are currently 51 migration services, which consist of 516 positions.

\(^7\) At the end of 2011, this Division consisted of 3 persons.

\(^8\) At the beginning of 2012, the SBGS consisted of 4222 positions (out of them, 4033 positions were occupied).

\(^9\) The Border Guard School, the Special Tasks Squad, the Aviation Squadron, the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant Security Unit, the Foreigners’ Registration Centre.
6. **Refugees Reception Centre** (RRC) is an institution which provides with accommodation the aliens who have been granted asylum in Lithuania, unaccompanied minor aliens and which implements social integration of the aliens who have been granted asylum.\(^\text{10}\)

7. Lithuanian **diplomatic missions and consular posts** issue visas, receive documents for issuance of residence permits, granting of citizenship, legalise documents.

Other institutions participating in formation and implementation of migration policy as the following:

1. **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** (MAF) participates in the formation and implementation of visa policy, issues visas, co-ordinates implementation of international sanctions, supervises conclusion of treaties and their implementation, shapes development co-operation policy, co-ordinates contacts with Lithuanian emigrants.

2. **Ministry of Social Security and Labour** (MSSL) shapes labour policy and controls its implementation. The Ministry submits proposals to the Government concerning employment of aliens in Lithuania, co-ordinates provision of support for the purpose of integration of aliens who have been granted asylum in Lithuania, implementation of EU requirements concerning social guarantees to immigrants, administers the European Refugee Fund and the European Fund for the Integration of third country nationals.

3. **Lithuanian Labour Exchange at the Ministry of Social Security and Labour** (LLE) implements labour market policy. The LLE issues work permits to aliens, engages in prevention of illegal work, implementation of social protection of migrant workers. 10 territorial labour exchanges are subordinate to the LLE.

4. **Personalisation of Identity Documents Centre under the Ministry of the Interior** issues residence permits and travel documents to aliens, identity cards and passports to Lithuanian citizens.

5. **State Labour Inspectorate under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour** (SLI) exercises control of illegal work, verifies compliance of employers with the requirements for working conditions and guarantees for posted workers.

6. **Residents’ Register Service under the Ministry of the Interior** manages the Residents’ Register, which accumulates information on all residents of Lithuania.

7. In **municipalities**, Lithuanian residents declare their place of residence or departure from Lithuania.

Migration issues are also addressed by non-governmental organisations. The following NGOs are among the most active ones in Lithuania:

1. **International Organization for Migration** (Vilnius Office) implements programmes for information and consultation of aliens, assistance to aliens in voluntarily returning to the countries of origin and reintegrating in the countries of origin, carries out the projects related to integration of aliens in Lithuania, training of officers and civil servants working in the migration field, conducts research on the issues of migration, is involved in the area of prevention of trafficking in human beings. IOM Vilnius Office also performs the functions of LT EMN NCP.

2. **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Regional Office per representative in Lithuania** carries out trainings and disseminates information related to rights of refugees.

3. **Lithuanian Red Cross Society** carries out asylum seekers and refugee support projects.

4. **Institute for Ethnic and Demographic Studies of the Lithuanian Social Research Centre** conducts research and organises discussions on the issues of migration.

\(^{10}\) At the end of 2011, the Centre had 22 employees.
5. **Tolerant Youth Association** implements projects of integration of immigrants.

6. Caritas Lithuania carries out prevention of human trafficking and provides assistance to victims of trafficking

### 2.2. Overview of legal acts

#### 2.2.1. Political documents

Lithuania does not have a single document consistently describing Lithuania’s policy on the issues of migration, asylum and other issues related to movement of persons. Regardless of this fact, the provisions of migration policy contained in separate documents show that return of Lithuanian citizens to Lithuania is the most important goal, and immigration of third-country nationals is merely an additional means of solving the economic problems of the country. Among such political and strategic documents, the following should be mentioned:

- **Long-Term Development Strategy of the State**\(^{11}\) mentions the problems of emigration of citizens and illegal immigration of aliens;

- **National Demographic (Population) Policy Strategy**\(^{12}\) stipulates the strategic goal of economic migration policy – to aim that, under the conditions of fast economic growth, Lithuania would not experience a shortage of workforce and would avoid the negative consequences of migration;

- **Economic Migration Regulation Strategy**\(^{13}\) raises two tasks – to aim at meeting the needs of the Lithuanian labour market and encourage the return of economic migrants to their homeland. Workers from third countries must be attracted only in those sectors which are facing a shortage of workforce from Lithuania and other EU Member States, and only for a limited duration;

- **Lithuania’s Immigration Policy Guidelines**\(^{14}\) stipulate the key objectives and areas of development of Lithuania’s immigration policy (for more information, see Section 3.2 of this study);

- **Programme for Creation of “Global Lithuania” (Involvement of Lithuanian Emigrants into the Life of the State) for 2011-2019**\(^{15}\) has the purpose of providing for mechanisms encouraging Lithuanian emigrants to cherish the Lithuanian language, national identity of Lithuanians, enhance the links of the Lithuanian community abroad with Lithuania, engage in various areas of public life and contribute to creation of Lithuania’s welfare, creating favourable conditions to this end (for more information, see Section 3.2 of this study).

As regards the standpoint of the State on migration management, a mention should be made also of the rolling **Programme for the Prevention and Control of Trafficking in Human Beings**.\(^{16}\) The Programme lists the measures aiming at combating trafficking in human beings, defending the rights of

---

\(^{11}\) Approved by Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania Resolution No IX-1187 of 12 November 2002 (Official Gazette, No 113-5029, 2002)

\(^{12}\) Approved by Government of the Republic of Lithuania Resolution No 1350 of 28 October 2004 (Official Gazette, No 159-5795, 2004)

\(^{13}\) Approved by Government of the Republic of Lithuania Resolution No 416 of 25 April 2007 (Official Gazette, No 49-1897, 2007)

\(^{14}\) Approved by Government of the Republic of Lithuania Resolution No 1317 of 3 December 2008 (Official Gazette, No 143-5706, 2008)


\(^{16}\) Under Resolution No 1104 of 9 September 2009 (Official Gazette, No 112-4761, 2009), the Government of the Republic of Lithuania approved the Programme for the Prevention and Control of Trafficking in Human Beings 2009-2012, which is a continuation of the programmes 2002-2004 and 2005-2008.
victims and developing international co-operation of government authorities in this field. These programmes will be discontinued in 2013.

2.2.2. Laws and other legal acts
The main legal act regulating the issues related to the legal status of aliens in Lithuania is the Law on the Legal Status of Aliens (LLSA). The LLSA stipulates the conditions of entry and exit of aliens, their stay and residence, asylum, integration, detention and expulsion of aliens and regulates other related issues.
- Other laws: Law on Citizenship stipulates the grounds of and procedure for acquiring and losing the citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania;
- Law on the State Border and Protection Thereof establishes the legal regulations of the state border and the frontier of the Republic of Lithuania, regulates the activities of border crossing points and organisation of protection of the state border.
- Law on Guarantees for Posted Workers is intended for employees posted from other countries to temporarily work in Lithuania.

The laws establish the principles and main provisions of regulation of legal relationships, and they are implemented by Government resolutions, orders of ministers and orders of heads of institutions subordinate to the ministries.

Moreover, Lithuania has accessed to the main treaties in the field of migration and concluded treaties on readmission of aliens (with 24 states), local border traffic (with 1 state), legal aid (with 15 states). These treaties have direct effect and supremacy over laws.

3. Developments in asylum and migration systems
The development of asylum and migration systems is presented in detail in the first study by LT EMN NCP “The Organisation of Asylum and Migration Policies in the Republic of Lithuania” (2008). Therefore, the present study will give an overview of the developments which took place during 2008-2011.

3.1. Institutional developments
In 2008, Lithuania was hit by the global economic crisis, which forced the Government to undertake stringent expenditure control measures. The Seimas approved a crisis response plan as proposed by the Government, and on the basis of the plan the Government approved the measures of implementation of the crisis response plan, which were essentially intended to reform state government. In 2009, the activities of the Commission for the Improvement of State Administration

---

22 A list of legal acts regulating migration is available at http://www.migracija.lt/index.php?1904747489
23 With Belarus (has not entered into force yet)
ions had been transferred to the police, which was in charge of formation and implementation of state-owned assets and other related issues.

During 2008-2011, state institutions were being merged thus reducing their number, the number of civil servants was being reduced, budgets of state institutions was being cut. Expenditure control policy affected also the institutions working in the area of migration.

On 16 November 2009, the Migration Policy Department under the MI was liquidated, and its functions were transferred to the Public Security Policy Department under the MI, with the Migration Affairs Division established within the Department.

At the end of 2009, the Economic Migration Division at the Ministry of Social Security and Labour of the Republic of Lithuania, which was in charge of formation and implementation of the policy of economic migration and social protection of migrant workers, was liquidated.

Since 2 May 2011, the number of employees of the Migration Department under the Ministry of the Interior has been reduced, after a part of its functions had been transferred to the police. On 1 March 2011, the Migration Division was established at the Public Police Board of the Police Department under the Ministry of the Interior and consolidated the supervision of migration services carried out by the Police Department under the MI.

Upon amending the regulations of the SBGS on 20 March 2008, the SBGS was granted the right to exercise control of migration processes in the entire territory of the country. To this end, illegal immigration prevention and control divisions were established at the central institution of the SBGS and its territorial units in 2008. However, since 2009 reduction of the number of employees of the SBGS, including the mentioned divisions, has begun with a view to optimising the structure of the SBGS. On 1 July 2011, the Illegal Immigration Prevention and Control Board at the central institution of the SBGS was liquidated upon establishing the Migration Division at the Border Control Organisation Board.

3.2. Political and legal developments

Immigration

On 4 December 2008, the Government of the Republic of Lithuania approved Lithuania’s Immigration Policy Guidelines27 – the first and only political document presenting the position of the State on immigration of third-country nationals. The Guidelines stipulate the following goals of the Lithuanian immigration policy: 1) to seek to ensure that Lithuania does not experience shortage of workforce and to avoid the detrimental effect of emigration of the Lithuanian population and ageing of society on the life of the state; 2) to ensure the effective management of immigration flows; 3) to participate, in an active and targeted manner, in the process of formation of the immigration policy of the European Union.

The Guidelines clearly specify that immigration of aliens must be based on the principle of benefit to the state and must be merely a secondary measure in meeting the needs of the labour market. Priority should be given to returning Lithuanian citizens. The Guidelines also stipulate the geographical priority of immigration, namely, the countries of the Eastern Neighbourhood (Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, South Caucasus).

Lithuania’s Immigration Policy Guidelines were being prepared at a time when the Lithuanian economy was growing fast, and certain economic sectors (e.g., construction, shipbuilding, transportation) were particularly in need of workforce. Meanwhile, state authorities were implementing

a ‘hole repair’ policy in an attempt to effectively adapting to employers’ needs and facilitating for them recruitment of the lacking workers from abroad.

For instance, at the end of 2007 amendments were done to the rules for the issuance of multiple-entry national visas. The revised rules provided for the issuance of multiple-entry national visas to the third-country nationals entering Lithuania to work in a profession which is included in the Lithuanian Shortage Occupations List. Thus, these third-country nationals were permitted to enter the country for work and have their applications for the issuance of temporary residence permits in Lithuania examined already when working in Lithuania. Since 2007, the Shortage Occupations List has been approved on a semi-annual basis by the Minister of Social Security and Labour.

### Shortage occupations in Lithuania during 2007-2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Half year</th>
<th>Number of shortage occupations</th>
<th>Economic sectors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st half of 2007</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Industry (electricians, welders, etc.), construction (assemblers, stone masons, etc.), services (medical practitioners, drivers, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd half of 2007</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Industry (assemblers, welders, metalworkers, etc.), construction (welders, carpenters, etc.), services (drivers, chefs, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st half of 2008</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Industry (technicians, engineers, etc.), construction (stone masons, etc.), services (drivers, etc.), fisheries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd half of 2008</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Industry (engineers, assemblers, etc.), services (drivers, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st half of 2009</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Industry (mostly in Klaipėda, shipbuilding), services (drivers, chefs).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd half of 2009</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Industry (only in Klaipėda, shipbuilding), services (drivers, chefs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st half of 2010</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Industry (mostly in Klaipėda, shipbuilding), services (drivers, chefs).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd half of 2010</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Industry (only in Klaipėda, shipbuilding), services (drivers, chefs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st half of 2011</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Industry (only in Klaipėda, shipbuilding), services (drivers, chefs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd half of 2011</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Industry (only in Klaipėda, shipbuilding), services (drivers, chefs)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data of orders of the Minister of Social Security and Labour


---


30 Law Amending Articles 2, 5, 8, 26, 32, 35, 40, 43, 46, 50, 53, 71, 72, 90, 99, 104, 113, 124, 125, 126, 127, 131, 133, 134, Section One of Chapter III and the Annex of the Law on the Legal Status of Aliens, Supplementing the Law with Article 49(2) and Appealing Article 7 (Official Gazette, No 22-803, 2008).
minimum standards on procedures in Member States for granting and withdrawing refugee status and Council Directive 2005/71/EC of 12 October 2005 on a specific procedure for admitting third-country nationals for the purposes of scientific research) entered into force. The entry into force of these amendments provided favourable conditions for the entry of researchers, though little use was made of this scheme (e.g., in 2008 only 1 temporary residence permit was issued, in 2009 – 2). Specialists suppose that researchers do not make use of this scheme, because they are unaware of its existence and enter Lithuania as ordinary workers.

On 1 August 2009, other amendments to the LLSA entered into force. Their drafting began as early as in 2008, before the outbreak of the economic crisis, and they were intended not only for combating abuse of immigration procedures, but also for loosening some immigration restrictions (e.g., the list of aliens entitled to inviting family members immediately, without waiting for 2 years, was extended; replacement of temporary residence permits was decentralised, i.e., a possibility was created for adoption of decisions on certain temporary residence permits by migration services, rather than the DM).

However, the economic crisis hitting in the second half of 2008 changed priorities. Due to the crisis, the unemployment rate was growing, employment contracts were being terminated on a mass scale, and employees (including aliens) were being dismissed, the volume of emigration of Lithuanian residents, especially citizens, were increasing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Migration of Lithuanian residents during 2006-2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emigration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net migration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data of the DS

State authorities began to attach the largest attention to elimination of consequences of economic crisis and revival of the economy. The changes undertaken in the area of immigration were mostly related to reassignment of the spheres of competence of state authorities, reduction of bureaucracy and implementation of Lithuania’s international obligations, but no major revision of immigration policy was accomplished.

In 2011, experts in various fields increasingly urged state authorities to begin shaping Lithuania’s migration policy taking account of imminent demographic problems. However, these requests have so far not received any response from the state authorities.

Asylum

Lithuania’s asylum policy has not undergone major changes since 2008. Upon establishing the European Asylum Support Office, on 30 December 2010 the Minister of the Interior appointed employees of the MD to the reserve of national asylum experts, national contact point for

31 Law Amending Articles 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 21, 26, 34, 35, 43, 45, 51, 53, 62, 63, 64, 80, 81, 93, 101, 102, 106, 125 and 140(1) of the Law on the Legal Status of Aliens and Supplementing the Law with Article 141(1) (Official Gazette, No 93-3984, 2009).

communication with the European Asylum Support Office and members of the Management Board of the European Asylum Support Office.\textsuperscript{33}

Lithuania did not take a decision on participation in refugee reallocation programmes. However, on 14 September 2011\textsuperscript{34} the Government of the Republic of Lithuania decided, in solidarity with the Republic of Malta facing a considerable inflow of refugees, to joint a project developed by Malta and co-funded by the European Refugee Fund on transfer of aliens arriving from third countries and being in need of international protection from Malta to other Member States of the European Union. A decision was taken to transfer to Lithuania up to 6 asylum seekers.

\textit{Emigration of Lithuanian citizens}

The Programme for Creation of “Global Lithuania” (Involvement of Lithuanian Emigrants into the Life of the State) for 2011-2019, as approved in 2011, has introduced a new approach to emigrant Lithuanian citizens – they may be useful for Lithuania when residing not only in Lithuania, but also abroad. The aspiration to promote return of Lithuanian citizens to the homeland remains, but the target group of the Programme has been expanded to include the citizens who do not intend to return to Lithuania, as well as the aliens who of the Lithuanian descent or have other links with Lithuania. The Programme aims at ensuring that emigrants from Lithuania preserve their national identity, promoting the involvement of the emigrants in the political, economic, cultural life of Lithuania, encouraging Lithuanians to return to Lithuania, and turning the brain drain process into the brain exchange process, involving the emigrants in the processes of exchange of information and dissemination of information.

\textit{Other developments}

Since 28 June 2009, Lithuania has begun to issue biometric alien’s passports, travel documents of stateless persons and travel documents of refugees (the electronic media contained in such documents record face biometrics and fingerprints). Since 9 January 2012, the issuance of biometric residence permits has been initiated.

Under the resolution of 4 November 2009,\textsuperscript{35} the Government of the Republic of Lithuania introduced the Lithuanian National Visa Information System. The purpose of the system is to create conditions for Lithuania to exchange data on applications for the issuance of visas, related decisions and visa data with other Member States of the European Union. The Lithuanian national visa information system commenced its operation following the launching date of the Visa Information System as established by the European Commission, that is, 11 October 2011. The common Schengen Visa Information System should facilitate checks of persons at the external borders of the European Union and enhance security in the Schengen Area.

Under the order of 2 February 2011, the Minister of Education and Science approved the Programme on Internationalisation of Higher Education of Lithuania 2011-2012.\textsuperscript{36} The Programme aims at improving the quality of higher education and raising the profile of Lithuanian institutions of higher education at the international level as well as involving international elements in studies. This Programme raises the task of facilitating entry conditions (by reducing bureaucratic barriers to the issuance of visas and residence permits) for the students and lecturers who are third-country nationals.

\textsuperscript{33} Minister of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania Order No 1V-827 of 30 December 2010 on the European Asylum Support Office (Official Gazette, No 2-54, 2011).
\textsuperscript{34} Government of the Republic of Lithuania Resolution No 1082 of 14 September 2011 on Asylum Seekers from the Republic of Malta (Official Gazette, No 115-5416, 2011).
\textsuperscript{36} Order No V-178 of 2 February 2011 (Official Gazette, No 16-785, 2011).

Amendments were also done to the Code of Administrative Offences with a view to adjusting its provisions to the latest amendments of the LLSA and other legal acts. The amendments to the Code of Administrative Offences which entered into force on 1 January 2012\textsuperscript{38} stipulated administrative liability for provision of false data in order to verify letters of invitation for aliens to enter Lithuania or to assist an alien, by other unlawful means, in obtaining a document confirming the right to stay or reside in Lithuania. These amendments aim at taking action against the Lithuanian residents who aid aliens in establishing fictitious enterprises or misleading state institutions by other means and thus obtaining residence permits in Lithuania or visas.

With a view to implementing the provisions of the Directive on sanctions against employers (2009/52/EC), the Criminal Code, too, was amended. The amendments which entered into force on 6 January 2012\textsuperscript{39} provide for criminal liability of natural and legal persons for employment of third-country nationals illegally staying in Lithuania or illegal employment of five or more illegally staying third-country nationals, or employment of illegally staying third-country nationals under particularly exploitative working conditions, or employment of a minor third-country national illegally staying in Lithuania.

4. Procedures of immigration

Since 2008, when the first LT EMN NCP study “The Organisation of Asylum and Migration Policies in the Republic of Lithuania” was prepared, migration and asylum procedures have not substantially changed. Therefore, the present study will only provide a brief description of entry, admission and integration procedures and an overview of the main developments.


\textsuperscript{38} Law Amending Articles 13, 35, 43\textsuperscript{6}, 43\textsuperscript{7}, 43\textsuperscript{8}, 43\textsuperscript{10}, 79, 109\textsuperscript{1}, 110\textsuperscript{1}, 111, 112, 112\textsuperscript{1}, 112\textsuperscript{6}, 112\textsuperscript{6}, 125, 138, 145, 146, 147, 149, 163, 163\textsuperscript{13}, 171\textsuperscript{1}, 172\textsuperscript{1}, 173\textsuperscript{5}, 173\textsuperscript{16}, 173\textsuperscript{21}, 187, 188\textsuperscript{8}, 188\textsuperscript{10}, 188\textsuperscript{17}, 189, 206, 206\textsuperscript{2}, 206\textsuperscript{3}, 221, 224, 225\textsuperscript{2}, 225\textsuperscript{3}, 227, 228, 232\textsuperscript{1}, 233, 235\textsuperscript{1}, 237, 239, 240, 242, 245, 246, 246\textsuperscript{2}, 246\textsuperscript{6}, 247\textsuperscript{2}, 247\textsuperscript{7}, 247\textsuperscript{10}, 259\textsuperscript{1}, 281, 304, 309, 314 of the Code of Administrative Offences of the Republic of Lithuania, Supplementing the Code with Articles 37\textsuperscript{2}, 43\textsuperscript{13}, 52\textsuperscript{3}, 52\textsuperscript{4}, 99\textsuperscript{13}, 112\textsuperscript{9}, 112\textsuperscript{10}, 112\textsuperscript{11}, 117\textsuperscript{5}, 172\textsuperscript{28}, 173\textsuperscript{22}, 181\textsuperscript{4}, 188\textsuperscript{20}, 206\textsuperscript{2} and Section Thirty-Three and Repealing Articles 112\textsuperscript{7}, 172\textsuperscript{8}, 173\textsuperscript{4}, 206\textsuperscript{1}, 241, 246\textsuperscript{6}, 247\textsuperscript{3} (Official Gazette, No 163-7758, 2011).

\textsuperscript{39} Law Supplementing the Criminal Code of the Republic of Lithuania with Article 292\textsuperscript{1} and Supplementing the Annex of the Code (Official Gazette, No 4-115, 2012).
## Migration procedures in Lithuania by grounds for entry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grounds for entry/Procedures</th>
<th>Tourism</th>
<th>Employment</th>
<th>Studies</th>
<th>Family reunification</th>
<th>Asylum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Information</strong></td>
<td>Information is provided by travel agencies, Lithuania’s diplomatic missions abroad, the MD, the MFA</td>
<td>Information is provided by the MFA</td>
<td>Information is provided by the MFA, EDS, EESF</td>
<td>Information is provided by the MFA</td>
<td>Information is provided by the MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main documents</strong></td>
<td>1) If a person is a citizen of a state which is subject to the EU’s visa regime – a Schengen visa. It may also be a national visa, a residence permit issued by another Schengen country.</td>
<td>1) A work permit, unless an alien does not need it. 2) Usually a single-or multiple-entry national visa. If an alien intends to study for a period not exceeding 3 months within half a year – a Schengen visa or a residence permit issued by another Schengen country.</td>
<td>1) Usually – a single- or multiple-entry national visa. If an alien intends to study for a period not exceeding 3 months within half a year – a Schengen visa or a residence permit issued by another Schengen country.</td>
<td>1) Single-entry national visa</td>
<td>An alien may enter without any documents (illegally), but in this case he must immediately apply for asylum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Procedure</strong></td>
<td>A Schengen visa is issued at a Lithuanian mission abroad within 15 calendar days. It allows to stay in the Schengen Area for a period not exceeding 3 months within half a year.</td>
<td>An employer wishing to recruit an alien registers a vacancy in a territorial labour exchange. After a month, he applies for the issuance of a work permit to the alien. Depending on the alien’s purpose of entry, the work</td>
<td>A higher education institution in which a student is enrolled or to which he has been invited (under international exchange programmes) must submit a request to a Lithuania’s mission abroad, the MD or a migration</td>
<td>Upon receiving a notification of a decision of the MD on the issuance of a residence permit for the purpose of family reunification, an alien must apply to a Lithuanian mission abroad for the issuance of</td>
<td>An application for the granting of asylum is lodged at a border crossing point, and if an alien is already staying in Lithuania – with the SBGS (if in the frontier zone) or a territorial police agency or the FRC (if inside the</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

41 [http://keliauk.urm.lt/](http://keliauk.urm.lt/)
42 [http://www.ldb.lt/Informacija/PatarimaiDarbdaviams/Puslapiai/uzsienieciu_idarbinimas.aspx](http://www.ldb.lt/Informacija/PatarimaiDarbdaviams/Puslapiai/uzsienieciu_idarbinimas.aspx)
44 In addition to the main documents, it is required to hold a valid travel document, a medical insurance document, also other documents which are to be verified when issuing the main document.
45 The Description of the Conditions of and Procedure for Issuing Work Permits to Aliens, approved by Minister of Social Security and Labour Order No A1-500 of 14 August 2009 (Official Gazette, No 98-4134, 2009), specifies the aliens not subject to the requirement to hold a work permit.
46 A single-entry national visa is issued to enable an alien holding a temporary residence permit in Lithuania to enter Lithuania and obtain a temporary residence permit card. A multiple-entry national visa permits an alien to enter to Lithuania for a period of up to a year, it is issued only in certain cases (see Section 41.2 of the study).
Grounds for entry/Procedures | Tourism | Employment | Studies | Family reunification | Asylum
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
| exceeding 3 months within half a year starting from the first day of entry into the Schengen Area. | permit will be issued within 20 or 10 calendar days. Subsequently, the alien applies to a consular post abroad, and if he is legally staying in Lithuania – to a migration service or the MD for the issuance of a national visa or a temporary residence permit | service (if the alien is legally staying in Lithuania) to issue to the alien a national visa. Subsequently, the alien himself applies to a visa service for the issuance of the national visa. The national visa is issued within 15 calendar days. | a single-entry national visa (if he requires a visa in order to enter the Schengen Area). Upon entering Lithuania, the alien must apply for the issuance of a temporary residence permit to a migration service within the territory serviced by which he intends to settle. He must apply within 3 months from adoption of a decision on the issuance of the residence permit. | country). These institutions interview the alien, take his travel documents, biometric data and forward all documents to the MD. Within 48 hours, the MD decides: 1) to grant to the alien temporary territorial asylum and examine the application for asylum in substance; 2) to grant temporary territorial asylum and initiate the Dublin procedure; 3) not to examine the application for asylum in substance and to return the alien to a safe third country; 4) not to grant asylum and expel the alien from Lithuania. |

Control of At the border, officers of the SBGS check whether an alien is in possession of

48 This time limit may be extended up to 30 days if an application is complicated, or in exceptional cases – up to 60 days. These time limits apply to the issuance of national visas in all cases, regardless of the ground for the issuance of a visa.

49 Such a procedure applies also to the aliens in possession of a residence permit in Lithuania issued on other grounds.

50 In the cases when it is believed that another EU Member State is responsible for examining an application for asylum, Council Regulation (EC) No 343/2003 of 18 February 2003 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an asylum application lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national applies.

51 This is a state other than the alien’s country of origin, but a state party to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and/or the 1967 Protocol relating to Refugee Status as well as the 1950 European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and/or the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, implementing the provisions of the above-mentioned instruments and providing a feasible possibility under national laws to apply for and be granted asylum according to the established procedure.

52 In the cases when an alien comes from a safe country of origin (the alien’s country of origin in which, on account of the legal situation, the application of the law and the general political circumstances, it can be safely assumed that neither persecution on the grounds of race, religion, citizenship, belonging to a certain social group or due to political convictions nor torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment as punishment or violation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms are being practised) and if the alien’s application for asylum is manifestly unfounded (an application for granting of asylum in the Republic of Lithuania in which there is clearly no substance to the applicant’s claim of fear of persecution in the country of origin or it is based on false or misleading representations or is an abuse of asylum procedures).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grounds for entry/Procedures</th>
<th>Tourism</th>
<th>Employment</th>
<th>Studies</th>
<th>Family reunification</th>
<th>Asylum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Admittance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main documents</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary residence permit</td>
<td>1) Just as in the case of entry, an employer wishing to recruit an alien must apply to a territorial labour exchange for the issuance of a work permit to the alien (unless the alien does not require a work permit). Meanwhile, the alien applies to a Lithuanian diplomatic mission abroad, and if he is legally staying in Lithuania – to a migration service for the issuance of a temporary residence permit. Upon receipt of a notice that the LLE has adopted a decision on the issuance of the work permit to the alien (if required), the MD adopts a decision on the issuance of the temporary residence permit (not later than within 6 months)</td>
<td>1) Having entered a Lithuanian higher education institution, having been admitted to study at an educational establishment, invited to Lithuania to undergo internship or improve qualifications or invited for training purposes, an alien applies to a Lithuanian diplomatic mission abroad, and if he is legally staying in Lithuania – to a migration service and lodges an application for the issuance of a temporary residence permit in Lithuania. Additionally, he must submit a letter of mediation of the host institution and other documents. A decision on the issuance of the residence permit is taken by the MD</td>
<td>1) A family member (sponsor) usually may join an alien only after the sponsor has lived in Lithuania for 2 years and has reasonable prospects of remaining in Lithuania permanently. The family member lodges an application for the issuance of a temporary residence permit with a Lithuanian mission abroad, and if he is legally staying in Lithuania – to a migration service within the territory serviced by which he intends to settle. A decision on the issuance of the temporary residence permit is taken by the MD not later than within 6 months. Upon the receipt of a notice of the decision on the residence permit, the family member is granted the status of a refugee and issue a temporary residence permit</td>
<td>Usually a temporary residence permit</td>
<td>Permanent residence permit or temporary residence permit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

53 In the case of a Schengen visa – EUR 40 per day.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grounds for entry/Procedures</th>
<th>Tourism</th>
<th>Employment</th>
<th>Studies</th>
<th>Family reunification</th>
<th>Asylum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>from receipt of the application(^{55}). The notice of the decision adopted is communicated to the alien, and the latter must then appear at the migration service to obtain a residence permit card. The temporary residence permit is valid for a period not exceeding 1 year and may be subsequently extended (in this case, the decision is adopted within 2 months). 2) Having resided in Lithuania, under a temporary residence permit, for 5 years uninterruptedly, an alien may apply to a migration service for the issuance of a permanent residence permit. A decision on the issuance of the permanent residence permit is adopted by the MD within 6 months. The permit is valid for 5 years, subsequently is replaced (in this case, a decision on replacement of the permit is adopted within 1 month).</td>
<td>not later than within 6 months. The temporary residence permit is issued for the period of studies, but not longer than for 1 year. The alien may later apply for replacement of the temporary residence permit (in this case, the decision is adopted within 2 months). 2) Having resided in Lithuania, under a temporary residence permit, for 5 years uninterruptedly, an alien may apply to a migration service for the issuance of a permanent residence permit. A decision on the issuance of the permanent residence permit is adopted by the MD within 6 months. The permit is valid for 5 years, subsequently is replaced (in this case, a decision on replacement of the permit is adopted within 1 month).</td>
<td>decision on the issuance of the temporary residence permit, the family member applies to the migration service for the issuance of a residence permit card. The temporary residence permit is issued for a period not exceeding 1 year. Subsequently, the alien applies for replacement of the temporary residence permit (in this case, the decision is adopted within 2 months). 2) If an alien is a family member of a Lithuanian citizen, a person who has retained the right to the citizenship of Lithuania or a person of Lithuanian descent and moves with him to reside in Lithuania, he is immediately issued a permanent residence permit.</td>
<td>grant subsidiary protection and issue a temporary residence permit (subsidiary protection is granted for 1 year, later the alien may repeatedly lodge an application for asylum); 3) not to grant asylum, expel the alien from Lithuania.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{55}\) These requirements do not apply, and family members may join the sponsor straight away: 1) who has been granted the status of a refugee in Lithuania; 2) who has been issued a temporary residence permit in Lithuania as a researcher under Directive 2005/71/EC; 3) who performs a job requiring high professional skills for which a monthly salary is paid during the period of validity of the temporary residence permit in the amount not lower than three most recently announced average monthly earnings in the whole economy (approximately LTL 6400 before tax); 4) who has entered the country to teach or participate in internship at Lithuanian institutions of higher education and research under the treaties to which Lithuania is a party or according to EU academic exchange programmes with third countries; 5) who, by directly participating in the projects of importance to the State, has invested in Lithuania a property owned by him, borrowed or managed and used by the right of trust.

\(^{56}\) If an alien holds a long-term resident’s residence permit issued in another EU Member State, his application is examined not later than within 4 months.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grounds for entry/Procedures</th>
<th>Tourism</th>
<th>Employment</th>
<th>Studies</th>
<th>Family reunification</th>
<th>Asylum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Case, a decision on replacement of the permit is adopted within 1 month.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3) Having resided under a temporary residence permit, in the country for 5 years, a family member may obtain a permanent residence permit.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Control of aliens

1) Prior adopting a decision on the issuance of a visa or a residence permit, consular posts, migration services or the MD verify whether an alien is entered in the Schengen Information System or the National Entry Ban List of the Republic of Lithuania as an unwanted person. The MD additionally consults the Police Department and the State Security Department as regards the threat posed by the alien to public order or national security. 2) The control of stay of aliens in Lithuania is exercised by the police, the SBGS and the MD, control of illegal work – by the SLI. If there are suspicions that an alien abuses the rules for staying in Lithuania (e.g., by contracting a marriage of convenience), migration services conduct on-spot verifications on their own initiative or at the request of the MD. The verifications may also be carried out by the SBGS, the SLI, the Tax Inspectorate and other controlling authorities. If it is established that an alien abuses the possibilities of residence in Lithuania or there are no other grounds permitting the alien to reside in Lithuania, the MD adopts a decision on revocation of the alien’s residence permit. 3) After an alien ceases to legally reside in Lithuania, the SBGS, migration services, and as regards asylum procedures – the MD, take a decision on returning the alien or impose on him the obligation to depart from Lithuania. If the alien fails to depart voluntarily or in the cases when the period of voluntary departure is not granted, the MD adopts a decision on expelling the alien from Lithuania. If the alien fails to depart voluntarily or in the cases when the period of voluntary departure is not granted, the MD adopts a decision on expelling the alien from Lithuania. In the cases when Lithuania has concluded readmission treaties with foreign countries, the MD adopts a decision on returning an alien under a readmission treaty. Decisions on expulsion or returning of aliens under readmission treaties are executed by the SBGS (FRC) or the police. Along with decisions on returning or expulsion of aliens, the MD may adopt decisions on prohibiting aliens to enter Lithuania. The entry ban decisions may be adopted also in other cases when the MD receives information from other state institutions. The MD records these decisions in the Schengen Information System and the National Entry Ban List of the Republic of Lithuania.

57 For more information, see Section 4.1.7 of this study.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grounds for entry/Procedure</th>
<th>Tourism</th>
<th>Employment</th>
<th>Studies</th>
<th>Family reunification</th>
<th>Asylum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Integration</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) In order to obtain a visa or a temporary residence permit in Lithuania, aliens must prove that they will be in possession of sufficient means of subsistence and a place of residence in Lithuania in order not to become a burden for the Lithuanian social security system. However, these groups of aliens are not subject to any other integration requirements. 2) In order to obtain a permanent residence permit, aliens must pass an examination in the Lithuanian language and the basic principles of the Constitution. This requirement does not apply only to the aliens: 1) who have attained the age of 75 years; 2) whose capacity for work is rated at 0-25%; 3) who have been assessed as having special needs; 4) who have serious chronic mental disorders. The family members who obtain a permanent residence permit upon entering Lithuania are not under the obligation to take the examinations either.

The persons who have been granted the status of a refugee do not have to take an examination in the Lithuanian language and an examination in the basic principles of the Constitution. However, all asylum seekers and the aliens who have been granted the status of a refugee or subsidiary protection are able to take part in a state integration programme.\(^58\)

\(^{58}\) For more information, see Section 4.1.4 of this study.
4.1. Asylum and migration

4.1.1. Entry procedures

Since Lithuania’s accession to the Schengen Area, entry of aliens has been subject to provisions of Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2006 establishing a Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code). A decision on admission of aliens to Lithuania is adopted by officers of the SBGS, and if aliens lodge applications for asylum at the border, a decision on their admission is adopted by civil servants of the MD.

Information about the conditions of entering Lithuania is provided by the SBGS and the MD, also on the websites of Lithuanian diplomatic missions and consular posts abroad.

4.1.2. Entry conditions

The procedures concerning entry of asylum seekers and the conditions of granting asylum have not undergone changes in Lithuania.

The amendments to the LLSA done in 2008 stipulate that free legal aid may be provided not only to asylum seekers, but also to the aliens whose refugee status or subsidiary protection has been withdrawn. In 2009, the Minister of the Interior issued an order specifying that provision of legal aid to asylum seekers and to the aliens whose international protection had been withdrawn must be ensured by the MD. The MD regularly concludes contracts on provision of legal aid with non-governmental organisations, which undertake to provide primary and secondary legal aid to aliens in asylum procedures.

The issues of refugees in Lithuania are also addressed by the Lithuanian Red Cross Society. On 22 November 2010, the MD entered with the Society into a co-operation agreement on the issues of asylum.

The number of applications for asylum in Lithuania, though fluctuating, remained at the same level. Russian citizens remained among the largest groups of asylum seekers, but their number was steadily decreasing. Since 2008, the number of asylum seekers from Georgia has significantly increased, despite rejection of their applications for asylum.

### Applications for asylum and decisions on granting of asylum in Lithuania during 2007-2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year (all citizenships), including</th>
<th>Applications for granting of asylum</th>
<th>Decisions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First-time</td>
<td>Repeated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Russia</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Georgia</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Russia</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Georgia</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Russia</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Georgia</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Russia</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Georgia</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Russia</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Procedures concerning immigration of other third-country nationals have neither been modified. On 1 April 2011, the new version of the visa rules\(^6\) entered into force. This version brought the national visa issuance procedure into compliance with Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 establishing a Community Code on Visas (Visa Code). The new version expands the list of conditions under which aliens may be issued multiple-entry national visas. According to the new version, a multiple-entry national visa may be issued in the following cases:

- student arriving in Lithuania for studies according to international student exchange programmes or the student exchange programmes drawn up by a higher education institution registered and operating in Lithuania and a foreign higher education institution;
- student who has been admitted to studies at a higher education institution registered and operating in Lithuania;
- alien coming to Lithuania for pedagogical work and/or for research and/or experimental development at research and higher education institutions, also to a family member accompanying the alien;
- professional sportsman or coach entering Lithuania to take up sports-related activities;
- artist entering Lithuania to take up professional activities;
- alien entering the Republic of Lithuania for work and holding a work permit in the Republic of Lithuania issued by the LLE;
- seafarer arriving to a ship flying the flag of the Republic of Lithuania;
- seafarer, where a ship, a member of the crew whereof the alien is, is undergoing repairs in Lithuania;
- journalist accredited with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania;
- alien who enters Lithuania on a periodical basis to work or to engage in any other lawful activity and whose main place of residence is in a foreign state;
- alien whose Schengen visa expires during the period of stay in Lithuania and cannot be extended according to Article 33 of the Visa Code or whose period of visa-free stay expires and who is not able to depart from the Republic of Lithuania for one of the following reasons: an illness, another acute health disorder or physical condition; a personal circumstance which the alien was not able to foresee; force majeure;
- in other cases, when his purpose of entry to Lithuania is a long stay in Lithuania.

For more information on Lithuania’s visa policy, please read the LT EMN NCP study “Visa policy and migration flows” (2011).

The procedures and grounds for issuing temporary residence permits have not changed since 2008 either. After decentralisation of adoption of decisions on the issuance of temporary residence permits under the 2009 amendments to the LLSA, the Minister of the Interior authorised on 4 July 2011...

2010 the MD and migration services to adopt decisions on replacement of temporary residence permits. Moreover, the rules for issuing residence permits were simplified, the number of documents to be submitted together with an application for the issuance of a residence permit was reduced.

Irrespective of all efforts to facilitate immigration procedures, immigration of aliens to Lithuania has begun to steadily decrease since the outbreak of the economic crisis.

**Entry of aliens to Lithuania during 2007-2011**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of issued national visas</td>
<td>6207</td>
<td>6649</td>
<td>3327</td>
<td>2520</td>
<td>3990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of issued temporary residence permits</td>
<td>8819</td>
<td>12392</td>
<td>11769</td>
<td>9657</td>
<td>10425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of issued permanent residence permits</td>
<td>746</td>
<td>723</td>
<td>588</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>513</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data of Migration Yearbooks* *Number of first-time permanent residence permits*

### 4.1.3. Legal residence

In this field, there have been any major institutional and procedural developments since 2008. Due to the economic crisis, the number of aliens residing in Lithuania has started to decrease.

**Number of aliens residing in Lithuania at the beginning of the year during 2006-2012 (thousands)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of residents, including:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- aliens</td>
<td>3 403.3</td>
<td>3 384.9</td>
<td>3 366.2</td>
<td>3 350.1</td>
<td>3 329.0</td>
<td>3 244.5</td>
<td>3 204.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- percentage of aliens (%)</td>
<td>35.3</td>
<td>33.1</td>
<td>33.4</td>
<td>32.9</td>
<td>32.5</td>
<td>29.6</td>
<td>31.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of residents, including:</td>
<td>1.04</td>
<td>0.98</td>
<td>0.99</td>
<td>0.98</td>
<td>0.98</td>
<td>0.91</td>
<td>0.98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data of the Migration Yearbook* *Data of the beginning of 2012 are preliminary*

### 4.1.4. Integration

Lithuania does not have a comprehensive programme for the integration of aliens. Neither is there a single institution responsible for the integration of aliens. Integration support is provided only to the aliens who have been granted international protection in Lithuania.

In Lithuania, the State provides support to the persons who have been granted asylum in Lithuania, regardless of the status of international protection which they have obtained. This support is provided only if the persons who have been granted asylum request it.

Provision of support is co-ordinated and supervised by the MSSL. The Department of Supervision of Social Services under the MSSL assesses the integration processes of the aliens who have been granted asylum, organises trainings of the persons working in the field of integration. The RRC carries out the integration of the persons who have been granted asylum and who are provided with accommodation at the RRC, while municipalities ensure further integration of the persons who have been granted asylum in the territory of the municipalities.

Provision of support for integration covers the following areas:

---

- Teaching of the state language;
- Education;
- Employment;
- Provision with residential premises;
- Social security;
- Health care.

Support for integration is provided at the RRC for a period of up to 8 months. If, for objective reasons, an alien does not manage in time to prepare for integration in a municipality, the duration of his integration is extended for a period of up to 12 months. In respect of vulnerable aliens, support for integration may be provided for a period of up to 18 months (in exceptional cases, support may be provided to minors until they attain the age of 18).

Upon completion of integration at the RRC, support for integration is further provided by municipalities. It is provided for a period of up to 12 months, unless the temporary residence permit of a person who has been granted protection is valid for a shorter period or the alien departs from Lithuania. If vulnerable aliens fail to integrate within 12 months, the period of integration may be extended, but not longer than for another 4 years.

### State support for integration of the persons who have been granted asylum during 2004-2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of persons received by the RRC</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of the aliens who have been granted asylum and receiving support for integration from municipalities</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>Data unavailable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Data of the RRC**

Lithuanian institutions do not implement programmes for integration of other aliens who have not applied for or have not been granted asylum in Lithuania. However, separate projects of information of aliens and the Lithuanian population and integration of aliens are carried out by non-governmental and other private organisations under the annual programmes of the European Fund for the Integration of Third Country Nationals.62

#### 4.1.5. Citizenship

On 2 December 2010, the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania passed the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Citizenship, which entered into force on 1 April 2011.63 Upon passing of this Law, the conditions of naturalisation have not changed: citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania may be granted to a permanent resident of Lithuania who has been permanently resident in Lithuania for 10 years, has passed an examination in the Lithuanian language and in the fundamentals of the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania, has legal means of subsistence. Spouses of Lithuanian citizens need to have been resident in Lithuania for a shorter period of time: 5 years for spouses of deportees, political prisoners or their children born in exile, 5 years for aliens who have lived in Lithuania for at least a year while being married to a citizen of Lithuania who later died, 7 years for other spouses of Lithuanian citizens.

---

Apart from naturalisation, the citizenship of Lithuania may be acquired by birth, by way of exception (for outstanding merits to Lithuania), on the grounds provided for by treaties. Moreover, citizenship may be restored (to those who previously lost citizenship of Lithuania) or granted under the simplified procedure (to persons of Lithuanian descent).

According to the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania, a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania may be a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania and another state only in exceptional cases. The new Law on Citizenship stipulates that the following citizens of Lithuania may have citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania and citizenship of another state:
- they have acquired citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania and citizenship of another state at birth and they have not reached 21 years of age;
- they are persons who were exiled from the occupied Republic of Lithuania before 11 March 1990 and acquired citizenship of another state or they are descendants of these persons (children, grandchildren or great grandchildren);
- they are persons who fled the Republic of Lithuania before 11 March 1990 and acquired citizenship of another state or they are descendants of these persons (children, grandchildren or great grandchildren);
- by virtue of marriage to a citizen of another state they have *ipso facto* acquired citizenship of that state;
- they are persons under 21 years of age, provided they were adopted by citizens (citizen) of Lithuania before reaching 18 years of age and, as a result of the adoption, acquired citizenship of Lithuania;64;
- they are persons under 21 years of age, provided they, being citizens of the Republic of Lithuania, were adopted by citizens (citizen) of another state before reaching 18 years of age and, as a result of the adoption, acquired citizenship of that state;
- they have acquired citizenship of Lithuania by way of exception while being citizens of another state;
- they have acquired citizenship of Lithuania while having refugee status in Lithuania.

Aliens must submit applications for the granting of citizenship of Lithuania to migration services, and if they reside abroad – to diplomatic missions of Lithuania or to the MD. Citizenship is granted and restored through naturalisation, under the simplified procedure or by way of exception by the President of the Republic of Lithuania, and the Citizenship Commission assists and consults him on these issues. Documents of aliens are submitted to the Citizenship Commission by the MD and migration services.

Other issues related to citizenship (reinstatement of citizenship, loss, acquisition of citizenship in certain cases, oath, etc.) are dealt with by the Minister of the Interior, the MD and migration services.

### Aliens granted Lithuanian citizenship during 2006-2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Former citizenship</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Russia</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- stateless persons</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Ukraine</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Belarus</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

64 Children adopted by Lithuanian citizens acquire the citizenship of Lithuania from the moment of adoption.
Data of the Migration Yearbook

4.1.6. Access to the labour market

The procedures for entering the country for the purposes of employment, undertaking employment upon entering Lithuania and issuing work permits have not changed since 2008, the functions of state institutions in this field have not changed either.

The LLE remains the main institution responsible for the issuance of work permits and supervision of the labour market. Control of illegal work – both by aliens, and Lithuanian citizens – is exercised by the State Labour Inspectorate under the MSSL, assisted by the police and other institutions.

Employment of aliens in Lithuania during 2007-2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>1st half of 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of work permits issued to aliens</td>
<td>5686</td>
<td>7819</td>
<td>2239</td>
<td>1808</td>
<td>3327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of identified cases of illegal work of aliens</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data of the State Labour Inspectorate under the MSSL and the LLE

4.1.7. Return

In the field of return of aliens, institutional responsibilities and procedures have not undergone any changes since 2008. The amendments to the LLSA adopted on 8 December 2011 harmonised the provisions of the LLSA with the provisions of Directive 2008/115/EC (Return Directive), but return procedures have not been substantially changed, and the competence of the institutions implementing these procedures remains unchanged.

In the field of return the following 3 types of decisions are adopted:

1) A decision to return (formerly the obligation to depart) – an alien is granted a period from 7 to 30 days (this period can be extended if necessary) to voluntarily depart from Lithuania. Just as prior to entry into force of these amendments, a period of voluntary departure is granted to the aliens who entered or settled in Lithuania legally, but later their stay or residence in Lithuania became illegal for various reasons. Just as previously, unaccompanied minor aliens are returned to a foreign state only when such a decision serves the best interests of the minors.

2) Obligation to depart – a version of the decision to return intended for the aliens entitled to reside or stay in another European Union Member State or a member country of the European Free Trade Association. These aliens will be granted a period of up to 30 days during which they can voluntarily depart from Lithuania to a Member State which they are entitled to enter for stay or residence (e.g., who have a residence permit or national visa issued by another European Union Member State or a member country of the European Free Trade Association).

---

65 This number does not reflect the total number of aliens working in Lithuania, because e.g. family members of aliens may work in Lithuania without a work permit.

66 These new amendments will enter into force on 1 February 2012 together with subordinate legal acts.
3) A decision to expel – a decision under which an alien is expelled from Lithuania. Just as previously, this decision is adopted in respect of the aliens who are illegally staying in Lithuania (who entered Lithuania without having the right to enter it). The aliens who fail to depart voluntarily within the voluntary departure period granted to them, and the aliens whose stay in Lithuania constitutes a threat to national security or public order will also be expelled.

The new amendments to the LLSA clearly specify also the maximum allowed period of detention of an alien for the purposes of expulsion – 6 months, with a possibility to extend the period of detention in certain cases for another 12 months. Moreover, the amendments introduce the maximum duration of the prohibition to enter Lithuania – 5 years – and specify the exceptional cases when aliens may be prohibited from entering Lithuania for a period exceeding 5 years (when an alien poses a threat to national security or public order).

| Aliens obliged to voluntarily depart from Lithuania and expelled during 2006-2011 |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
| Obliged to depart               | 1002 | 898  | 759  | 1035 | 1188 |
| Expelled                        | 149  | 147  | 123  | 144  | 137  |

*Data of the Migration Yearbook*

4.2. Links with other policy areas

Migration policy remains an area to which Lithuanian politicians do not devote much attention. Migration is viewed only as a secondary measure to meet the needs of the labour market or address demographic challenges. Therefore, links with migration in other policy areas, e.g., in the social, economic area, are not established. More attention is devoted only to emigration of Lithuanian citizens (e.g., in tax policy, foreign policy).

5. Analysis of asylum and migration systems

It has already been mentioned that in recent years, the legal acts of the European Union have been the main reason for amending national legal acts in the area of migration and asylum. Some EU legal acts have promoted or will promote the development of a more advanced system of migration and asylum management in Lithuania. For example, upon transposing the Blue Card Directive, a more flexible and faster entry scheme for highly qualified workers will be developed; upon transposing the Employer Sanctions Directive, more attention will be devoted to illegal work of aliens in Lithuania. Other EU legal acts have not brought major changes. Thus, for instance, the Return Directive has only slightly modified the return system currently applied to aliens.

Another reason for which legal acts were amended is the intention to facilitate the procedures related to migration, reduce the administrative burden on aliens and the natural or legal persons inviting them. In the future, the increasing number of services will be shifted to cyber space. Thus, it is currently possible to find in the Internet various application forms, letters of invitation for aliens to enter Lithuania already may be sent electronically; after the MD completes a state project whose implementation is about to commence, citizens and aliens will be notified electronically about the personal documents issued in Lithuania, about the expiry of certificates contained in the documents, will be able to pay online for the services rendered, will be able to consult a virtual consultant over the

---


issues related to migration. Moreover, electronic document management systems are already being introduced at state institutions, which will speed up the work of the state institutions.

Despite this progress, unresolved problems remain.

The principal systemic problem which needs to be solved without delay is the absence of a system of integration of aliens who have not applied for international protection in Lithuania. An institution which would be responsible for co-ordination of integration of aliens has not been appointed yet, national integration policy does not exist, and integration is implemented solely by non-governmental entities occasionally carrying out short-term integration projects. On the EU agenda, the issues of integration are increasingly becoming the focus of attention, hence there is a hope that discussions at the EU level will speed up the solution of this problem in Lithuania.

Since 2008, the problem of the relationship of migration services with the MD has remained unsolved. The National Audit Office of Lithuania established as early as in 2006 that ‘the possibilities of the MD to participate in organising the activities of migration services are limited, because territorial migration services are not subordinate to it; the migration services are a constituent part of the police, but the majority of the functions performed by these services are not related to implementation of the tasks assigned by laws to the police’ and recommended to search for possibilities to separate the functions, as performed by the migration services, which are not characteristic of the police and to develop a common system of planning of the activities of the institutions administering migration processes and assessment of their performance. However, this issue has so far not been addressed comprehensively: although the MI has consolidated political supervision of migration processes (the divisions in charge of these processes have been established at the MI), the MD has not been provided with the possibility of enhanced co-ordination of the activities of migration services.

The funding cut due to the economic crisis and expected to be further cut in the future has resulted in reduction of the number of staff dealing with migration processes at state institutions, shortage of resources for the performance of direct functions, which in the future may determine a weaker control of the migration processes, the growing dissatisfaction of the population with the work of the state institution.

---

69 Public Audit Report No VA-2040-21-3 “Administration of migration processes (management and organisation of activities of migration services of territorial police agencies)” of 15 May 2006 drawn up by the National Audit Office of Lithuania.
Scheme of migration institutions

Lithuania
Institutional Framework for immigration and asylum policies*

Ministry of Foreign affairs (UMM)
- Diplomatic missions
- Visas, development policy, relations with third countries
- Issue Schengen and national visas

Ministry of the Interior (VRM)
- Immigration policy, Illegal immigration, EU funds
- Organizes state regulation on migration

Ministry of Social Security and Labour (SADM)
- Labour market access, integration, social services, EU funds
- Analyses migration flows and labour migration needs
- Coordinates integration of aliens granted refugee status or subsidiary protection in Lithuania

State Border Guard service (VSAT)
- Border control, removal
- Implements state border control and exercises control of aliens entering Lithuania
- Issues Schengen visas (on border)
- Implements primary asylum granting procedure
- Implements expulsion of aliens from Lithuania

Police department (PD)
- Removals, control over legal stay
- Exercises control over legal stay of aliens

Migration Department (MD)
- Residence permit, asylum applications, visas, admission, citizenship, removal decision, statistics
- Issues Schengen and national visas
- Organizes issuance of various documents (residence permits, alien registration certificate, etc.)
- Resolves issues of Lithuanian citizenship
- Takes decisions regarding issuance of resident permits
- Implements asylum granting procedure
- Takes decision regarding return and expulsion, issues temporary travel documents
- Manages list of aliens who are forbidden to enter Lithuania

Lithuanian Labour Exchange (LCE)
- Work permits
- Issues work permits to aliens

Refugee reception centre (PRC)
- Unaccompanied minors, refugees
- Accommodates aliens who receive protection, as well as all unaccompanied minors
- Implements social integration of aliens to whom protection has been granted

Foreigners' registration centre (URC)
- Removals, accommodation
- Provides accommodation for illegal aliens
- Provides accommodation for aliens who have applied for asylum
- Implements expulsion of aliens from Lithuania

Judicial review
- Appeals
- Supreme administrative court (first instance)
- Supreme Administrative Court (second instance, final decision)

*Please note that this institutional chart provides an indicative overview of the asylum and migration system in the Member State concerned. As such, it does not represent its complete structure.
SOURCES

Legal acts
3. Law Amending Articles 2, 5, 8, 26, 32, 35, 40, 43, 46, 50, 53, 71, 72, 90, 99, 104, 113, 124, 125, 126, 127, 131, 133, 134, Section One of Chapter III and the Annex of the Law on the Legal Status of Aliens, Supplementing the Law with Article 49(2) and Repealing Article 7 (Official Gazette, No 22-803, 2008).
4. Law Amending Articles 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 21, 26, 34, 35, 43, 45, 51, 53, 62, 63, 64, 80, 81, 93, 101, 102, 106, 125 and 140(1) of the Law on the Legal Status of Aliens and Supplementing the Law with Article 141(1) (Official Gazette, No 93-3984, 2009).


42. State Border Guard Service under the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania
Commander Order No 4-1220 of 29 December 2007 on the Approval of the Regulations of the
Foreigners’ Registration Centre of the State Border Guard Service under the Ministry of the
Interior of the Republic of Lithuania (Official Gazette, No 5-180, 2008, in force until 31 January
2012).

Websites
1. http://www.lietuva.lt/

Other sources
   http://emn.intrasoft-intl.com/Downloads/prepareShowFiles.do;jsessionid=446490F23FBF5ACA6B4198442B64402
   D?entryTitle=07_The%20ORGANISATION%20OF%20Asylum%20and%20Migration%20POLICIES%20in%20the%20EU%20Member%20States.
2. Public Audit Report No VA-2040-21-3 “Administration of migration processes (management
   and organisation of activities of migration services of territorial police agencies)” of 15 May
   2006 drawn up by the National Audit Office of Lithuania.
3. Draft Law No XIP-2701 Amending Articles 1, 2 of the Law on the State Border and Protection
   Thereof and Supplementing the Law with Chapter VI.