

LITHUANIA

**Policy Target No. 1**

Enhancing efforts to identify victims and ensuring that they receive the necessary assistance, support and protection.

**Operational Goal:** Increase the number of identified victims in the International Child Sexual Exploitation images database (ICSE database) managed by INTERPOL by at least 10% yearly.

***A) Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report***

Officers of the Cyber Crime Investigation Board of the Lithuanian Criminal Police Bureau (hereinafter – LCPB CCIB) are provided with access to the ICSE database managed by Interpol. Three officers of the Board have graduated from the training concerning the work with the ICSE database.

***B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance***

Officers of the LCPB CCIB grew in specific knowledge and experience concerning identifying victims and providing necessary assistance. The access to the ICSE database enable faster and more efficient data collection in order to identify victims and provide them immediate complex assistance.

***C) Please indicate specific actions that your country will undertake as a follow-up***

1. Another officer of the LCPB CCIB is intended to be trained to work with the ICSE database at the training of Interpol on 1-3 July 2014 in Lyon (France).
2. It is planned to create a national database for combating child sexual exploitation that will be linked to the Interpol database ICSE in 2015.

**Policy Target No. 2**

Enhancing efforts to investigate cases of child sexual abuse online and to identify and prosecute offenders.

**Operational Goal:** Establish the necessary framework for the criminalization of child sexual abuse online and the effective prosecution of offenders, with the objective of enhancing efforts to investigate and prosecute offenders.

**Operational Goal:** Improve the joint efforts of law enforcement authorities across Global Alliance countries to investigate and prosecute child sexual abuse online.

1. Since 2013, Lithuania has fully implemented the European Parliament and the Council Directive 2011/92/EU on combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child pornography, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2004/68/JHA. Lithuanian Parliament has adopted the amendments to the Criminal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure that were necessary to comply with the Directive. National legal provisions transposing the Directive have been notified to the Commission accordingly.

2. On 21-29 October 2013 officer of the LCPB CCIB participated in the annual Europol training course on “Combating the Sexual Exploitation of Children on the Internet” (COSEC), held in Selm, Germany, at the LAFP-NRW Police Academy.

3. On 15 November 2013, the Prosecutor General’s Office together with the Lithuanian Police Training Centre organised common trainings for specialised prosecutors, judges and pre-trial investigation officers on issues related to sexual exploitation of children. 44 prosecutors and 26 police officers of the LCPB CCIB and local police agencies working to combat child sexual exploitation on the Internet were trained. Trainings include these topics: child sexual exploitation on the Internet, the child's participation in the criminal process, the recognition of sexual abuse of children, inter-institutional cooperation, etc.

***B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance***

1. Competent authorities consider that with recent amendments of the Criminal Code necessary framework for the criminalization of child sexual abuse online and prosecution of offenders is already in place and it will allow investigating and prosecuting offenders more effectively.

2. The strengthening of capacity of law enforcement officers to investigate cases of child sexual abuse online is one of the most important priority issues at LCPB CCIB.

***C) Please indicate specific actions that your country will undertake as a follow-up***

1. Two officers of the LCPB CCIB responsible for combating child sexual exploitation on the Internet will participate in the annual Europol training course on “Combating the Sexual Exploitation of Children on the Internet”, held in Selm, Germany on 6-14 October 2014.

2. LCPB submitted an application under No. PA-GRO-521 according to the Nordic-Baltic Mobility Programme for Public Administration for the project "Combating child sexual exploitation on the Internet". Implementing this project in August - September 2014, four officers of the LCPB CCIB will be visiting the law enforcement institutions of Norway and Sweden to participate in meetings with officers of divisions investigating facts of sexual exploitation of children online. The purpose of the visits is to exchange in best practice, experience in research and establish direct contacts, in addition to overall improvement of international cooperation in this area.

### **Policy Target No. 3**

Enhancing efforts to increase public awareness of the risks posed by children's activities online, including grooming and self-production of images that results in the production of new child pornography that may be distributed online.

**Operational Goal:** Develop, improve, or support appropriate public awareness campaigns or other measures which educate parents, children, and others responsible for children regarding the risks that children's online conduct poses and the steps they can take to minimize those risks.

**Operational Goal:** Share best practices among Global Alliance countries for effective strategies to inform the public about the risks posed by online, self-exploitative conduct in order to reduce the production of new child pornography.

#### ***A) Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report***

1. The General Prosecutor's Office participated as a partner for a social campaign about the safety of children online "You never know who is on the other side" initiated by the Children Support Centre. This social campaign is part of the project implemented by the Children Support Centre "Prevention and Intervention into sexual exploitation of children". The project is supported by the crime prevention programme of the Directorate-General of Internal Affairs of the European Commission. The purpose of this campaign is to draw the attention of children to threats posed by communication on internet and meetings in real life and enhance the safety of children and teenagers on internet. The campaign has been designed to children, teenagers and adults having or working with children.

2. While discussing the implementation of this target "Safer Internet" should be mentioned. It is a programme aimed at illegal and harmful information on the Internet, related to such criminal offences specified in legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania as pornography, paedophilia, racism and xenophobia. A great deal of attention is particularly focussed on children and teenagers seeking to protect them from harmful Internet content. The programme is aimed at encouraging children to participate in various events and competitions ([http://www.draugiskasinternetas.lt/lt/main/events/saugus\\_internete](http://www.draugiskasinternetas.lt/lt/main/events/saugus_internete)). Children are taught on safe behaviour in the Internet. A great deal of educational material is announced on the website of the Internet project "Safer Internet" [www.draugiskasinternetas.lt](http://www.draugiskasinternetas.lt). For that purpose, a documentary movie "The Web" ([games1.one.lt/tinklas/](http://games1.one.lt/tinklas/)) has been created, various leaflets have been published, as well as tours across Lithuania have been organised by the Safer Internet Academy ([www.draugiskasinternetas.lt/lt/adult/kas\\_naujo?id=9729](http://www.draugiskasinternetas.lt/lt/adult/kas_naujo?id=9729)). There is also a youth forum of the Safer Internet (<http://www.draugiskasinternetas.lt/lt/youth/news?id=9404>). In

addition, children are encouraged to report illegal Internet content via “Hot Line”, which is an effective measure helping prevent sexual exploitation of children and sexual abuse by removing pornography content from the Internet, reporting pornographic or paedophilic Internet content to competent law enforcement institutions.

3. The Lithuanian press is regularly informed about the process, events and results of the project “Safer Internet”. In addition, it announces a great deal of information on various researches, accidents related to Internet sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of girls and boys. Mass media also provides a great deal of information on the ways how to protect children from sexual exploitation and abuse on the Internet. It should be noted that mass media in Lithuania is independent and acts in accordance with the principle of freedom of press stipulated in Article 25 of the Constitution: “The human being shall have the right to have his own convictions and freely express them. The human being must not be hindered from seeking, receiving and imparting information and ideas. Freedom to express convictions, to receive and impart information may not be limited otherwise than by law“, for example, Section II of the Law on Provision of Information to the Public regulating freedom to receive and provide information, and other legal acts.

***B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance***

Comprehensive approach of informational campaigns towards the risks posed by online first off all was addressed for the most vulnerable end users of internet – children and teenagers. However, parents and teachers were widely informed about variety of possibilities to **control and supervise** activities of infants at the internet and protect their children. Children, parents or any other internet user can report anonymously about the noticed threats.

Mentioned measures helped to raise awareness about the threats in the internet. Secondly, it involves the users of internet to participate actively making internet safer, especially for children.

***C) Please indicate specific actions that your country will undertake as a follow-up***

No further follow-up measures foreseen at the moment.

**Policy Target No. 4**

Reducing as much as possible the availability of child pornography online and reducing as much as possible the re-victimization of children whose sexual abuse is depicted.

**Operational Goal:** Encourage participation by the private sector in identifying and removing known child pornography material located in the relevant State, including increasing as much as possible the volume of system data examined for child pornography images.

***A) Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report***

1. The project "Safer Internet" is aimed not only at informing on sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children by using Internet technologies, but also at involving children, civil society into the fight against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children on the Internet." Private sector subjects, i.e. such companies as UAB "Microsoft Lietuva", the portal [www.one.lt](http://www.one.lt), AB TEO, LT and UAB "Omnitel", as well as such associations as "Langas į ateitį" and "Infobalt" and other companies and organisations (<http://www.draugiskasinternetas.lt/lt/main/program/partneriai>) are partners of the project "Safer Internet" and contribute a lot to the organization of various events and preparation of various measures of this project, which are aimed at encouraging civil society to participate in the implementation of this project (for example, people are encouraged to report illegal Internet content via the hot line, various Safer Internet Day events are organized).

2. The website of the internet hotline at [www.draugiskasinternetas.lt](http://www.draugiskasinternetas.lt) offers a facility to notify of any cases of sexual exploitation of children noticed on the Internet. In fulfilling its functions related to the hotline and obligations under the agreements with the Police Department under the Ministry of the Interior, and the Service of the Ombudsman of Journalists' Ethics the CRA communicates any notices received about illegal contents on Internet to the institutions concerned. The cooperation agreement between the CRA and the Police Department under the Ministry of the Interior provides for the Notice and Take Down Procedure (NTD). The Police Department under the Ministry of the Interior provides to the CRA on a quarterly basis reports on the investigation of the notices received by the hotline.

***B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance***

It is too short period to measure the progress reaching this operational goal.

***C) Please indicate specific actions that your country will undertake as a follow-up***

1. It should be noted that the Ministry of Social Security and Labour, while planning the European Union structural support project “Child Rights Protection 2014–2020”, specified the investing priority “8.4. Increase of Possibilities for Receiving Affordable, Sustainable and High Quality Services, including Health Care and Universally Important Services”. The objective of the implementation of this priority is to encourage the private sector, especially sectors of information and communication technologies, tourism and travel, banking and finance, as well as the civil society to participate in the preparation and implementation of the policy aimed at preventing sexual exploitation of children and sexual violence against children through the implementation of the provisions of the Lanzarote Convention. The accomplishment of this objective is planned to be implemented through the following measures: “Use of Information Technologies and Other Initiatives in Order to Prevent Sexual Exploitation of Children and Sexual Violence”. It is expected that the accomplishment of these measures will result in development of special services for children who have suffered sexual exploitation and sexual abuse in Lithuania.

2. According to the data provided by the Lithuanian Communications Regulatory Authority the authority plans in 2014 to initiate the signing of the Code of Ethics of internet service providers, that will provide for the Notice and Takedown procedure.

**Operational Goal:** Increase the speed of notice and takedown procedures as much as possible without jeopardizing criminal investigation.

**A) *Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report***

The Prosecutor's Office strategic operational plan for 2013–2015 ([www.prokuraturos.lt](http://www.prokuraturos.lt)) was approved by Order No. I-36 on 8 February 2013 of the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Lithuania, which specifies criminal prosecution for sexual exploitation of children as a priority:

*“Sexual exploitation is the gravest form of violence against children causing most severe consequences for the subsequent development of the child. Therefore, timely identification of a fact of sexual violence or sexual exploitation of a child and prevention of other similar criminal acts are very important. The measure of criminal prosecution for criminal acts with regard to sexual violence or exploitation of children is a consistent continuation of previously implemented measures. The goal of this measure is to intensify pre-trial investigation; to shorten the term for collection of the material necessary for forensic analysis and initiation of forensic analysis; to implement the principle of “one” interrogation of a child; to reduce the share of pre-trial investigations accomplished within a period lasting for more than 12 months; the share of annulled orders to launch a pre-trial investigation (%); the share of annulled orders to suspend a pre-trial investigation on non-rehabilitating grounds; to increase the ratio of investigated criminal acts of this type by taking the case to court with regard to all registered criminal acts of this category; to ensure that prosecutors bring claims for indemnification of non-material damage; general trainings of investigators and prosecutors; to ensure the presence of a psychologist in the course of the child interrogation.”*

**B) *Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance***

Investigation of sexual exploitation of children is set as one of priorities of law enforcement activities.

**C) *Please indicate specific actions that will be undertaken as a follow-up***

In order to achieve efficient results in the field of criminal prosecution of criminal acts related to sexual exploitation of children, the Prosecutor's Office strategic operational plan for 2013–2015 targets for an increase in the number of pre-trial investigations of these types of criminal acts accomplished within 4 months from 42 % to 46 % in 2014, and a decrease in the number of pre-trial investigation lasting for more than 24 months from 8 % to 6 %.