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**Lithuania
and
Italy**

Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the Italian Republic concerning cooperation in the field of defence. Venice, 27 March 1999

Entry into force: *28 August 2008 by notification, in accordance with article 9*

Authentic texts: *English, Italian and Lithuanian*

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**Lituanie
et
Italie**

Accord entre le Gouvernement de la République de Lituanie et le Gouvernement de la République italienne relatif à la coopération dans le domaine de la défense. Venise, 27 mars 1999

Entrée en vigueur : *28 août 2008 par notification, conformément à l'article 9*

Textes authentiques : *anglais, italien et lituanien*

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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

**Agreement between the
Government of the Republic of Lithuania
and the
Government of the Italian Republic
concerning cooperation in the field of Defence**

The Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the Italian Republic, hereafter referred to as the "Parties":

- confirming their commitment to the Charter of the United Nations;
- recognising that the principles and the intentions of the Charter of Paris for a new Europe, the Vienna Document of 1994, the "Conventional Forces in Europe" Treaty and the "Partnership for Peace" are a turning point in the history of Europe;
- considering the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation the pillar of stability and security;
- aiming at increasing contacts and mutual understanding between the Armed Forces of the Republic of Lithuania and the Armed Forces of the Italian Republic;

hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The Parties will operate in concert and in accordance with their respective laws and international commitments in order to encourage, facilitate and develop co-operation in the field of defence, on a mutual basis.

ARTICLE 2

The organisation and the conduct of concrete co-operation activities in the defence field will be carried out by the Ministry of National Defence of the Republic of Lithuania and the Ministry of Defence of the Italian Republic.

Possible consultations of the Parties' representatives will be conducted alternatively in Vilnius and in Rome in order to draw up and agree, if advisable and subject to bilateral approval, possible specific arrangements to supplement and complete this Agreement, as well as possible co-operation programmes between the Armed Forces of the Republic of Lithuania and the Armed Forces of the Italian Republic.

Activities, modalities, times and places will be specified in the above mentioned Programme.

ARTICLE 3

Co-operation between the Parties will take place in the following sectors:

1. defence security and policy;
2. defence industry and procurement policy which is subordinated by the Ministries of Defence;
3. functioning of the armed forces in a democratic society, including legal aspects;
4. peacekeeping and humanitarian operations;
5. compliance with the international treaties on defence, security and arms control;
6. armed forces organisation, structure and equipment of military units, personnel management;
7. formation/training;
8. environmental issues and pollution caused by military facilities;
9. military medical service;
10. military history;
11. military sport.

Military co-operation will not be limited to the above mentioned sectors. Actually, the Parties will seek new co-operation fields of mutual interest.

ARTICLE 4

Co-operation between the Parties will develop as follows:

meetings of the Ministers of Defence, Commanders in chief, their deputies and other officials authorised by the Parties;

exchange of experiences between the experts of the two Parties;

organisation and implementation of common activities within the Partnership for Peace;

participation of observers in military exercises;

contacts between similar military institutions;

discussions, consultations, meetings and participation in symposiums, conferences, courses;

visits to military ships, aircraft and other structures;

exchange of information and educational publications;

exchange of cultural and sporting activities.

ARTICLE 5

Possible co-operation activities will be funded on a mutual basis and in compliance with article 2 of this agreement, in particular:

the sending Party will pay:

the travelling expenses of its personnel as far as the established point of entry into the host country and back;

the relevant pays and any other allowance due to these personnel under their own regulations;

the host Party will pay:

military transportation from the established point of entry into its own territory, food and board, if available in military facilities, as well as planned activities.

This general principle of reciprocity will not be applicable to groups larger than 10 persons. Funding procedures relevant to these groups will be established on a case-by-case basis by mutual agreement between the Parties.

Successive specific arrangements will regulate the financial aspects including, among other things, specific cost-sharing provisions relevant to the exchange of personnel and the attendance of courses by students of one Party.

The respective laws of the Parties regulate medical assistance and relevant expenses on the territory. In particular, the sending Party will pay health or accident insurance in addition to the expenses for the repatriation of the sick person.

Should one of the Parties send a delegation outside the framework of this Agreement, the Party concerned will pay all the relevant expenses.

ARTICLE 6

Each Party will guarantee the secure handling of any classified material, projects, drawings, specifications and information received under this Agreement. Each Party will afford them no lower degree of security protection than that assigned by the originating Party and will take all the necessary measures to keep such material and information classified as long as requested by the originating Party.

Classified information, document and/or material means any support containing classified information and any communication made under any circumstances and by any means containing such information.

The Parties will ensure that the documents, material and information exchanged under this agreement will be only used for the purposes specifically agreed by the Parties and within the scope of this agreement.

The transfer to third parties of information, documents, technical data and materials, whether classified or unclassified, made available under this agreement, will be subject to prior written approval of the originating government or bodies, unless otherwise specifically agreed between the Parties.

The information obtained during the co-operation will not be used to prejudice the interests of the Parties.

Should classified information be exchanged under this agreement between industries and/or bodies other than the Parties, the responsible authorities of the two countries will conclude separate agreements.

Pending the conclusion of such agreements, the security provisions of this Agreement will cover also the classified information exchanged during contractual negotiations.

A Governmental Agreement will cover all issues concerning handling, corresponding degrees and protection of classified information.

ARTICLE 7

The exchange of information for the implementation of this Agreement will take place through the respective Embassies.

ARTICLE 8

Disputes on the interpretation and implementation of this Agreement will be settled through negotiations between the Parties.