

Distr.: General
30 June 2025
Arabic
Original: English



رسالة مؤرخة 27 حزيران/يونيه 2025 موجهة إلى رئيسة مجلس الأمن من الممثل الدائم لليتوانيا لدى الأمم المتحدة

يشرفني أن أحيل إليكم طيه رسالة من رئيس جمهورية ليتوانيا (انظر المرفق)، مشفوعة بصك انسحاب جمهورية ليتوانيا من اتفاقية حظر استعمال وتخزين وإنتاج ونقل الألغام المضادة للأفراد، وتدمير تلك الألغام، المبرمة في أوسلو في 18 أيلول/سبتمبر 1997، وفقاً للمادة 20 من الاتفاقية المذكورة. وأود أيضاً أن أبلغكم بأن صك الانسحاب يجري إبلاغه في الوقت نفسه إلى جميع الدول الأطراف في الاتفاقية المذكورة والوديع لها. وأرجو ممتناً تعميم هذه الرسالة ومرفقها على أعضاء مجلس الأمن وإصدارهما باعتبارهما وثيقة من وثائق المجلس.

(توقيع) ريتيس باولاوسكاس
السفير فوق العادة والمفوض
الممثل الدائم لجمهورية ليتوانيا لدى الأمم المتحدة



مرفق الرسالة المؤرخة 27 حزيران/يونيه 2025 الموجهة إلى رئيسة مجلس الأمن من
الممثل الدائم لليتوانيا لدى الأمم المتحدة

باسم جمهورية ليتوانيا، يشرفني أن أقدم صك انسحاب جمهورية ليتوانيا من اتفاقية حظر استعمال وتخزين وإنتاج ونقل الألغام المضادة للأفراد، وتدمير تلك الألغام، المبرمة في أوسلو في 18 أيلول/سبتمبر 1997، والذي يتضمن، وفقاً للمادة 20 من الاتفاقية المذكورة، شرحاً وافياً للأسباب التي دفعت إلى الانسحاب (انظر الضميمة)*.

(توقيع) غيتاناس نوسيدا

* تعمم باللغة التي قُيِّمت بها فقط.

INSTRUMENT OF WITHDRAWAL

WHEREAS the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction was done at Oslo on 18 September 1997,

AND WHEREAS, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction was signed on behalf of the Republic of Lithuania on 26 February 1999 and the Instrument of Ratification of the Republic of Lithuania to the Convention was deposited on 12 May 2003,

AND WHEREAS the Republic of Lithuania has reconsidered its position with respect to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, for reasons that include:

- Since Lithuania became a State Party to the Convention in 2003, the regional security situation has fundamentally deteriorated and military threats to Lithuania's national security have significantly increased. The Russian Federation continues its illegal war of aggression against Ukraine and, alongside its accomplices, poses an existential threat to its regional neighbors. Russia is also violating its international obligations, using military aggression to achieve its goals, and disregarding international law, including the fundamental principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter. Under these circumstances, Lithuania is taking decisions that are necessary to strengthen its deterrence and defense capabilities and to protect its population, to safeguard its territorial integrity, national sovereignty and independence. The decision to withdraw from the Convention has been reached after a detailed reassessment of Lithuania's national security needs and extensive consultations both nationally and with Lithuania's regional partners.

.../...

- While reaffirming its commitment to the humanitarian objectives of the Convention, Lithuania has concluded that anti-personnel mines are important tools for conventional warfare. Anti-personnel mines, if used alongside other mines and weapon systems, would enhance the ability of the Lithuanian Armed Forces to effectively restrict enemy invasion and movement on the territory of Lithuania and enhance deterrence vis-à-vis potential aggressors. Additionally, anti-personnel mines would serve as a tool to reinforce counter mobility lines composed of various physical barriers and other elements. Moreover, the use of anti-personnel mines would exert psychological pressure on enemy forces before and during combat, leading to fatigue and reduced discipline of enemy forces.
- Lithuania recognizes that there are no guarantees that anti-personnel mines would not be used on the territory of a State Party. The Russian Federation, which has not signed and ratified the Convention, has initiated an illegal war of aggression against Ukraine, in violation of the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter. Even though Ukraine is a State Party to the Convention, the aggressor Russia has nonetheless extensively used various types of anti-personnel mines on the territory of Ukraine. In its use of anti-personnel mines, Russia has also violated the key principles of International Humanitarian Law (IHL): distinction, proportionality and precautions in attack.

- Despite its withdrawal from the Convention, Lithuania confirms its unwavering commitment to fully comply with its obligations under IHL, including customary IHL and the IHL treaties to which Lithuania is a State Party. This includes, without being limited to, the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, the Arms Trade Treaty, and the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, including its Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996.
- In line with its obligations under IHL, Lithuania is committed to take all feasible precautions to protect civilians from the effects of anti-personnel mines. Such precautions include, without being limited to, the use of fencing, signs, warning and monitoring by military personnel to protect civilians. Lithuania also intends to record all the necessary information concerning mine-affected areas and start demining activities without delay after the cessation of active hostilities.
- Lithuania remains highly supportive of international cooperation and assistance to address the humanitarian implications of mines and explosive remnants of war, as evidenced by the Demining Capability Coalition for Ukraine, co-led by Lithuania and another State.

../..

NOW THEREFORE, I, Gitanas Nausėda, President of the Republic of Lithuania, hereby formally declare that the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, having considered the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, done at Oslo on 18 September 1997, and the reasons above, decided to denounce the said Convention, and in accordance with the provisions outlined in Article 20 of the Convention, the Republic of Lithuania withdraws from the Convention.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have signed this Instrument of Withdrawal and affixed the seal of the President of the Republic of Lithuania.

DONE at Vilnius on 21 May 2025.

Gitanas NAUSĖDA

Kęstutis BUDRYS
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania