



PENNSYLVANIA - LITHUANIA 1993-2013



President: Dalia Grybauskaitė
 Prime Min.: Algirdas Butkevicius
 MoD: Juozas Olekas
 Amb. to US: Elin Suleymanov
 US Amb: Deborah Ann McCarthy
 TAG: MG Wesley E. Craig

NATO member: Yes (2004)

EU member: Yes (2004)

ISAF Pax: 240 (1/1/13)

2012 SPP Engagements: 12

Population: 7.0M (2012 est.)
 Area: slightly larger than Tennessee
 Military Expend.: 1.3% GDP (2010 est.)



Photo by U.S. Air Force

Overview

The Pennsylvania-Lithuania National Guard Partnership is one of 22 European partnerships that make-up the U.S. European Command State Partnership Program and one of 65 worldwide partnerships that make-up the National Guard State Partnership Program.

Partnership History

- Declared Independence in 1991.
- Established State Partnership Program on April 27, 1993.
- EU and NATO accession in 2004
- Lithuania cooperates with Estonia and Latvia in several joint military exercises. (SABRE STRIKE, AMBER HOPE)
- Lithuania's niche capability for NATO is water purification. They have a significant interest in the development of an Energy Security Center of Excellence.
- Lithuania hosts the Baltic Air Policing Mission at Šiauliai International Airport.

Partnership History

The #1 defense priority of Lithuania is Energy Security. Other focus areas include Cyber Defense and NATO participation (both ISAF and exercises).

Military to Military:

- Continue to participate in expeditionary operations and ISAF.
- Develop new and capable interagency partnerships.
- Continue to assist Lithuania to prioritize their support of international operations and foster the continued co-deployments with PANG units.

Future Years Proposed Events:

- SABRE STRIKE 2013 (Lithuania) – USAREUR has asked PA to provide the HICON, light infantry platoon and artillery SMEs to support the exercise.
- AMBER HOPE 2014
- VIGILANT GUARD 2014
- PA Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) – Building Partnership Capacity for Crisis Response



Photo by Capt. Elizabeth Culbarson



"The Soldiers, Airmen and civilian employees of the Pennsylvania National Guard are prouder than ever of the relationship that we have fostered with our Lithuanian partners; we look forward to making that relationship even stronger in the years to come." - MG Jessica Wright, former Adjutant General, Pennsylvania National Guard

