Last update: 04 May 2017

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON LITHUANIA / UNESCO COOPERATION

- 1. Membership in UNESCO: since 7 October 1991.
- 2. Membership on the Executive Board: Lithuania was elected to the Executive Board for the period 2015-2019. Elected as Vice-Chairperson of Group II during 38th session of the General Conference.

3. Membership on Intergovernmental Committees, Commissions, etc.:

- Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation; Rapporteur: H.E. Mr Arūnas Gelūnas (term expires in 2017)
- Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee; Bureau Member (term expires in 2017)
- Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programs; Member (term expires in 2017)
- Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. Member (term expires in 2017).

4. The former Director-General's visits to Lithuania: 2

- 8-9 July 2006: Official visit
- 22-24 April 2001: to combine his participation in the Conference with an official visit to Lithuania

5. Permanent Delegation to UNESCO:

- Mr Jonas Skardinskas, Minister Plenipotentiary, Chargé d'Affaires a.i. (07 March 2017)
- Staff: Ms Kristina Tamosaityte, Second Secretary; Ms Ringaile Kuokstyte, Third Secretary
- Previous Permanent Delegates: H.E. Mr Arūnas Gelūnas (December 2012-November 2016); H.E. Ms Ina Marčiulionytė (January 2003 January 2010); H.E. Ms Ugné Karvelis (November 1993 March 2002)
- 6. UNESCO Office: none

7. Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO:

- Date of establishment: February 1992
- Chairperson: Mr Romas Pakalnis (since February 2009)
- Secretary-General: Ms Asta Junevičiené (since August 2015)

8. Lithuanian personalities linked to UNESCO activities:

- Ms Violeta Urmana, UNESCO artist for peace
- Mr Valdas Adamkus, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for the Construction of Knowledge Societies
- Mr Virgilijus Alekna, UNESCO Champion for Sport

9. UNESCO Chairs: 3

- UNESCO Chair in Interdisciplinary Mechatronics, established at the Kaunas University of Technology (2006), the Kaunas University of Technology, Kaunas (729)
- UNESCO Chair in Cultural Policy and Cultural Management, established at the Vilnius Academy of Fine Arts (1998)
- UNESCO Chair in Informatics for the Humanities, established at the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics within the framework of ORBICOM (1994)
- **10. Associated Schools:** 35 (6 primary, 13 primary and secondary, 15 secondary, and 1 vocational and technical). Lithuania joined the ASPnet in 1985.
- 11. Category 2 Institutes and Centres: none
- 12. UNESCO Clubs: 5

13. Biosphere Reserves: 1

Zuvintas (2011)

14. World Heritage Sites: 4 cultural sites

- Struve Geodetic Arc (shared with Belarus, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Norway, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Sweden, Ukraine) (2005)
- Kernavė Archaeological Site (Cultural Reserve of Kernavė)(2004)
- Curonian Spit (jointly with the Russian Federation) (2000)
- Vilnius Historic Centre (1994)

15. Tentative List: 2

- Trakai Historical National Park (2003)
- Kaunas 1919-1939: The Capital Inspired by the Modern Movement (2017)

16. Intangible Heritage Lists: 3 elements inscribed

- Sutartinės, Lithuanian multipart songs (2010)
- Cross Crafting and its Symbolism (2008)
- The Baltic Song and Dance Celebrations (jointly with Estonia and Latvia) (2008)

17. Memory of the World Register: 2

- Radzwills' Archives and Niasvizh (Nieśwież) Library Collection (submitted by Belarus in cooperation with Lithuania, Finland, Poland, Russian Federation and Ukraine) (2009)
- The Baltic Way Human Chain Linking Three States in Their Drive for Freedom submitted by Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania (2009)

18. Creative Cities Network: 1

Kaunas, a UNESCO Creative City of Design (2015)

19. Legal instruments: 19 ratified and 21 non-ratified

- International Convention against Doping in Sport: ratification (2 August 2006)
- Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage: <u>ratification</u> (12 June 2006)
- Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: <u>ratification</u> (21 January 2005). *Lithuania was the second European Member State (after Latvia) to have ratified the convention.*
- Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions: accession (18 December 2006)

20. Anniversaries with which UNESCO is associated in 2016-2017: 1

 100th anniversary of the birth of Algirdas Julius Greimas, linguist (1917-1992) (with the support of Estonia, France and Mexico)

21. Participation Programme:

- 2016-2017: 1 project approved for a total amount of US\$ 20,000
- 2014-2015: 4 projects approved for a total amount of US\$ 51,504
- 2010-2011: requests approved for a total amount of US\$ 102,000
- 2008-2009: 4 requests approved for a total amount of US\$67,500

22. Fellowships Programme:

- 1 fellowship awarded since 2010, for a total amount of US\$ 8,000.
- 5 fellowships awarded since 2004, for US\$44,500

23. NGOs in Official Partnership with UNESCO: none

24. Payment of assessed membership fees for 2016-2017: fully paid

- Assessment rate for 2016/2017: 0.072%
- Contributions assessed for 2016/2017: US\$470,160

25. Voluntary contributions (expressed in US\$):

| Year | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| Total | 22,635 | 2,714 | 7,149 | 9,177 | 4,244 | 4,244 | 5,244 | 967 |

26. Representation within the Secretariat: normally represented 3 International professional staff in geographical posts (min 2, max 4)