



**LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS SEIMO KONTROLIERIŲ ĮSTAIGA**  
**THE SEIMAS OMBUDSMEN'S OFFICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**

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To: Ms Imma Guerras-Delgado  
Advisor on Child Rights  
Office of the High Commissioner  
for Human Rights (OHCHR)

2013-11-13 No. 1/3D- 3241

Dear Ms Guerras-Delgado,

On 9 October 2013, the head of the Seimas Ombudsmen's Office of the Republic of Lithuania, the Seimas Ombudsman Dr. Augustinas Normantas received a letter from Noris Liza-Doyen, Programme Assistant at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, asking to contribute with information to the OHCHR Report on Birth Registration.

The Seimas Ombudsmen's Office is a Constitutional institution. The Seimas Ombudsmen are the principal constitutional officials, who are vested with the competence to protect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms. We are pleased to get your inquiry and will gladly provide information we have.

As regards birth registration and possession of documentary proof of birth, we must note that the legal regulation – the Civil Code of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter referred to as „the Code“) and the Rules of Civil Registration, adopted by the order of the Minister of Justice of 19 May 2006, No. 1R-160 (hereinafter referred to as „the Rules“) – provide for accessible, simple and expeditious procedures without discrimination of any kind and at no charge.

According to article 2.18 paragraph 1 of the Code, the state compulsorily registers the birth of a person as an act of civil status. The acts of civil status are registered by civil registry offices which make appropriate records and issue the certificates of the record of an appropriate act (article 2.19 paragraph 1 of the Code). The birth of a child is recorded in the civil registry office of the place he was born or of the residency of his parents or one of them (article 3.289 paragraph 1 of the Code). Parents or one of the parents declare about the birth of a child orally or in writing. If the parents are sick, dead or for other reasons can not do so, the birth of a child can be declared by relatives, neighbors, the administration of the medical institution where the mother gave birth to a child, as well as the state institution of child protection (article 3.290 paragraph 1 of the Code). The record about the birth of a child must be made within 3 months from his birth (if the child was born dead – within three days from the time of birth). If the child is found, his birth registration must be recorded within three days after the child was found (article 3.291 of the Code). After registration of the child's birth, a birth certificate is issued (article 3.292 paragraph 4 of the Code).

The Rules provide that if the application for registration of birth is received after the deadline mentioned above, the child's birth is registered in accordance with the Rules. Under article 40 of the Rules, if a parent (or both parents) of a child, born after 11 March 1990, is a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania and the birth of this child was registered in a foreign institution, the parents must register his birth in a local civil registry office. A person, who was born abroad before 11 March