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# Lituania

## **Constitution, Article 25**

- 1) Individuals shall have the right to have their own convictions and freely express them.
- 2) Individuals must not be hindered from seeking, obtaining, or disseminating information or ideas.
- 3) Freedom to express convictions, as well as to obtain and disseminate information, may not be restricted in any way other than as established by law, when it is necessary for the safeguard of the health, honour and dignity, private life, or morals of a person, or for the protection of constitutional order.
- 4) Freedom to express convictions or impart information shall be incompatible with criminal actions - the instigation of national, racial, religious, or social hatred, violence, or
- 5) discrimination, the dissemination of slander, or misinformation.

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6) Citizens shall have the right to obtain any available information which concerns them from State agencies in the manner established by law.

**Constitution, Article 27**

A person's convictions, professed religion or faith may justify neither the commission of a crime nor the violation of law.

**Criminal Code, § 170**

*“Any person who by public statements orally, in writing or through mass media mocks, expresses contempt, incites hatred or discrimination against a group of people or an individual belonging to such group on account of their sex, sexual orientation, race, nationality, language, origin, social status, religion, conviction or belief, shall be punished by fine or restriction of freedom, or arrest, or imprisonment up to 2 years.*

*Any person who publicly incites violence or use of deadly physical force against a group of people or an individual belonging to such group on account of their sex, sexual orientation, race, nationality, language, origin, social status, religion, conviction or belief, or provides financial or other kind of material support for such acts, shall be punished by a fine or restriction of freedom, or arrest, or imprisonment up to 3 years.”*

***The Law of the Republic of Lithuania of 18th November 1997 on the Supplementation of the Code of Administrative Violations by Articles 214(12), 214(13), the Abolition of Article 214(1) and Amendment of Articles 224, 259(1), 32033 introduced definitions of unlawful conduct related to public advocacy of national, racial or religious discord***

***Article 214(12). The Production, Storage or Distribution of Information Products Which Advocate National, Racial or Religious Discord***

The production or storage with a purpose of distribution and distribution of printed, visual, audio or other products, which advocate national, racial or religious discord, incurs a fine from 1000 to 10000 Litas either with confiscation of such products being produced, stored or distributed and of the means essentially used for production of such products, or without confiscation of the means of production.

***Article 214(13). The establishment of an organisation which advocates national, racial or religious discord or participation in activities of such an organisation***

The establishment of an organisation which advocates national, racial or religious discord or participation in activities of such an organisation, incurs a fine of between 3000 and 10000 Litas.

The same conduct performed by a person who had previously been punished by an administrative fine for the offences foreseen in Part 1 of this Article, incurs a fine from 10000 to 20000 Litas.”

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# Case Law

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## Lituanie

ECRI notes that in February and March 2004 a series of articles of an antisemitic character were published in the daily newspaper *Respublika* and that in March 2004 these articles were published in a separate edition which was received by all readers of that newspaper and of another newspaper, *Vakaro žinios*. ECRI notes that, at the request of civil society organisations, the General Prosecutor's Office opened an investigation into possible breach of Article 170 of the Criminal Code ECRI also notes that the Inspector of Journalists' Ethics and the Commission on the Ethics of Journalists and Editors concluded that the provisions against incitement to racial or religious hatred contained in the Law on Provision of Information to the Public had been breached and that an ad hoc commission set up to consider these articles concluded that the articles in question amounted to incitement to racial hatred. However, ECRI notes that in March 2005 the General Prosecutor's Office decided to discontinue the case, reportedly on grounds, inter alia, that these articles did not constitute incitement to racial hatred, but were rather of a humorous nature. However, ECRI is pleased to note that, following much public criticism of the decision of the General Prosecutor's Office to discontinue the case, the latter decided more recently to re-open the investigations.

[ECRI, *Third report on Lithuania, adopted on 24 June 2005, CRI(2006)2, § 55*]

L'ECRI note en particulier la parution en février et mars 2004 d'une série d'articles antisémites dans le quotidien *Respublika*, ainsi que la parution en mars 2004 d'une édition spéciale rassemblant tous ces articles reçue ensuite par tous les lecteurs du quotidien et par ceux d'un autre journal, *Vakaro žinios*. A la demande d'organisations de la société civile, le Parquet a ouvert une enquête judiciaire pour une éventuelle violation de l'article 170 du Code pénal. Le Contrôleur de l'éthique du journalisme et la Commission sur l'éthique des journalistes et des éditeurs ont conclu à la violation des dispositions contre l'incitation à la haine raciale ou religieuse contenues dans la Loi sur l'information publique et qu'une commission ad hoc mise en place pour examiner ces articles est parvenue à la conclusion qu'ils constituaient une incitation à la haine raciale. Cependant, en mars 2005, le Parquet a décidé de classer l'affaire au motif, entre autres, que ces articles ne constituaient pas une incitation à la haine raciale, mais seraient plutôt de nature humoristique. Toutefois, le Parquet a récemment décidé de rouvrir l'enquête, suites aux vives critiques publiques provoquées par sa décision de classer l'affaire.

[ECRI, *Troisième rapport sur la Lituanie adopté le 24 juin 2005, CRI(2006)2, § 55*]

# Lithuania

Supreme Court: <http://www.lat.lt/default.aspx?item=home&lang=1>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Lithuanian Supreme Court (Lietuvos Aukščiausiasis Teismas). The page is in Lithuanian and features a header with the court's name and logo. Below the header, there are several sections: 'Pradžia' (Home), 'Struktūra ir kontaktai' (Structure and contacts), 'Teisėms nutartys' (Court decisions), 'Atsiliepimai' (Responses), 'Prašymai' (Requests), 'Poveikių tvarkymas' (Management of effects), 'Teisėjų svarbos kolegijos' (Judges' collegial bodies), and 'Naudingos nuorodos' (Useful links). There is also a 'PAIEŠKA' (Search) box. The main content area displays several news items, including 'Naujausia informacija' (Latest information) and 'Teisėjų svarbos kolegijos' (Judges' collegial bodies). The footer contains contact information for the court, including its address, phone numbers, and website.

Appeal Court of Vilnius: <http://www.apeliacinis.lt/Default.aspx?tabid=53>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Lithuanian Appeal Court of Vilnius (Lietuvos apeliacinis teismas). The page is in Lithuanian and features a header with the court's name and logo. Below the header, there are several sections: 'Gerbiami lankytojai' (Dear visitors), 'Džiaugiamės, kad apsilankėte Lietuvos apeliacinio teismo interneto svetainėje' (We are pleased that you have visited the website of the Lithuanian Appeal Court), 'Tikimes, kad skelbiama informacija padės ne tik profesionaliems teisininkams, bet ir tiems lankytojams, kurie ieško informacijos apie tai, kaip ir kokia banka galima kreiptis į Lietuvos apeliacinį teismą norint gauti savo teises bei teisėtus interesus' (We believe that the published information will help not only professional lawyers, but also those visitors who are looking for information about how and where to apply to the Lithuanian Appeal Court to obtain their rights and legitimate interests), 'Pagarbiai Teismo vadovybė' (Respectfully, the Court Administration), and 'Aktualiusia naujiena' (Latest news). There is also a 'Lietuvos apeliacinio teismo kontaktai' (Lithuanian Appeal Court contacts) section. The footer contains contact information for the court, including its address, phone numbers, and website.

Constitutional Court (decisions): [http://www.lrkt.lt/Documents1\\_e.html](http://www.lrkt.lt/Documents1_e.html)

The screenshot shows the website of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Lithuania. The page title is "THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA Rulings, decisions and conclusions". It features a navigation menu with "Information", "Documents", "Statistics", "Contact", "Publications", and "Links". A sidebar on the left lists "Documents" including the Constitution, Law on the Constitutional Court, Rules of the Constitutional Court, and Rulings, decisions and conclusions. The main content area displays a table of documents for the year 2010, with columns for "Date" and "Subject".

Date	Subject
Decision 16 November 2010	On the refusal to consider a petition
Decision 16 November 2010	On the refusal to consider a petition
Ruling 9 November 2010	On elections to the European Parliament
Ruling 29 September 2010	On connecting electricity equipment to distribution networks
Ruling 7 September 2010	On the state award conferred to a person
Decision 2 July 2010	On the refusal to consider a petition
Decision 2 July 2010	On the construction of the provision of a ruling of the Constitutional Court whereby a state award may not be related to granting certain material benefit
Decision 30 June 2010	On the construction of the Constitutional Court rulings' provisions related to extension of powers of a judge
Ruling 29 June 2010	On state pensions of judges
Ruling 28 May 2010	On limiting the liability of servicemen and officials for administrative violations of law
Ruling 28 May 2010	On investigation into activities of the President of the Republic and those of the

This screenshot continues the list of documents from the Constitutional Court website. It shows the following entries:

Ruling 28 May 2010	On limiting the liability of servicemen and officials for administrative violations of law
Ruling 13 May 2010	On investigation into activities of the President of the Republic and those of the Government in administrative courts and on the dismissal of a member of the State Gaming Control Commission
Decision 5 May 2010	On the refusal to construe the provisions of the Constitutional Court ruling of 8 June 2009
Decision 22 April 2010	On accepting the petition of a petitioner
Decision 20 April 2010	On the construction of the provisions of acts of the Constitutional Court related to reduction of pensions and remunerations during an economic crisis
Ruling 31 March 2010	On the powers of the college of a municipal court
Ruling 22 March 2010	On the extension of notary powers
Decision 19 March 2010	On accepting the petition of a petitioner
Ruling 9 March 2010	On giving back forests in the town of Palanga
Announcement 26 February 2010	On restoration of the validity of a legal act
Ruling 26 February 2010	On privatisation of the 34 percent block of shares of the JSC "Lietuvos dujos"
Ruling 12 February 2010	On the powers of the Government to establish port levels
Ruling 9 February 2010	On publishing the Planning Scheme of Trakai Historical National Park
Ruling 3 February 2010	On payments of insured amount of compulsory insurance against civil liability of holders of vehicles for non-pecuniary damage

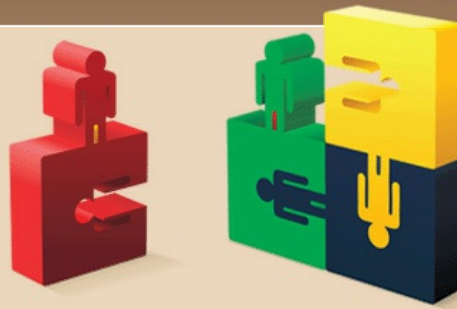
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# Public Policies

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## Lygių galimybių kontrolieriaus tarnyba



Renginiai **Skundai** Žniasklaidoje

Lygių galimybių kontrolieriaus tarnyboje gautas D. K. skundas, kuriame nurodoma, kad 2005 m. liepos 1 d. Migracijos departamento įsakymu buvo konstatuota, kad jis neteko Lietuvos Respublikos pilietybės.

— Visi skundai —

### NAUJIENOS

### APIE TARNYBĄ

### DISKRIMINAVIMO PAGRINDAI

### SKUNDŲ NAGRINĖJIMAS

### TEISES AKTAI

### METINĖS TARNYBOS ATASKAITOS

### PROJEKTAI

### TARNYBOS LEIDINIAI

### TYRIMAI LYGYBĖS SRITYJE

### KONTAKTAI

### PARTNERIAI

### NUORODOS

## » Apie tarnybą



### Kontrolierė

Aušrinė Burneikienė gimė 1961 m. gegužės 12 d. Vilniuje. 1985 m. baigė Vilniaus universiteto Teisės fakultetą, Baigusi universitetą, iki 1990 m. dirbo Vilniaus tardymo valdybos tardytoja. 1990-1992 m. buvo Vidaus reikalų ministerijos vyresnioji juristkonsultė. 1992 m. tapo Vidaus reikalų ministerijos Juridinio skyriaus viršininke. 1999 m. balandžio 20 d. Seimo nutarimu paskirta Moterų ir vyrų lygių galimybių kontrolierė. 2003 m. balandį kontrolierė paskirta antrai ketverių metų kadencijai.

1998 m. gruodžio 1 d. Seimas priėmė Moterų ir vyrų lygių galimybių įstatymą, kuris įsigaliojo 1999 m. balandžio 1 d. 1999 metų balandžio 20 d. Seimas paskyrė Aušrinę Burneikienę moterų ir vyrų lygių galimybių kontrolierė, o gegužės 25 d. įsteigė Moterų ir vyrų lygių galimybių kontrolieriaus tarnybą bei patvirtino šios tarnybos nuostatus. 2003 m. balandį kontrolierė paskirta antrai ketverių metų kadencijai.

2002 m. birželio 18 d. priimti Moterų ir vyrų lygių galimybių įstatymo pakeitimai ir papildymai išplėtė sritis, kuriose būtina įgyvendinti moterų ir vyrų lygias galimybes, uždraudžiant diskriminaciją dėl lyties vartotojų teisių apsaugos ir reklamos srityse.

2003 m. lapkričio 18 d. Seimui priėmus Lygių galimybių įstatymą, tarnybos kompetencija papildyta draudimo diskriminuoti dėl asmens amžiaus, lytinės orientacijos, negalios, rasės ir etninės priklausomybės, religijos ar įsitikinimų priežiūra, o pati įstaiga pavadinta Lygių galimybių kontrolieriaus tarnyba.

Lygių galimybių kontrolieriaus tarnyba yra savarankiška institucija, atskaitinga Seimui. Į kontrolieriaus tarnybą gali kreiptis vyrai ir moterys, patyrę diskriminaciją dėl savo lyties darbo, švietimo, prekių ir paslaugų teikimo sferose ar patyrę seksualinį priekabiavimą.

Nuo 2005 m. sausio 1 d. tarnyba taip pat tiria skundus asmenų patyrusių diskriminaciją ar priekabiavimą dėl amžiaus, lytinės orientacijos, negalios, rasės ir etninės priklausomybės, religijos ar įsitikinimų darbe, švietimo įstaigoje ar teikiant paslaugas.

Įstatymu draudžiamos abi diskriminacijos dėl lyties formos – tiesioginė ir netiesioginė. Svarbu, kad visuose sprendimų priėmimo lygmenyse būtų išvengta veiksmų ar nuostatų, kurios iš pirmo žvilgsnio atrodo neutralios moterų ar vyrų atžvilgiu, bet jas įgyvendinus būtų pabloginama padėtis didesnės dalies vienos lyties asmenų (netiesioginės diskriminacijos).

Reglamentuota specialių priemonių (pozityvios diskriminacijos) taikymo galimybė, siekiant lyčių pusiausvyros bei užkirsti kelią lygių galimybių pažeidimui dėl amžiaus, lytinės orientacijos, negalios, rasės ar etninės priklausomybės, religijos ar įsitikinimų.

Valdžios ir valdymo institucijos įpareigtos rengti ir įgyvendinti programas ir priemones, skirtas moterų ir vyrų lygių galimybių užtikrinimui bei lygybės principo įgyvendinimui neatsižvelgiant į amžių, lytinę orientaciją, negalią, rasę ar etninę priklausomybę, religiją ar įsitikinimus.

Švietimo įstaigos privalo užtikrinti vienodas sąlygas asmenims nepaisant jų lyties, amžiaus, lytinės orientacijos, negalios, rasės ar etninės priklausomybės, religijos ar įsitikinimų, kai:

- priimama mokyti;
- skiriamos stipendijos;
- sudaromos mokymo programos;
- vertinamos žinios.

Darbdavys, neatsižvelgdamas į asmens lytį, amžių, lytinę orientaciją, negalią, rasę ar etninę priklausomybę, religiją ar įsitikinimus, privalo:

- taikyti vienodus atrankos kriterijus, priimdamas į darbą ar atleisdamas iš tarnybos;
- sudaryti vienodas darbo sąlygas;



### Kontaktai

Šeimyniškių 1A, LT-09312 Vilnius  
Tel. (8-5) 261 2787, fax (8-5) 261 2725  
E.p. [mvlgk@rs.lt](mailto:mvlgk@rs.lt)

Firmadieniais-ketvirtadieniais nuo 8 iki 17 val.  
Pentadienį nuo 8 iki 15.45 val.



- naudoti vienodus darbuotojų vertinimo kriterijus;
- mokėti vienodą darbo užmokestį;
- sudaryti palankias sąlygas neįgaliesiems.

Darbdavys privalo imtis priemonių, kad darbuotojas nepatirtų seksualinio priekabiavimo ar nebūtų persekiojamas, jei pateikė skundą dėl diskriminacijos.

Prekių ar paslaugų pardavėjas bei gamintojas, neatsižvelgdamas į asmens lytį, amžių, lytinę orientaciją, negalią, rasę ar etninę priklausomybę, religiją ar įsitikinimus, privalo:

- sudaryti vienodas sąlygas gauti tokias pat prekes ir paslaugas (įskaitant apsirūpinimą būstu) bei taikyti vienodas aprašymo sąlygas ir garantijas;
- teikdamas informaciją užtikrinti, kad asmuo ar asmenų grupė nėra žeminama ar pateikiama kaip pranašesnė dėl minėtų savybių.

Diskriminuojantys skelbimai: iš darbo ieškančių asmenų įstatymas draudžia reikalauti informacijos apie jų amžių, šeiminių padėtį, privatų gyvenimą ar šeimos planus. Skelbimuose priimti į darbą ar mokytis draudžiama nurodyti reikalavimus, suteikiančius pirmenybę vienai iš lyčių, tam tikro amžiaus, tam tikros lytinės orientacijos asmenims, sveikiems asmenims, tam tikros rasės ar tautybės, religijos ar įsitikinimų asmenims.

Asmenys, patyrę diskriminaciją dėl išvardintų pagrindų ir minėtose srityse, į tarnybą gali kreiptis telefonu (8-5 2612787), elektroniniu paštu ([mvgk@rs.lt](mailto:mvgk@rs.lt)), faksu (8-5 2612725) ar apsilankyti tarnyboje adresu Šeimyniškių g. 1A, 09312 Vilnius (5 aukštas).



**Atviri ir saugūs darbe**





**LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS NUOLATINĖ ATSTOVYBĖ PRIE  
JUNGTINIŲ TAUTŲ BIURO IR KITŲ TARPTAUTINIŲ ORGANIZACIJŲ ŽENEVOJE**

**MISSION PERMANENTE DE LA LITUANIE AUPRES DE L'OFFICE DES NATIONS  
UNIES ET DES AUTRES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES A GENÈVE**

No.: SN-104/2005

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Lithuania to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (HCHR) and has the honour to submit the information on the implementation of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/3 "Combating Defamation of Religions" and resolution 2005/36 "The Incompatibility between Democracy and Racism". The following information has been drafted at the request of 4 July 2005 of the UN HCHR under reference GVA1558.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Lithuania to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 4 October 2005



To the Office of the High Commissioner  
for Human Rights  
Geneva

PERMANENT MISSION'S REGISTRY H.C. OFF <b>05 OCT 2005</b>	
ACTION.....	.....
INFO.....	.....
<input type="checkbox"/> ACKNOWLEDGED <input type="checkbox"/> ACTION INITIATED <input type="checkbox"/> NO ACTION INITIALS.....	

**OHCHR REGISTRY**

**05 OCT 2005**

Recipients : SPB  
AC, MDM  
.....  
.....

**INFORMATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION 2005/3 "COMBATING DEFAMATION OF RELIGIONS" AND RESOLUTION 2005/36 "THE INCOMPATIBILITY BETWEEN DEMOCRACY AND RACISM"**

The Government of the Republic of Lithuania has the honour to submit to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the information on the United Nations Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/3 "Combating defamation of religions" paragraph 16 and on the United Nations Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/36 "The incompatibility between democracy and racism" paragraph 16. The following information has been drafted at the request of 4 July 2005 of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights under reference: GVA1558.

**On the paragraph 16 of Resolution 2005/3 "Combating defamation of religions"**

According to the census of 2001 there were 2.9 thousand Muslim Sunnis living in Lithuania. Lithuanian Tartars, a historic and well - integrated ethnic group, form the majority of Lithuanian Muslims. Representatives from other traditionally Muslim countries - Azerbaijanis, Uzbeks, Tajiks, Kazakhs, Chechens and others amount about 2500. Since the independence a small number of people coming from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Turkey, Lebanon and other countries of Middle East and North Africa, where Islam is a dominating religion, settled in Lithuania.

The article 2 of the Law on religious communities and associations (1995) indicates that there is no state religion in the Republic of Lithuania. The article 5 names nine traditional religious communities and associations, which constitute a part of Lithuanian historic, spiritual and social heritage, including Muslim Sunnis. Every year by the resolution of Lithuania Government Muslim Sunnis spiritual centre Muzfiat receives contribution from state budget. In 2005 that was 12.7 thousand litas (1 EUR=3.45 LTL).

There were no acts of violence motivated by discrimination or on the ground of ethnicity registered in Lithuania. In 2003 a few incidents took place in which Chechen people were involved, but they were qualified as hooliganism or affray. In Lithuania there are five working mosques, Lithuanian Tartars community house and cemetery. There are a few shops, restaurants and other public catering objects belonging to Muslims. None of these objects was attacked on the ground of racist or religious motives.

It should be noted that after the events of 11 September 2001 in New York Lithuania Tartars and a few other Muslim communities made a statement condemning terrorism.

Signs of Islamophobia in public sphere are noticed in the means of mass media - press, Internet, television. According to the recently conducted public polls, the negative attitude towards immigrants and refugees, which are associated with Afghans, Arabs, Chechens, Pakistanis and other residents of Asia and Middle East countries, has increased in Lithuania. The number of those who wouldn't prefer to live in the neighbourhood of Muslims increased from 31% in 1999 to 51 % in 2005.

In the Republic of Lithuania there is no special legal or institutional mechanism which ensured the participation of Muslims or another national (ethnic) group in the political life (for example, quotas in the Parliament). Absolute majority of Lithuanian Muslims (Tartars, Azerbaijanis, Uzbeks, Tajiks) has the citizens of the Republic of Lithuania and therefore enjoy equal rights as Lithuanians. The Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania guarantees the right to participate in the elections of the President of the Republic of Lithuania, the Parliament, the local Councils and

referendums and to be elected as a member of the Parliament (Seimas) of the Republic of Lithuania and the local Councils. The representatives of Muslim communities (Tatars, Azerbaijanis, Uzbeks, Tajiks, Lebanese) are elected to the Council of National Communities at the Department of National Minorities and Lithuanians living abroad. Every year the Department assigns about 10 thousand litas to support the cultural and educational activities of these communities.

**On the paragraph 16 of Resolution 2005/36 "The incompatibility between democracy and racism"**

In 1995, The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania issued a statement On the signs of racism, xenophobia and related intolerance. It preaches the ideology based on racial intolerance, violence or discrimination, as well as any actions straining relations and encouraging mistrust between different racial, ethnic, national, religious and social groups; strongly condemns racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism and intolerance, national, religious, racial and other forms of discrimination; assures not to tolerate anti-Semitism of any possible form, also in the mass media, publications, public declarations, the institutions of education and training; undertakes an obligation to pay a special attention to the improvement and implementation of the Lithuanian laws against these unjustifiable acts; urges the Government of Lithuania to support the means of prevention against still existing intolerance; especially promoting reciprocal understanding and trust; contributes to the studies of other nationalities and languages, what provides better understanding of the peculiarities of other countries and nations.

On 7 November, 2002 by the decision No. IX - 1185 of The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania The National Plan on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Republic of Lithuania was approved. The implementation of this plan is sponsored by the UN Development Programme. The Committee of Human Rights of the Seimas formed a working group which prepared a project of the programme on the combat against intolerance, racism and xenophobia. Since 2005 a part of the means included in this programme is being implemented by the Department of National Minorities and Lithuanians Living Abroad in its 2005- 2010 programme of integration of national minorities into Lithuanian society.

The problem of racism, anti-Semitism, xenophobia in Lithuanian political life mostly emerges in the context of opinions expressed by non-parliament parties, insignificant political organizations or individual politicians. The parties in Parliament, the Board of the Seimas unreservedly condemn racist or xenophobic rhetoric. Due to the anti-Semitic, Islamophobic or xenophobic declarations of the members of the Parliament during 2001- 2003, the Seimas Commission of Ethics and Procedure issued five decisions.

Certain debates took place in the Seimas in 2002 when the amendment of the Law on Citizenship was adopted. On the opinion of national minorities, the new provisions in the law violate the constitutionally established principle of equality. A group of Parliament Members addressed The Constitutional Court of Lithuania requesting to consider if those provisions are not discriminating with regard to national minorities. The request was accepted by the Constitutional Court.

In 2004 a group of Parliament Members addressed the Board of the Seimas proposing to initiate a referendum for the amendment of the article 91 of the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania in order to establish that only the person of Lithuanian nationality could become the Prime Minister. This proposal was criticized as discriminating during the political debates, in the means of mass media and rejected by the Board of Seimas on the formal grounds.