

NON-CLASSIFIED

LITHUANIA

During 2007, the Armed Forces of Lithuania were present in the Balkans (Kosovo and Bosnia and Herzegovina), Afghanistan, Iraq, and Georgia. In total, 804 military personnel participated in missions abroad, of which 629 in NATO and 175 in non-NATO led operations. At present, total number of Lithuanian troops deployed abroad is 289.

NATO operations:

Since 2005, Lithuania leads the Provincial Reconstruction Team in Ghor province with multinational participation of NATO and non-NATO contributors. In support of ISAF, a Special Mission of Lithuania to Afghanistan provides two civilian advisers for the Chaghcharan PRT. In the second half of 2007, a Special Forces unit has been deployed in the South of Afghanistan. Lithuania also filled in four positions for trainers in the NTM-I. In Kosovo, one platoon-size unit and HQ officers were deployed as part of KFOR.

Non-NATO operations:

In Iraq, Lithuania has contributed a platoon-size unit and HQ officers for the operation IRAQI FREEDOM. One military officer was delegated to UNAMA in Afghanistan. One HQ officer served in EUFOR ALTHEA mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In Georgia, Lithuania contributed officers to UNOMIG and OSCE Training assistance program for the Georgian Border Guards. Except for the latter, all the above missions and operations are ongoing as of February 2008.

Contributions to standby forces:

In 2007, Lithuania contributed an MCM vessel to the NRF and offered military personnel for the UN Standby High Readiness Brigade.

Near-term plans:

As the ambitious defence reform programme progresses, Lithuania will continue to increase the deployability and sustainability of its Armed Forces.

In addition to sustaining the missions outlined above, in 2008, Lithuania will offer a Special Forces squadron, a Water purification unit, and a Joint Airport Support unit for Air Control Command for the NRF. In 2009, one MCM vessel will be on standby for the NRF-13. In 2010, Lithuania plans to deploy a 420-strong unit as part of the NRF-14 and a Special Forces squadron and a demining team as part of NRF-15. Lithuania will also contribute to the EU Battle Group in the first half of 2010.

More information on current missions and operations is available on:

<http://www.kam.lt/index.php/en>

<http://www.kam.lt/index.php/en/144606>

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