

# Believe in Freedom

On 11 March, Lithuania celebrates  
25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Restoration  
of Independence

#BelieveinFreedom  
#proud2bLithuanian



We Believe in Freedom. We always did. For centuries from the beginning of Lithuanian statehood to the present day.

Having restored Lithuania's independence 25 years ago two out of three Lithuanians personally remember that thirst for freedom and how comforting the first gulps were. We remember how good it felt to return to Europe, to be back home where freedom is an underlying value.

11th March 1990 was the day when Lithuanians became free to choose, to grow, to be themselves. And we try to do our best.

25 years on, we are in the middle of Europe. Not only in terms of geography, which by the way is true, but also as a proud member of the European Union and, from 2015, also as a member of its core, the Eurozone. Our euro coins, spreading throughout Europe the image of the Lithuanian knight, the Chaser, also spread the word Freedom, inscribed on their edge alongside Unity and Well-being.

Together with NATO allies, we safeguard the freedom and security of the North Atlantic area.

We cherish our freedom but we also care much about everyone's right to be free. This year we pursue it at the UN Security Council holding a non-permanent seat. Because We Believe in Freedom.

# FREEDOM

25

LITHUANIA

**Freedom is** not given: we had to restore it twice and we are destined for it.

**Freedom is** a most valuable treasure that we will always defend and wish all the others to enjoy.

**Freedom is** a choice and a right to make choices.

**Freedom is** both – a celebration and a responsibility.

**Freedom is** a commitment to acknowledge diversity and a right to keep your own identity.

**Freedom is** when nothing prevents you from dreaming and creating.

**Freedom is** our present and freedom is our future.

**Freedom is our belief!**

## Free Lithuania...

- is a fully-fledged member of the EU, NATO and holds a non-permanent seat in the UN Security Council;
- became energy-independent after the launch of LNG terminal in Klaipėda in October 2014;
- joined the Eurozone on 1 January 2015 and became the 19th member of the European Stability Mechanism;
- tops the EU countries in terms of education accessibility – 93% of our population have higher or secondary education
- is #1 in the EU in terms of mathematics, science and technology graduates per capita
- ranked #1 in CEE for doing business - it takes only 3 days to start business in Lithuania
- enjoys 25% annual export growth;
- is #1 in competitiveness growth in the EU;
- holds highest ICT literacy rate in the EU – 97 percent of students obtain ICT skills in secondary schools;
- enjoys fastest public Wi-Fi in the world;
- has a truly multilingual population, half of it speaking at least 2 foreign languages;
- has the best-air-quality capital in Europe – Vilnius.

Congratulate Lithuania on Twitter and Facebook using hashtags  
#BelieveinFreedom and #proud2bLithuanian