



Influence of International Cooperation Projects to the Implementation of Lanzarote Convention provisions on National Level

Conference on “The role of international cooperation in tackling sexual violence against children”

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Ministry of Social Security and Labour of the Republic of Lithuania

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Central Authority for implementation of the provisions of the Article 38 of the Lanzarote Convention, related to investigations or proceedings concerning criminal offenses contained in the Convention, with foreign institutions and organizations in Lithuania according to the existing legislation and European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (which entered into force on May 29, 2000) – is Prosecutor's Office in the Republic of Lithuania.

Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Lithuania cooperates with foreign prosecutor's offices, other state organizations; it also participates in the activities of international institutions, international conferences and seminars and the process of integration to the European Union.

Prosecutor's Office :

- has its representative in the European Union's Judicial Cooperation Unit (EUROJUST) enhancing the fight against serious organized crime and terrorism, as well as contact points
- has its representative in the European Judicial Network (EJN),
- contact points in the network of contact points in respect of persons responsible for genocide and crime against humanity and war crimes;
- maintains contacts with the European Police Office (EUROPOL);
- maintains contacts with the European Ant-Fraud Office (OLAF);
- takes part in various international projects.



Prosecutor's Office has its representatives in:

EUROJUST, EJN, EUROPOL, OLAF, participates in various international projects

EUROJUST



EUROPOL





- prepares drafts on improvement or facilitation of agreements with competent foreign law enforcement institutions regarding cooperation in the criminal matters;
- prepares and sends requests for legal assistance in the criminal matters issued by prosecutor's offices and pre-trial investigation bodies to the foreign institutions and international organizations;
- prepares and sends requests for persons' extradition or surrender under the European arrest warrants to the foreign states, applies to the court with request for extradition or surrender of a person from the Republic of Lithuania;
- examines foreign states' requests for transiting the persons extradited by foreign states through the territory of the Republic of Lithuania;
- examines requests for legal assistance sent by foreign institutions and international organizations, control the execution of such requests in the territorial prosecutor's offices and pre-trial investigation bodies;

- examines foreign states and international organizations' requests for initiating or taking over criminal prosecution against the persons who have committed criminal offence abroad and have returned to the Republic of Lithuania;
- issues certificates on property or evidence arrest warrants and requests that such warrants were executed in other Member State of the European Union;
- acknowledges the property or evidence arrest warrants issued by other Member State of the European Union and organizes the execution thereof;
- provides information about valid legislative acts of the Republic of Lithuania.

While fulfilling obligations related with the membership of Lithuania in the European Union, Division of International Relations and Legal Assistance prepares activities reports, conclusions on the drafts of legislative acts into cooperation, actively participates in the analysis of criminality problems in Europe and the world.



Implementation of the Article 38 of Lanzarote Convention, in order to protect children / victims and provide them with assistance

Several examples of international cooperation can be mentioned:
National Programme on Violence Prevention against Children for 2011 – 2015

ACTION:

Since 2002 cooperation with the Secretariat of the Council of the Baltic Sea States in area to exchange of international experience will be carried out, professional competence of persons working with children having suffered violence and their family members will be improved and international partners will become more numerous.

Ministry of Social Security and Labour participates(2012) in the project of European Economic Area Financial Mechanism - Programme „Children and young people at risk”. According this programme it is being planned to establish child support centre for victims of sexual abuse using model of Iceland Barnahus by the end of 2014. In addition, practically improve the knowlege of the Study visit to the Children's House of Iceland organised by Council of Europe.

In the near future Lithuania hopes to cooperate with experts of Iceland Barnahus in order to train specialist of Lithuania to specialize in working with children, who have suffered from sexual abuse. The establishment of such a centre in Lithuania for children who are victims of sexual abuse or sexual exploitation and for their families would ensure a specialized comprehensive assistance, quality survey of child and other services, which would contribute to the implementation of the provisions of the Lanzarote Convention.