

## LANZAROTE COMMITTEE

Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe  
Convention on the protection of children against sexual  
exploitation and sexual abuse

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Replies to the thematic questionnaire

“Screening of professionals, volunteers and other  
persons in contact with children”

REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

Replies received by the Secretariat on 8 July 2026

## **Main relevant provisions of the Lanzarote Convention and previous recommendations**

Article 5 paragraph 3 of the Lanzarote Convention requires Parties to take the necessary legislative or other measures, in conformity with their internal law, to ensure that the conditions to accede to those professions whose exercise implies regular contacts with children ensure that the candidates to these professions have not been convicted of acts of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse of children. The Explanatory Report to the Lanzarote Convention indicates that this obligation can be also applied to voluntary activities (see paragraph 57).

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> implementation report of the 1<sup>st</sup> monitoring round (2018), the Lanzarote Committee urged those Parties that limited mandatory screening to certain professionals to extend it to the recruitment of all professionals (public or private) in regular contact with children (R19) and invited Parties to encourage continuous screening of all professionals (R20) and volunteers (R21) in regular contact with children.

Article 27 paragraph 3.b of the Lanzarote Convention requires Parties to take the necessary legislative or other measures to deny the perpetrator, temporarily or permanently, the exercise of professional or voluntary activity involving contact with children in the course of which the offence was committed.

Article 37 paragraph 3 of the Lanzarote Convention requires Parties to take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the information referred to in paragraph 1 (i.e. data related to the identity and to the genetic profile (DNA) of persons convicted of the offences established in accordance with the Convention) can be transmitted to the competent authority of another Party, in conformity with the conditions established in its internal law and the relevant international instruments.

Whenever the term “screening” is used in this questionnaire, this should be understood as “verification of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children”.

In all your answers, please provide details to the extent possible and refer to specific laws, policies, programmes, measures, etc.

Please describe the legislation, policy and practice which are in force on 27 March 2026 or are in the process of adoption (in this case, please specify the planned date of entry into force).

**Please indicate:**

- a. State Party in respect of which the questionnaire is submitted  
Republic of Lithuania
- b. Entities and bodies which have been involved in responding to this questionnaire  
Ministry of Social Security and Labour of the Republic of Lithuania  
Information Technology and Communication Department under the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Lithuania

**Persons concerned by screening requirements**

1. Is the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children required as a pre-condition in order to accede to professions, employment or volunteer positions whose exercise implies regular contacts with children? Please specify whether such restrictions apply to professions, employment or volunteer positions in the following sectors or areas of activities (additional details to be inserted below the table):

|                        | Criminal conviction check for employment in public sector? | Criminal conviction check for voluntary activity? | Criminal conviction check for employment in private sector? | Criminal conviction check for self-employed professionals? | Please specify the professionals to whom this requirement applies                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Education – Pre-school | ✓                                                          | ✓                                                 | ✓                                                           | ✓                                                          | All persons (here and further “all persons” means – professionals, volunteers, interneers, service providers, etc.) without exception, including those participating in one-time or part-time etc. activities, regardless of whether or not their role involves direct contact with children. |

|                                                     |   |   |   |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| Education – Primary                                 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | All persons without exception, including those participating in one-time or part-time etc. activities, regardless of whether or not their role involves direct contact with children.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Education – Secondary                               | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | All persons without exception, including those participating in one-time or part-time etc. activities, regardless of whether or not their role involves direct contact with children.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Education – Tertiary                                | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Only all persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children (for example, educators working with children or with both children and adults). This category also includes all persons engaged in one-time, temporary, short-term, part-time or occasional activities for children, such as delivering a lecture, training session, workshop, or any other similar activity. I |
| Education – Extracurricular (e.g. language schools) | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Only all persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children. This category also includes all persons engaged in one-time, temporary, short-term, part-time or occasional activities for                                                                                                                                                                                      |

|                                                                                                  |   |   |   |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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|                                                                                                  |   |   |   |   | children, such as delivering a lecture, training session, workshop, or any other similar activity.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Childcare (e.g. kindergartens, crèches, childminders)                                            | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | All persons without exception, including those participating in one-time or part-time etc. activities, regardless of whether or not their role involves direct contact with children.                                                                                                                             |
| Institutional or residential care (e.g. foster homes, orphanages, closed residential facilities) | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | All persons without exception, including those participating in one-time or part-time etc. activities, regardless of whether or not their role involves direct contact with children.                                                                                                                             |
| Detention                                                                                        | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Only all persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children. This category also includes all persons engaged in one-time, temporary, short-term, part-time or occasional activities for children, such as delivering a lecture, training session, workshop, or any other similar activity. |
| Migration facilities (e.g. reception centres)                                                    | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | If the facility provides services to both children and adults, this requirement applies to only all persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children (including those participating in one-time or part-                                                                                 |

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|       |   |   |   |   | <p>time etc. activities, regardless of whether or not their role involves direct contact with children).</p> <p>If the facility provides services exclusively to children, then these requirements apply to all persons without exception, including those engaged in one-time activities or activities that do not involve direct and regular contact with children.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Sport | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | <p>Only all persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children. This category also includes persons engaged in one-time, temporary, short-term, part-time or occasional activities for children, such as delivering a lecture, training session, workshop, or any other similar activity.</p> <p>However, if the sport institution or organization provides service only to children – then all persons without exception, including those participating in one-time or part-time etc. activities, regardless of whether or not their role involves direct and regular contact with children.</p> |

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| Culture and leisure activities | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | <p>Only all persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children. This category also includes persons engaged in one-time, temporary, short-term, part-time or occasional activities for children, such as delivering a lecture, training session, workshop, or any other similar activity.</p> <p>However, if the institution or organization provides service only to children – then all persons without exception, including those participating in one-time or part-time etc. activities, regardless of whether or not their role involves direct and regular contact with children.</p> |
| Entertainment sector           | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | <p>Only all persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children. This category also includes persons engaged in one-time, temporary, short-term, part-time or occasional activities for children, such as delivering a lecture, training session, workshop, or any other similar activity.</p> <p>However, if the sport institution or organization</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

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|                                                               |   |   |   |   | provides service only to children – then all persons without exception, including those participating in one-time or part-time etc. activities, regardless of whether or not their role involves direct and regular contact with children.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Faith and religion                                            | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Only all persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children. This category also includes persons engaged in one-time, temporary, short-term, part-time or occasional activities for children, such as delivering a lecture, training session, workshop, or any other similar activity.                                                                                                                                  |
| Healthcare (including psychological and psychiatric services) | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | <p>Only all persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children. This category also includes persons engaged in one-time, temporary, short-term, part-time or occasional activities for children, such as delivering a lecture, training session, workshop, or any other similar activity.</p> <p>However, if the institution or organization provides service only to children (e.g., children hospital) – then all</p> |

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|                            |   |   |   |   | persons without exception, including those participating in one-time or part-time etc. activities, regardless of whether or not their role involves direct and regular contact with children.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Social protection services | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | <p>Only all persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children. This category also includes persons engaged in one-time, temporary, short-term, part-time or occasional activities for children, such as delivering a lecture, training session, workshop, or any other similar activity.</p> <p>However, if the institution or organization provides service only to children – then all persons without exception, including those participating in one-time or part-time etc. activities, regardless of whether or not their role involves direct and regular contact with children. E.g., in State Child Rights Protection and Adoption Service under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour – all persons without exception, including those participating in one-time or part-time etc. activities,</p> |

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|                             |   |   |   |   | regardless of whether or not their role involves direct and regular contact with children.                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Law enforcement             | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Only all persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children. This category also includes persons engaged in one-time, temporary, short-term, part-time or occasional activities for children, such as delivering a lecture, training session, workshop, or any other similar activity. |
| Judicial                    | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Only all persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children. This category also includes persons engaged in one-time, temporary, short-term, part-time or occasional activities for children, such as delivering a lecture, training session, workshop, or any other similar activity. |
| Civil society organisations | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Only all persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children. This category also includes persons engaged in one-time, temporary, short-term, part-time or occasional activities for children, such as delivering a lecture, training session,                                          |

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|                                                                  |   |   |   |   | <p>workshop, or any other similar activity.</p> <p>However, if the institution or organization provides service only to children – then all persons without exception, including those participating in one-time or part-time etc. activities, regardless of whether or not their role involves direct and regular contact with children.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Victim services (including Barnahus, domestic violence services) | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | <p>Only all persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children. This category also includes persons engaged in one-time, temporary, short-term, part-time or occasional activities for children, such as delivering a lecture, training session, workshop, or any other similar activity.</p> <p>However, if the institution or organization provides service only to children – then all persons without exception, including those participating in one-time or part-time etc. activities, regardless of whether or not their role involves direct and regular contact with children. E.g., in Barnahus – all persons without</p> |

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|                                    |   |   |   |   | exception, including those participating in one-time or part-time etc. activities, regardless of whether or not their role involves direct and regular contact with children.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Any other sectors (please specify) | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | <p>The requirements apply to all sectors without any exception.</p> <p>When an institution, organization or agency provides services to children and adults – then only all persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children. This category also includes persons engaged in one-time, temporary, short-term, part-time or occasional activities for children, such as delivering a lecture, training session, workshop, or any other similar activity.</p> <p>However, if the institution or organization provides service only to children – then all persons without exception, including those participating in one-time or part-time etc. activities, regardless of whether or not their role involves direct and regular contact with children.</p> |

Here you can insert additional details or specify any exceptions.

In Lithuania, the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children is established as a mandatory legal pre-condition for access to employment, service provision, volunteering, internship, or any other activities involving children. This requirement is set out in Article 30(1) of the Law on the Fundamentals of Protection of the Rights of the Child of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter – the Law), under which persons convicted by a final court judgment of sexual offences (against children or adults), as well as other offences specified therein (e.g. homicide, trafficking in human beings, offences related to narcotic or psychotropic substances), are prohibited from working or carrying out activities involving children.

Since 1 November 2024, this requirement has been implemented through the “legitimate work with children QR code” (hereinafter – the QR code), which confirms that the person is not subject to the aforementioned restrictions. Employers, service recipients or other legal entities are required to verify the validity of the QR code before permitting an individual to commence activities involving children, including employment, provision of services, volunteering, traineeships, internships or any other activities involving children. The validity of the QR code must subsequently be verified periodically, at least once per calendar year.

In Lithuania, this requirement is applied not on the basis of specific professions, but according to the nature of the activity, i.e. whether it involves direct and regular contact with children. This approach does not restrict the general right to choose a profession but rather limits the possibility to carry out activities involving children where the individual does not meet the established legal requirements.

Also, the Law (Article 30(1), subparagraphs 1–3) provide for differentiated application of these restrictions, depending on the nature of the organisation and the extent to which children are present, in order to ensure a proportionate balance between the protection of children and the individual's right to work. Accordingly, in institutions providing social, educational, cultural, sports and health care services **exclusively** to children (e.g. kindergartens, schools, children's day-care centres, children's hospitals), the QR code is required for all persons without exception, regardless of their functions or whether they have direct contact with children. In contrast, in institutions providing services to both children and adults, the QR code is required only for those persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children (e.g., if they work, volunteer etc. only with children or with both children and adults).

The requirement applies in **all sectors**, the public and private sectors and to all persons regardless of nationality. Foreign nationals intending to work or provide services involving children in Lithuania must, prior to commencing such activities, submit to the employer or receiving organisation a certificate issued by the competent authority of their country (of nationality or habitual residence) confirming the absence of convictions for the offences listed in Article 30(1) of the Law. Where the activity is carried out over a longer period, they are also subject to the requirement to obtain a QR code and to undergo periodic verification.

For the purposes of this questionnaire, the answers here and further comment on the questions as formulated, namely with reference to sexual offences against children. However, it should be borne in mind that, under Lithuanian law, the relevant restrictions are not limited to sexual offences committed against children. In Lithuania, sexual offences are treated as a category of offences giving rise to restrictions on working with or carrying out activities involving children, regardless of whether the victim was a child or an adult.

2. In requiring the verification of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children in order to accede to the positions listed in question 1, does your State:
  - a. define the level or threshold of contact with children (one-off, regular, etc.) which necessitates such a verification

- b. distinguish between direct, indirect or online contact with children?  
If yes, please provide details.

a. Yes. The requirement applies in cases where a person's work or other activities involve direct and regular contact with children as explained before in this questionnaire.

Direct contact is understood as the possibility to be alone with a child(ren) or to establish physical or emotional interaction (e.g. communicating, addressing, physical contact). It should be noted that the presence of at least one of these conditions is sufficient for the contact to be considered direct.

Regular contact is understood as repeated, non-incidental contact occurring more than once, regardless of whether it involves the same child or different children.

Where contact is occasional or incidental and does not meet both of these criteria, the requirement does not apply.

It should also be noted that in institutions providing social, educational, cultural, sports and health care services exclusively to children (e.g. kindergartens or schools, children hospitals, children care homes etc.), the QR code requirement applies to all persons without exception, regardless of their functions or the nature of their contact with children.

b. Lithuanian legislation does not explicitly distinguish between direct, indirect or online contact with children as separate legal categories. Instead, the assessment is based on whether a particular activity meets the criteria of direct and regular contact with children, irrespective of the form such contact takes. This means that both in-person and other forms of interaction fall within the scope of the requirement, provided they meet these criteria. So for example, if a person holds a training for children online, the requirements are totally the same as for a person holding a training offline, without any exceptions.

3. Is the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children required to become:
- a. an adoptive parent
  - b. a foster parent
  - c. a child's legal guardian (including for unaccompanied children)?
- Please provide details.

a. Yes. In Lithuania, the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children is a mandatory requirement for becoming an adoptive parent. Article 3.210, paragraph 4 of the Civil Code of the Republic of Lithuania provides that persons convicted of sexual offences against children cannot be adoptive parents, thereby ensuring the safety and protection of the child.

b. Yes. The same requirement applies to foster parents (guardians). According to Article 3.269, subparagraph 6 of the Civil Code of the Republic of Lithuania, persons convicted of sexual offences or other offences specified therein cannot be appointed as a child's guardian or foster parent, ensuring that only suitable persons are entrusted with childcare responsibilities. The restriction is not limited to the prospective guardian or foster parent personally. It also extends to certain persons living in the same household. Therefore, if a person over the age of 16 living together with the prospective guardian or foster parent has been convicted of sexual offences or other offences specified in Article 3.269, the prospective guardian or foster parent may not be appointed, even where the prospective guardian or foster parent has no criminal record themselves.

c. Yes. The same requirements apply to legal representatives of children, including unaccompanied minors. In accordance with Article 32 of the Law on the Legal Status of Aliens of the Republic of Lithuania, a representative for an unaccompanied minor is appointed in accordance with national legislation. Consequently, the eligibility criteria applicable to guardians/foster parents, including requirements related to criminal convictions and good character, also apply in these cases.

In all the above situations, the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children constitutes a mandatory pre-condition, aimed at ensuring the safety of the child and protection from potential harm.

4. Is the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children required for the household members of:
- a. persons carrying out professional activity in their home who are in contact with children
  - b. persons carrying out volunteering activity in their home who are in contact with children
  - c. persons wishing to become an adoptive parent, a foster parent, or a child's legal guardian?
- Please provide details.

a. No. Under Article 30(1), subparagraph 3 of the Law on the Fundamentals of Protection of the Rights of the Child, the requirement to be free from criminal convictions for sexual offences applies to persons carrying out individual or other activities involving direct and regular contact with children, and is confirmed through QR code. However, this requirement applies only to the individual performing the activity and does not extend to their household members, unless they themselves engage in such activities.

b. No. The same principle applies to voluntary activities. The requirement to comply with Article 30(1) of the Law applies only to persons whose activities involve direct and regular contact with children. It does not apply to their household members, unless those persons themselves carry out activities involving children.

c. To some extent. In the case of foster parents and guardians, the requirements also extend to certain persons living in the same household. Therefore, if a person over the age of 16 living together with the prospective guardian or foster parent has been convicted of sexual offences or other offences specified in Article 3.269 of the Civil Code, the prospective guardian or foster parent may not be appointed, even if the prospective guardian or foster parent has no criminal record themselves.

By contrast, in the case of adoptive parents, the statutory requirement not to have been convicted of sexual offences or other offences specified by law applies to the prospective adoptive parents themselves. It does not apply to other members of the household, although, during the assessment of the prospective adoptive parents, their living environment, their ability to ensure the child's safety and other relevant circumstances are comprehensively assessed.

5. Does the requirement to verify the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children also apply to:
- a. children applying for professional or volunteer positions
  - b. adults in respect of criminal convictions received before the age of 18?
- Please provide details.

a. Yes. In Lithuania, restrictions on work or voluntary activities involving children are applied not on the basis of a person's age, but according to the nature of the activity carried out. This means that minors who are employed under an employment contract, engage in volunteering, undertake traineeships or internships, or carry out activities under a service provision arrangement (including self-employment), are subject to the same requirements as adults, where their activities involve direct and regular contact with children or if they perform their activities at institutions, organizations and agencies who provide service only to children. For example, where a minor volunteers and coordinates the activities of other minor volunteers or conducts activities for children, he or she is required to comply with the applicable legal requirements, including holding a valid QR code.

In summary, age in itself is not a determining factor for the application of this requirement; the requirements apply to all persons who work, volunteer, undertake traineeships or internships, or carry out any other activities involving children.

b. Yes. When deciding on issuing a QR code, convictions made before age 18 are also taken into account, since criminal liability for crimes starts at 16, and for sexual assault – from 14.

6. If a person legally changes their name, how does your State ensure that their criminal record remains linked to their new name?
- Please provide details.

In Lithuania, criminal record data are processed in the Register of Suspects, Accused and Convicted Persons, where personal data are linked using a unique personal identifier (personal identification number) obtained through the interoperability of this register with the Population Register of the Republic of Lithuania.

The register contains the personal identification number (where assigned in accordance with the Law on the Population Register), the person's name(s), surname(s) and

other identifying data. This ensures that criminal record information remains linked to the same individual, even where the person has lawfully changed their name, surname or other personal details.

7. Is access to public funds for projects implying contact with children conditional on the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children for persons employed in or volunteering for such projects?

Please provide details.

Yes. In Lithuania, access to public funding for projects involving contact with children is conditional on compliance with national child protection requirements, including the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children.

Entities implementing publicly funded projects are required to ensure that all persons employed in or volunteering for such projects, whose work or other activities involve direct and regular contact with children, meet the legal requirements for working with children, including holding a valid legitimate work with children QR code. This requirement applies to both employees and volunteers, or any other persons involved in activities, regardless of whether the project is implemented by a public or private entity.

Accordingly, the allocation and use of public funds for projects involving children is linked to the obligation to comply with national child protection standards, ensuring that only persons who are not subject to legally established restrictions are permitted to work or carry out activities with children.

#### **Information included in screening**

8. Does the criminal record check include criminal convictions for:
- a. sexual abuse of a child (Article 18 of the Lanzarote Convention)
  - b. sexual exploitation of a child ("child prostitution" Article 19 of the Lanzarote Convention)
  - c. acts involving child sexual abuse material ("child pornography" Article 20 of the Lanzarote Convention)
  - d. offences related to the participation of children in pornographic performances (Article 21 of the Lanzarote Convention)
  - e. corruption of a child (causing a child to witness sexual activities) (Article 22 of the Lanzarote Convention)
  - f. solicitation of a child for sexual purposes ("grooming"), including online (Article 23 of the Lanzarote Convention)
  - g. aiding and abetting or attempting the above offences (Article 24 of the Lanzarote Convention)
  - h. any other convictions (please specify)?

Please provide details.

Yes. Criminal record screening in Lithuania covers final criminal convictions for all principal sexual offences against children as provided for in the Lanzarote Convention, as well as other criminal offences that may pose a risk to the safety of children.

Pursuant to Article 30(1) of the Law on the Fundamentals of Protection of the Rights of the Child (hereinafter – the Law), persons who have been convicted by a final court judgment of the following criminal offences are prohibited from working or carrying out any activity involving children, regardless of whether the conviction has expired or been expunged:

- a. sexual abuse of a child (Article 18 of the Lanzarote Convention);
- b. sexual exploitation of a child for prostitution and profiting from prostitution (Article 19 of the Lanzarote Convention);
- c. offences related to child sexual abuse material (child pornography) (Article 20 of the Lanzarote Convention);
- d. offences related to the participation of children in pornographic performances (Article 21 of the Lanzarote Convention);
- e. corruption of a child, including causing a child to witness sexual activities (Article 22 of the Lanzarote Convention);
- f. solicitation of a child for sexual purposes (“grooming”), including through information and communication technologies (Article 23 of the Lanzarote Convention);
- g. aiding and abetting or attempting to commit the above-mentioned offences (Article 24 of the Lanzarote Convention);
- h. In addition to the sexual offences listed above, criminal record screening also covers final convictions for other intentional serious and very serious criminal offences specified in Article 30(1) of the Law, including: crimes against humanity and war crimes; crimes against the independence, territorial integrity and constitutional order of the State; homicide; trafficking in human beings; abduction of a child or substitution of a newborn; crimes against public security; and offences related to the handling of narcotic or psychotropic, poisonous or strongly acting substances. Persons convicted of sexual offences against children (listed in points a–g above), as well as of the other intentional serious and very serious criminal offences listed under point h, are subject to a lifelong prohibition on working or carrying out activities involving children, regardless of whether the conviction has expired or been expunged. In cases of sexual offences, this prohibition also applies where the person has been exempted from criminal liability.

By contrast, for other intentional criminal offences explicitly listed in Article 30(1) of the Law to which a lifelong prohibition does not apply, a temporary restriction on working or carrying out activities involving children is imposed until the conviction expires or is expunged, including in cases of: serious or minor bodily injury; infliction of physical pain or minor health impairment; exploitation for forced labour or services; involvement of a child in criminal activities; robbery; extortion; offences related to the handling of weapons, ammunition, explosives or military equipment; and unlawful transportation of persons across the State border. Once the conviction for such offences has expired or been expunged, the restriction on working or carrying out activities involving children under Article 30 of the Law no longer applies.

In practice, criminal record screening is implemented through the QR code, which confirms whether the restrictions provided for in Article 30 of the Law apply to a given person.

9. Does the screening of persons applying for roles or positions specified in questions 1 and 3 above extend beyond criminal convictions for sexual offences against children to:
  - a. relevant administrative or disciplinary sanctions
  - b. other information available to the authorities (e.g. judicial decisions in civil proceedings)?
 Please provide details.

To some extent. In Lithuania, the screening of persons applying for the roles or positions referred to in Questions 1 and 3 is primarily based on criminal convictions, as explicitly listed in Article 30(1) of the Law. These restrictions apply exclusively to criminal offences under the Criminal Code and do not apply to administrative offences or disciplinary sanctions as such.

It should be noted that, pursuant to Article 30(2) of the Law, additional work- or activity-related restrictions may apply to certain categories of persons on the basis of special sector-specific legislation. In particular, teachers are subject to a broader assessment of impeccable reputation under Article 5<sup>1</sup> of the Law on Education, which covers not only criminal convictions but also certain disciplinary, professional and ethical circumstances, such as dismissal for serious breaches of official or labour duties, abuse of psychoactive substances, or violations of the teachers' code of ethics.

In addition, other persons, depending on the nature of their work, services provided, voluntary activities, internships, traineeships or self-employment, may also be subject to additional requirements or restrictions laid down in legislation regulating specific sectors. These additional requirements are sector-specific and do not alter the general rule established in Article 30(1) of the Law.

a. No. Administrative or disciplinary sanctions in themselves do not constitute a ground for applying the restrictions on working or carrying out activities involving children established under Article 30 of the Law, except where special legislation applicable to certain professions (e.g. teachers) provides for additional reputation requirements.

b. No. Other information available to the authorities, such as court decisions in civil proceedings, likewise does not constitute an independent ground for applying the restrictions laid down in Article 30 of the Law, in the absence of a criminal conviction for the offences specified therein.

10. If restrictions on the exercise of the relevant activities apply as a result of a criminal conviction for sexual offences against children, in line with Article 27 paragraph 3.b:
  - a. are they life-long?
  - b. if they are not life-long, please specify the time-limits applicable
  - c. are they applied only to activities in the public sector?
 Please provide details.

Under Article 30(1) of the Law, a person loses the right to work or carry out any activities involving children for life if he or she is found guilty of sexual offences against children (or as mentioned at the beginning of this questionnaire – against adult person), regardless of whether the criminal conviction has expired or been expunged. This restriction also applies where the person has been exempted from criminal liability for sexual offences.

a. Yes. Restrictions on the exercise of activities involving children due to sexual offences against children are life-long.

b. Not applicable. As restrictions imposed due to sexual offences against children are life-long, no time limits apply to such restrictions.

c. No. These restrictions are not limited to activities in the public sector. They apply across all sectors, irrespective of whether the activity is carried out in the public or private sector and regardless of the legal form of the activity (employment, service provision, volunteering, traineeships, internships or other forms of activity involving children).

11. Does the criminal record check verify the existence of an expunged or spent criminal conviction for sexual offences against children for persons applying for roles or positions specified in questions 1 and 3?

Please provide details.

Yes. In Lithuania, criminal record screening also verifies the existence of expunged or spent criminal convictions in cases where a person has been found guilty of sexual offences against children and applies for the roles or positions referred to in Questions 1 and 3.

Pursuant to Article 30(1) of the Law, persons convicted of sexual offences against children lose the right to work or carry out activities involving children for life, regardless of whether the criminal conviction has expired or been expunged. This rule also applies where a person has been exempted from criminal liability for sexual offences.

Accordingly, when assessing a person's eligibility to work or carry out activities involving children, criminal record screening includes information on previous convictions, even where such convictions are considered expunged or spent under general criminal law rules, insofar as they relate to sexual offences against children. The QR code does not indicate information about which offenses the person was found guilty of or exempted from criminal liability. The offenses are specified in the individual legal act by which the decision is made not to issue a QR code to the person.

### **Screening procedure**

12. How is the screening procedure set out in your legal framework (in a single piece of legislation, sector-specific legislation, or other)?

Please provide details.

The screening procedure in Lithuania is laid down in a single piece of legislation – the Law on the Fundamentals of Protection of the Rights of the Child, while its implementation is further detailed in secondary (implementing) legislation.

Articles 30(5) and 30(6) of the Law set out the core elements of the screening procedure and the distribution of responsibilities.

The detailed procedure for the issuance, use and verification of the QR code is established in secondary legislation adopted by Information Technology and Communication Department under the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Lithuania.

13. If screening is required, who is required to act?

- a. the employer, volunteer recruiter or child protection authority is expected to obtain the necessary information directly from the authorities
  - b. the candidate must provide proof of absence of convictions
  - c. another scenario. Please specify
- Please provide details.

a. Pursuant to Article 30(5) and (6) of the Law, the employer, receiving organisation or other legal entity (e.g. a legal entity that engages a person to provide services or organises a traineeship or an internship) is required, before allowing a person to commence work or any other activity involving children, to verify that the person holds a valid QR code and to ensure that none of the prohibitions laid down in Article 30 of the Law apply.

Persons working or carrying out activities involving children must hold a valid QR code, and the periodic verification of the validity of the QR code is carried out by the employer, receiving organisation or other legal entity, at least once per calendar year.

b. Where the person concerned is a foreign national, he or she must personally submit to the employer or receiving organisation documents issued by the competent authorities of the foreign state of which the person is a national or in which the person permanently resides, confirming the absence of convictions for the criminal offences listed in Article 30(1) of the Law.

c. If a person intending to commence employment, volunteering, a traineeship, an internship or the provision of services does not yet have a QR code, the employer, receiving organisation or other legal entity intending to engage that person may apply for the issuance of the QR code. Persons intending to engage in individual or other self-employed activities must apply for the issuance of the QR code themselves.

14. If screening is required, who bears the costs of screening procedures?

Please provide details.

In Lithuania, screening is carried out through the legitimate work with children QR code mechanism. The QR code is issued free of charge upon application to the Information Technology and Communications Department under the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter – IRD), which is the controller and processor of the Register of Suspects, Accused and Convicted Persons.

Verification of the validity of the QR code is also carried out free of charge, using state-provided technical tools (the QR code scanning service and the QR code verification function implemented in the electronic services portal of the IRD). Accordingly, the screening procedure in the Republic of Lithuania does not create an additional financial burden for employers, receiving organisations or other legal entities, nor for the persons subject to screening.

Where the person concerned is a foreign national, he or she is required to submit documents issued by the competent authorities of the foreign state confirming the absence of relevant criminal convictions; such documents are issued in accordance with the legislation of the respective foreign state.

15. How does your State monitor that employers, volunteer recruiters or child protection authorities comply with the relevant regulations on screening?  
Please provide details.

In Lithuania, compliance with screening requirements is monitored by state authorities, applying a sector-based supervision model laid down in Article 30(13) of the Law.

The implementation of the requirements of this Article and the prevention of violations are supervised by the following competent authorities, according to the relevant sector of activity:

- in child social care institutions – the Department for the Supervision of Social Services under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour;
- in educational institutions, enterprises and organisations – the National Education Agency;
- in health care institutions, enterprises and organisations – the State Health Care Accreditation Agency under the Ministry of Health;
- in cases of volunteering, traineeships, internships, service provision and individual or other self-employed activities (where such activities are carried out outside child social care, educational or health care institutions) – the State Child Rights Protection and Adoption Service under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour;
- where persons are employed under employment contracts in institutions, enterprises or organisations other than child social care, educational or health care institutions (e.g. in the cultural, leisure or other sectors) – the State Labour Inspectorate under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour.

Accordingly, compliance with screening requirements in Lithuania is supervised by competent state authorities on a sectoral basis, ensuring both control of compliance and the prevention of violations.

16. If screening is required, are there sanctions foreseen for failure to comply with it? If yes, what type of sanctions?  
Please provide details.

Yes. In Lithuania, failure to comply with screening requirements gives rise to administrative liability, as provided for in Article 72(4)–(9) of the Code of Administrative Offences.

Sanctions are differentiated according to the nature of the infringement and the responsible subject:

a. For individuals who carry out individual activities or provide services involving children without holding a valid QR code, an administrative fine of EUR 300 to 500 may be imposed; for a repeated offence, the fine ranges from EUR 500 to 1,000.

b. For employers or other legal entities, the following sanctions apply:

- where the employer fails to verify the validity of QR codes, an administrative fine of EUR 300 to 500 may be imposed; for a repeated offence, EUR 500 to 1,000;
- where an employer allows a person to work or carry out activities involving children despite the fact that the person has committed sexual offences against a child or an adult, or other criminal offences listed in Article 30(1) of the Law, an administrative fine of EUR 3,000 to 5,000 may be imposed; for a repeated offence, EUR 5,000 to 6,000.

This sanctioning framework ensures that non-compliance with screening requirements leads to clear and proportionate legal consequences, corresponding to the seriousness of the violation.

17. Is regular screening, beyond the initial recruitment process, required, for:

- a. professionals in contact with children
- b. volunteers in contact with children
- c. foster parents and legal guardians?

If regular screening is required, please specify its frequency and provide other details.

a. Yes – for professionals in contact with children. Pursuant to Article 30(6) of the Law, persons whose work or other activities involve direct and regular contact with children are required to hold a valid QR code. The employer, receiving organisation or other legal entity (e.g. a legal entity engaging a person to provide services or organising a traineeship, internship or volunteering) is required to verify the validity of the QR code periodically, but not less frequently than once per calendar year.

b. Yes – for volunteers in contact with children. The same periodic screening requirement applies to volunteers whose voluntary activities involve contact with children. The validity of the QR code is verified periodically (at least once per calendar year) by the organisation hosting or coordinating the voluntary activity.

c. Yes, but in another way – for foster parents and legal guardians. For foster parents (guardians) and legal guardians, regular screening through the legitimate work with children QR code mechanism does not apply. Instead, a foster care/guardianship review procedure is carried out, during which the performance of foster care/guardianship duties is assessed. Information regarding suspected or established criminal conduct may be taken into account during such reviews and may constitute grounds for removal or suspension of the person from foster care/guardianship duties.

18. Where a person working or volunteering in contact with children is under investigation for a sexual offence against a child, are law enforcement or other authorities allowed to inform the employer or volunteer organisation about the ongoing investigation? If yes, what is the consequence?

Please provide details.

Under Article 30 of the Law, restrictions on working or carrying out activities involving children apply only in cases where a person has been found guilty by a final criminal court judgment of the criminal offences listed in that Article, as well as in cases where a person who has committed a sexual offence has been exempted from criminal liability.

For persons who are only suspected of a criminal offence or are subject to an ongoing pre-trial investigation, the restrictions on working or carrying out activities involving children laid down in the Law do not apply. Accordingly, the mere fact that a pre-trial investigation has been initiated against a person does not constitute a legal basis, under the Law, for an employer or a volunteer-hosting organisation to impose restrictions on that person's work or activities involving children, including dismissal from a position, on the basis of this Law alone.

### **Cross-border screening**

19. If the candidate for roles or positions specified in questions 1 and 3 has previously resided or worked in different countries, is it required to verify the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children in each of those countries in respect of:

- a. professionals
- b. volunteers
- c. persons wishing to become an adoptive parent, a foster parent or a child's legal guardian?

Please provide details.

a. In Lithuania, screening of professionals is primarily based on the legitimate work with children QR code mechanism, which is generated on the basis of data from the Register of Suspects, Accused and Convicted Persons and allows for the assessment of whether a person is subject to restrictions on working or carrying out activities involving children under national law. For Lithuanian nationals, there is no obligation to systematically verify criminal records in each country where the person has previously resided or worked; a valid QR code is sufficient.

For foreign nationals, there is a requirement to provide a certificate issued by the competent authorities of the State of nationality or of the State of permanent residence, confirming the absence of relevant criminal convictions. Subsequent screening is carried out through the QR code mechanism.

b. The same screening procedure applies to volunteers as to professionals. For Lithuanian nationals, a valid QR code is sufficient. Foreign nationals must provide a certificate issued by the competent authorities of their State of nationality or permanent residence, and subsequent checks are carried out through the QR code system.

c. Adoptive parents are subject to more extensive cross-border screening. In accordance with national legal provisions governing adoption procedures (Regulations on the Organisation of Adoption approved by the Government), persons who have lived in another State for more than one year, or who are foreign nationals or stateless persons, must submit certificates issued by the competent authorities of the State of nationality and/or the State of last residence, covering all committed criminal offences, where such information cannot be obtained from Lithuanian registers.

Foster parents and legal guardians are screened on the basis of national register data, namely the Register of Suspects, Accused and Convicted Persons. Systematic verification in each country of previous residence or employment is not required for this category of persons.

20. Is there a mechanism to:

- a. request data about a person's criminal convictions for sexual offences against children from the competent authority of another State outside the context of criminal proceedings<sup>1</sup> (please specify)
- b. provide data about a person's criminal convictions for sexual offences against children to the competent authority of another State outside the context of criminal proceedings (please specify)?

Please provide details.

a) Yes. The competent authority in Lithuania – IRD – uses the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS) in order to obtain information on convictions handed down in other European Union Member States for sexual offences against children.

Such requests are made outside the context of criminal proceedings for the following purposes:

- P-00-003101 – for the purpose of a person's engagement in professional or voluntary activities involving direct and regular contact with children (pursuant to Directive 2011/93/EU);
- P-00-003001 – for the purpose of determining the right to work in positions involving children;
- P-00-003009 – for the purpose of determining the right to work as a teacher.

b) Yes. Pursuant to Directive 2011/93/EU, and in accordance with national legal regulation, other European Union Member States likewise submit requests to Lithuania via the ECRIS system for information on a person's criminal convictions for the same purposes.

In such cases, data from the national register – the Register of Suspects, Accused and Convicted Persons – are provided, including both current and archived convictions for sexual offences, as well as for serious and very serious criminal offences, in accordance with the law of the Republic of Lithuania.

It should be noted that each European Union Member State, when acting under Directive 2011/93/EU, provides data in accordance with its own national legal framework.

21. Is there an obligation to provide data about a person's criminal convictions for sexual offences against children at the request of the competent authority of another State outside the context of criminal proceedings?

Please provide details.

Yes. This obligation arises from Directive 2011/93/EU, which has been transposed into Lithuanian national law in order to ensure a high level of protection of children. The relevant provisions of the Directive are enshrined in the Law.

In order to strengthen the protection of children's rights and interests, Article 30(1) of the Law establishes a broader list of criminal offences for which restrictions on working or carrying out activities involving children apply, without exceeding the discretion granted to Member States under the Directive to introduce stricter protective measures at national level.

Accordingly, when providing data to the competent authorities of other States, the provisions of the Law are applied: it is verified whether a person has been convicted of sexual offences, and the relevant data are provided regardless of whether the criminal conviction has expired or been expunged.

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<sup>1</sup> For purposes of recruitment, volunteering, adoption, foster care or guardianship.

### **Additional details and reflections**

22. Please add any further details regarding the modalities of the screening procedures applicable in your State, if relevant.  
Please provide details.

In Lithuania, the screening system is based on a digitalised and differentiated model, in which the decision on whether a person may work or carry out activities involving children is based on a single data source – the Register of Suspects, Accused and Convicted Persons, using the QR code mechanism.

This system allows for a standardised assessment of whether a person is subject to restrictions on working or carrying out activities involving children as laid down in Article 30 of the Law, and ensures a uniform screening practice across all sectors.

Screening requirements are differentiated according to the nature of the activity and the level of contact with children. In institutions whose activities are exclusively oriented towards children and where there is a high concentration of children, restrictions apply to a broader range of persons, regardless of whether their duties involve direct and regular contact with children. In other sectors, restrictions are linked to the existence of direct and regular contact with children, in order to avoid unjustified limitations on the right to work.

A differentiated system of restrictions is also applied according to the nature and seriousness of criminal offences: for the most serious criminal offences, in particular sexual offences, life-long restrictions apply, whereas in other cases time-limited restrictions apply, linked to the status of the criminal conviction.

Screening is not a one-off measure: periodic verification of the validity of the QR code is carried out throughout the entire period of the person's activity. The system is digitalised, with electronic services in place to automate screening procedures (e.g. verification of lists of employees, recording of periodic checks, automatic notifications of changes in status), thereby ensuring more effective control and greater transparency in compliance.

Also, please note that additional materials regarding screening process in Lithuania were submitted during presentation of this mechanisms during Lanzarote Committee plenary session in June 2026.

23. What challenges related to the screening for criminal convictions for sexual offences against children of professionals, volunteers and persons wishing to become adoptive parents, foster parents or a child's legal guardian exist in your State in practice (e.g. administrative costs, delays, cross-border co-operation)?  
Please provide details.

Although the screening system in Lithuania operates effectively overall, a number of objective practical challenges can be identified in its implementation.

First, the cross-border dimension remains more complex in cases involving foreign nationals. The current legal framework does not provide for exceptions: all foreign nationals intending to work or carry out activities involving children in Lithuania are required to submit a certificate issued by the competent authorities of their State of nationality or permanent residence, confirming that no restrictions apply to them with regard to working or carrying out activities involving children. Practical difficulties arise in particular where a person is a political refugee, or where armed conflict or other serious disruptions are taking place in the country of nationality, making it objectively difficult or impossible to obtain the required documents through normal administrative channels.

Second, obtaining certificates issued by competent authorities of foreign States may take a considerable amount of time, and procedures and document formats vary from one State to another. This may result in additional time burdens both for candidates and for employers or legal entities that recruit persons to work, volunteer, undertake traineeships or internships, or provide services involving children.

Third, the IRD encounters challenges at national level when assessing foreign convictions and determining whether they fall within the scope of the restrictions established by national law, particularly in cases where copies of foreign court judgments are not available. Although ITCD submits requests to foreign authorities, responses are not always received, or copies of judgments are not provided.

In order to assess whether an act described in a foreign judgment is equivalent to the criminal offences listed in national legislation, it is necessary to examine the constituent elements of the offence, as required under the Criminal Code of the Republic of Lithuania. Where such information is unavailable or not received in a timely manner, IRD may be unable to adopt decisions on the issuance of a QR code within the statutory time limits.

Finally, in practice it is important to ensure a consistent balance between child protection and the rights of individuals, in particular in situations where a person is only suspected of having committed a criminal offence and restrictions on working or carrying out activities involving children are not yet applicable under the current legal framework.

24. What promising practices, if any, would your State like to highlight in the screening of professionals, volunteers and other persons in contact with children?  
Please provide details.

Lithuania highlights as a promising practice its digitalised screening system, in which the decision on the possibility to work or carry out activities involving children is based on data from the Register of Suspects, Accused and Convicted Persons, using the QR code mechanism.

This system is considered a good practice because it:

- ensures a uniform and standardised screening process across all sectors;
- enables fast, real-time verification without additional administrative procedures;
- allows for continuous, rather than one-off, screening;
- significantly reduces administrative burden for individuals, employers and authorities;
- increases transparency and traceability, as screening checks can be recorded and reviewed by supervisory authorities where necessary.

In addition, the differentiated application of restrictions according to the nature of criminal offences and the context of the activity allows for effective protection of children, while avoiding unjustified restrictions on the right to work or carry out activities.