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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW

LAW ON CITIZENSHIP OF LITHUANIA

**LAW
ON CITIZENSHIP**

**CHAPTER 1
General Provisions**

Article 1. Citizens of the Republic of Lithuania

The following persons shall be citizens of the Republic of Lithuania:

- (1) persons who were citizens of the Republic of Lithuania prior to 15 June 1940, and their children and grandchildren provided they have not acquired citizenship of another state;
- (2) persons who were permanent residents on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania in the period from 9 January 1919 to 15 June 1940, as well as their children and grandchildren, provided on the day of entry into force of this Law they have been permanent residents in Lithuania, and are not citizens of another state;
- (3) persons who acquired citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania or had it restored to them prior to 4 November 1991 under the Law on Citizenship which had been in force before the enactment of this Law;
- (4) persons who have implemented the right to citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, or had citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania restored to them under this Law; and
- (5) other persons who have acquired citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania under this Law.

A citizen of the Republic of Lithuania may not at the same time be citizen of another state, except in cases provided for in this Law.

Article 2. Document Confirming Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

The passport of a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania shall be the document confirming citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania. The procedure for issuing the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania shall be established by the Republic of Lithuania Citizen's Passport Regulations.

Article 3. Legal Status of Citizens of the Republic of Lithuania

Citizens of the Republic of Lithuania shall have all socioeconomic, political, and individual rights and freedoms that are provided and guaranteed by the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania, and international agreements binding to the Republic of Lithuania. Citizens of the Republic shall be entitled to suffrage. This right shall be implemented in accordance with the procedure established by law. Citizens of the Republic of Lithuania, permanently residing in Lithuania, shall have the right to be elected to representative bodies of state power and other elective state bodies of the Republic of Lithuania according to the procedure established by law, to be appointed to various offices in the bodies of state power and government, or to be elected judges of law courts of the

Republic of Lithuania, as well as to take part in referenda. A citizen of the Republic of Lithuania must observe the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Lithuania, perform the duties prescribed thereby, protect the interests of the Republic of Lithuania, contribute to the strengthening of its power and prestige, and be loyal to the Republic.

Article 4. Retaining Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania upon Marriage and Divorce

Marriage to a foreign national or to a person without citizenship, contracted by a man or woman who is a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania, as well as dissolution of such marriage shall not by itself change the citizenship of either spouse.

Article 5. Retaining Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

Residence by a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania in a foreign state shall not by itself result in the loss of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania. Beyond the borders of the Republic of Lithuania its citizens shall be protected and taken care of by the State of Lithuania.

Article 6. Extradition of Citizens of the Republic of Lithuania is not Permitted

Citizen of the Republic of Lithuania may not be extradited to another state.

CHAPTER 2

Acquiring Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

Article 7. Ways of Acquiring Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania shall be acquired:

- (1) by birth;
- (2) by implementing the right to citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania or by having citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania restored;
- (3) by being granted citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania (by naturalisation);
- (4) by voicing one's option on other grounds, as provided by international treaties with the Republic of Lithuania; and
- (5) on other grounds provided by this Law.

Article 8. Citizenship of Children whose Parents are Citizens of the Republic of Lithuania

A child, both of whose parents at the moment of his or her birth were citizens of the Republic of Lithuania, shall be a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania regardless of whether he or she was born on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania, or beyond its borders.

Article 9. Citizenship of Children One of Whose Parents is a Citizen of the Republic of Lithuania

A child, one of whose parents at the moment of his or her birth was a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania, shall be a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania, if

- (1) he or she was born on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania; or
- (2) he or she was born beyond the borders of the Republic of Lithuania, but at the moment of his or her birth both or one parent had a permanent place of residence on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania. If at the moment of the child's birth one parent was a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania, and both parents had a permanent place of residence beyond the borders of the Republic of Lithuania, the citizenship of the child, until he or

she is 18 years of age, shall be established by the parents' agreement. A child, one of whose parents at the moment of his or her birth was a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania, and the other parent was either a person without citizenship or unknown, shall be a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania regardless of his or her place of birth.

Article 10. Acquiring Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania by Children Whose Parents are Persons without Citizenship

A child, whose parents are persons without citizenship and permanent residents in Lithuania, shall acquire citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 11. Citizenship of Children Whose Parents are Unknown

A child found on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania, both of whose parents are unknown, shall be considered born in Lithuania and shall be a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania, unless there are grounds for him or her to acquire a different status.

Article 12. Conditions for Granting Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

A person, upon his or her request, may be granted citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, provided he or she agrees to take the oath to the Republic and meets the following conditions of citizenship:

- (1) has passed the examination in the Lithuanian language (can speak and read Lithuanian);
- (2) for the last ten years has had a permanent place of residence on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania;
- (3) has a permanent place of employment or a constant legal source of support on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania;
- (4) has passed the examination in the basic provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania; and
- (5) is a person without citizenship, or is a citizen of a state under the laws of which he or she loses citizenship of said state upon acquiring citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, or if the person notifies in writing of his or her decision to refuse citizenship of another state upon being granted citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania.

Persons meeting the conditions specified in this Article shall be granted citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania taking into consideration the interests of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 13. Reasons Precluding the Granting of Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania shall not be granted (including the voicing of one's option) to :

- (1) persons who have committed crimes against humanity or acts of genocide;
- (2) persons who took part in criminal activities against the Republic of Lithuania;
- (3) persons who, before coming to Lithuania, have been sentenced in another state to imprisonment for a deliberate crime for which criminal liability is imposed by the laws of the Republic of Lithuania, or have been sentenced in Lithuania for a deliberate crime punishable by imprisonment;
- (4) persons who are chronic alcoholics or drug addicts; and
- (5) persons who are ill with especially dangerous infectious diseases.

Article 14. Granting Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania to a Person who has Contracted Marriage with a Citizen of the Republic of Lithuania

A person, who has contracted marriage with a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania, and has maintained one's marital status during the last 3 years while residing in Lithuania, shall be granted citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, provided he or she meets the conditions specified by paragraphs 1, 4, and 5 of part 1 of Article 12 of this Law.

Article 15. Oath to the Republic

Persons, who are granted citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania by way of naturalisation or by voicing their option, as well as under Article 16 of this Law, shall take the following oath: "I (full name), accepting citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, pledge to be loyal to the Republic of Lithuania, to observe the Constitution and laws of the Republic, to defend the independence of Lithuania, to protect the territorial integrity of the state. I pledge to respect the state language of Lithuania, its culture and customs, and to strengthen the democratic Lithuanian state." The oath to the Republic shall be administered in public, in a solemn atmosphere. A person accepting citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania shall read aloud the text of the oath in the Lithuanian language and sign it.

Article 16. Granting Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania to Persons who have been of Merit to the State of Lithuania

Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania may be granted to foreign nationals who have been of merit to the Republic of Lithuania without applying to them conditions of granting citizenship specified in Article 12 of this Law.

CHAPTER 3

Retention of the Right to Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania. Restoration of Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania. Loss of Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania and Returning Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

Article 17. Retention of the Right to Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

The right to citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania shall be retained for an indefinite period for:

(1) persons who had citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania until 15 June 1940 and are at the present time residing in other states, provided they have not repatriated from Lithuania;

(2) children of persons who had citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania until 15 June 1940, who were born in Lithuania or in refugee camps but are at the present time residing in other states; and

(3) other persons of Lithuanian origin who are residing in foreign states or on the territories governed by said states.

Persons for whom the right to citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania is retained shall, at their request, be issued documents confirming the right.

Said persons together with members of their families may enter the Republic of Lithuania without visas and reside in Lithuania without having the requirements of the Law on Immigration applied to them, as well as depart from Lithuania. Laws may also provide for other rights of said persons.

Persons specified in this Law shall implement the right to citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania in accordance with this Law.

Article 18. Conditions of Implementing the Right to Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania or Restoring Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

Persons specified in paragraph 1 of part 1 of Article 17 of this Law shall implement their right to citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania upon refusing citizenship of another state.

Persons specified in paragraphs 2 and 3 of part 1 of Article 17 of this Law shall implement their right to citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania upon refusing citizenship of another state, and moving to Lithuania for permanent residence as well as taking the oath to the Republic of Lithuania.

Persons of Lithuanian origin who had citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, and who departed from Lithuania in the period from 15 June 1940 to 11 March 1990, and are at the present time residing in other states, as well as their children who have not acquired citizenship of another state by birth, shall have their citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania restored upon presenting a written notice to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania or to diplomatic missions of the Republic of Lithuania abroad stating that they are citizens of the Republic of Lithuania and supplemented with evidence confirming same.

Restoration of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania under this Law shall not by itself bring about legal consequences with regard to the members of family of the person who has had his citizenship restored.

A person shall be considered to have had his citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania restored upon being issued the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 19. Loss of Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania shall be lost if:

- (1) a person renounces citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania ;
- (2) a person acquires citizenship of another state;
- (3) a person severs the actual links with the State of Lithuania; and
- (4) there are other reasons therefor, as provided by international agreements with the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 20. The Right of a Citizen of the Republic of Lithuania to Renounce Citizenship

The right of a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania may not be abridged, except in case specified in this Law.

A person's application concerning renunciation of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania shall be refused if a criminal action has been brought against him or if there is executive judgment of the court concerning the person.

Article 21. Loss of Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania upon Severing the Actual Links with the State of Lithuania

A person may be recognised as having lost citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania if he or she severs the actual links with the State of Lithuania by:

- (1) having lived abroad for an uninterrupted period exceeding 3 years with an invalid passport of a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania or without said passport; and
- (2) joining the military service of another state or taking employment as a state official in another state without the permission of the competent bodies of the Republic of

Lithuania.

Article 22. Returning of Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

A person deprived of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania under paragraphs 1, 3, and 4 of Article 19 of this Law may be returned citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania on his or her application, provided at the moment of filing the application the person is a permanent resident on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania, and meets the conditions specified in paragraphs 2, 3, and 5 of part 1 of Article 12 of this Law.

Article 23. Declaring the Act on the Granting of Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania Invalid

The Act on the Granting of Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania shall be declared invalid if a naturalised person or a person who voiced his or her option [of nationality], has acquired citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania by presenting forged documents or by any other fraud, or has not renounced citizenship of another state, or if the court determines that the person, prior or after the granting of citizenship, committed crimes against humanity under international law, or acts of genocide, or committed crimes against the Republic of Lithuania.

The Act on the Granting of Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania may also be declared invalid if the court determines that in the period after 15 June 1940 the person organised or carried out deportation or extermination of the residents [of Lithuania], suppressed the resistance movement in Lithuania, or, after 11 March 1990, took part in the activities directed against the independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Lithuania.

CHAPTER 4

Citizenship of Children upon the Change of Parents' Citizenship

Article 24. Change of Children's Citizenship when both Parents Change their Citizenship

If both parents acquire citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, or if both parents lose it, citizenship of children under 14 years of age shall change accordingly.

Article 25. Acquisition of Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania by Children in the Event of Acquisition of Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania by One of the Parents

If one of the parents acquires citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, whereas the other parent retains citizenship of another state, the child of such parents may acquire citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania on the application of both parents. If one of the parents acquires citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, whereas the other parent remains a person without citizenship, the child of such parents residing beyond the borders of the Republic of Lithuania may acquire citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania on the application of the parent who has acquired citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 26. Retention of Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania by Children if One of the Parents Loses Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

If one of the parents loses citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, whereas the other parent is a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania, the child of such parents shall retain citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania until he or she is 14 years of age.

Article 27. Consent of Children Is Necessary for Changing Their Citizenship

If the parents change their citizenship, citizenship of their children who are 14 to 18 years of age may be changed only upon the children's written consent.

CHAPTER 5

**Procedure for Resolving Issues Concerning Citizenship
of the Republic of Lithuania**

Article 28. Filing Applications and Motions on Issues Concerning Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

Issues concerning the granting of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, implementation of the right to citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, renunciation of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, and returning of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania shall be considered upon a written application filed by the person concerned.

The following documents must be appended to the application for the granting of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania: a document confirming the person's identity, the person's birth certificate, and certifications regarding that person's permanent place of residence and employment (occupation) or any other legal source of support, and documents confirming the absence of reasons specified in paragraphs 4 and 5 of Article 13 of this Law.

The following documents must be appended to the application concerning the implementation of the right to citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania or restoration of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania: a document confirming the person's identity, a document confirming the person's nationality, documents confirming citizenship of another state or renunciation of that citizenship, and documents regarding the person's permanent place of residence. (Amended 11 February 1992)

The following documents must be appended to the application concerning renunciation of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania: a document confirming the person's identity, the person's birth certificate, and documents regarding the person's permanent place of residence and employment (occupation). Applications concerning renunciation of citizenship shall be accepted upon the payment of state duty in the amount fixed by the Government.

The following documents shall be appended to the application concerning the returning of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania: a document confirming the person's identity, the person's birth certificate, a document regarding the grounds for the loss of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, documents regarding the person's permanent place of residence and employment (occupation) or any other legal source of support.

Applications of persons who are under 18 years of age concerning the granting of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, restoration of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, implementation of the right to citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, renunciation or returning of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania shall be filed by such persons' legal representatives.

The Ministries of Internal Affairs, and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania shall have the right to submit motions to recognize a person as having lost citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania under Article 21 of this Law.

Applications concerning the granting of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania,

renunciation of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, or returning of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania shall be addressed to the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania and filed with the appropriate regional (rural district) or city Board.

Persons specified in paragraph 1 of part 1 of Article 17 of this Law shall file applications concerning the implementation of the right to citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania with agencies of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania or with diplomatic (consular) agencies of the Republic of Lithuania abroad. Persons specified in paragraphs 2 and 3 of part 1 of Article 17 of this Law shall address applications concerning the implementation of the right to citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania and file said applications with the appropriate regional (rural district) or city Board.

Applications concerning restoration of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania shall be filed directly with the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania or addressed to the Ministry and filed with diplomatic agencies of the Republic of Lithuania abroad.

Upon meeting the requirements set forth in part 1 or part 2 of Article 18 of this Law, persons implementing the right to citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania shall be issued passports of a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania by the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Upon meeting the requirements set forth in part 3 of Article 18 of this Law, persons, to whom citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania is restored, shall be issued passports of a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania by the Ministry of Internal Affairs or by diplomatic agencies of the Republic of Lithuania abroad. (Amended 11 February 1992)

Applications concerning the granting of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania under Article 16 of this Law shall be filed directly with the Presidium of the Supreme Council. Documents confirming the person's identity, and other [required] documents shall be appended to the application. The application shall be submitted to the Committee of deputies of the Supreme Council for consideration.

Article 29. Citizenship Committee

The Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall form the Citizenship Committee for the consideration of issues of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania.

The Citizenship Committee shall have the right to invite to its meetings the person whose citizenship is being considered, as well as to instruct state agencies to express, within the time period prescribed by the Committee, their opinion and present all necessary documents on the application or motion that is being considered by the Committee.

A meeting of the Committee shall be operative if not less than two thirds of the members take part therein. Decisions of the Committee shall be adopted by majority vote and registered in a protocol which shall be signed by all the members participating in the meeting.

The Citizenship Committee shall submit to the Presidium of the Supreme Council specific recommendations to comply with the applicants' requests concerning citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania; in cases where the Committee refuses to recommend the granting of citizenship, it shall notify the applicant thereof in writing, setting forth the reasons for refusal.

Article 30. Committee of Deputies of the Supreme Council

Applications concerning the granting of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania under

Article 16 of this Law shall be considered by the Committee of deputies which shall be formed by the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania.

Decisions of the Committee shall be adopted by majority vote of all its members and registered in a protocol which shall be signed by all the members of the Committee participating in the meeting.

The Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall consider applications concerning the granting of citizenship under Article 16 of this Law upon receiving an appropriate recommendation of the Committee of deputies.

Article 31. Adopting Decisions on Applications and Motions Concerning Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

The Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall resolve issues concerning the granting of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, renunciation of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, returning of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, and loss of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, as well as on recognising the Act on the Granting of Citizenship invalid.

The Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall issue directives on granting citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, renunciation, returning, or loss of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, as well as on recognising the Act on the Granting of Citizenship invalid. In cases where the application or motion is rejected, the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall adopt an appropriate resolution.

Decisions concerning restoration of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania shall be adopted by the Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania or by the head of a diplomatic agency of the Republic of Lithuania abroad. Decisions concerning implementation of the right to citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania shall be adopted by the Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania. (Amended 11 February 1992)

Directives on the granting of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, and decisions of the Minister of Internal Affairs on the implementation of the right to citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania under part 2 of Article 18 of this Law shall enter into force only after the person has taken the oath to the Republic of Lithuania at the regional (rural district) or city local governments of the Republic of Lithuania or at diplomatic agencies of the Republic of Lithuania abroad.

Persons, who, upon acquiring citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, lose citizenship of another state, shall take the oath to the Republic of Lithuania only after they have presented documents proving the loss of citizenship of another state.

Within 7 days from administering the oath to the Republic of Lithuania, regional (rural district) and city local governments, and diplomatic agencies of the Republic of Lithuania abroad shall notify thereof the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 32. Adoption of Decisions on the Change of Citizenship of Children

In cases specified in Articles 25-27 of this Law, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania shall consider issues concerning the change of children's citizenship and prepare the necessary documents.

Article 33. Publication of Legal Acts on Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

Upon entering into force, directives of the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the

Republic of Lithuania on the granting, returning, and loss of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, as well as directives declaring the Act on the Granting of Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania invalid shall be published in the "Official Reports of the Supreme Council and Government of the Republic of Lithuania."

Article 34. Renewed Consideration of Applications and Motions Concerning Issues of Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

Renewed application concerning the granting of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, renunciation of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, or returning of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania shall be considered no sooner than one year after the adoption of the previous decision.

Article 35. Preparation of Documents Concerning Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania

Documents concerning citizenship of persons who are permanent residents in Lithuania shall be prepared by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania; documents of persons permanently residing in other states shall be prepared by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania in conjunction with the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

CHAPTER 6
International Agreements

Article 36. Application of International Agreements on Questions of Citizenship

If an international agreement to which the Republic of Lithuania is a party prescribes rules other than those established by this Law, the provisions of the international agreement shall prevail.

VYTAUTAS LANDSBERGIS
President
Supreme Council
Republic of Lithuania

Vilnius
5 December 1991
No. I-2072

LAW

**ON THE VALIDITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA CITIZENSHIP
DOCUMENTS AND ON THE SUPPLEMENT
TO THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA LAW ON CITIZENSHIP**

The Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania resolves:

1. To establish that Citizen of the Republic of Lithuania Certification Cards, and Certifications Testifying to the [Person's] Decision to Acquire Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, issued in pursuance of the Republic of Lithuania Citizenship Law, shall be

valid until the persons are issued with new passports of a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania, but not longer than 1 July 1993.

2. To supplement part 3 of Article 18 of the Republic of Lithuania Law on Citizenship enacted on 5 December 1991, and to have it read as follows: "are at the present time residing in other states, as well as their children who, being born in another state, have not acquired citizenship of that state."

3. To declare the Republic of Lithuania Law on Citizenship enacted on 3 November 1989 no longer in effect.

4. This Law shall enter into force on 11 December 1991.

VYTAUTAS LANDSBERGIS

President

Supreme Council

Republic of Lithuania

Vilnius

10 December 1991

No. I-2079

RESOLUTION

OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA ON THE PROCEDURE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA LAW ON CITIZENSHIP

The Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania resolves:

1. The Republic of Lithuania Law on Citizenship shall enter into force on 11 December 1991.

2. To establish that documents confirming citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania which persons had until 15 June 1940 shall be their domestic or foreign passports of the Republic of Lithuania retained by them, their birth certificates, as well as archival or other documents confirming the fact.

3. To establish that under this Law, a person shall be considered as permanently residing in Lithuania if he or she:

- has been registered in the register of permanent residents of the Republic of Lithuania;

- and has acquired living quarters in Lithuania by the right of ownership or leased same for an indefinite period, or is the owner's or tenant's family member;

- and is employed in Lithuania under employment contract or has another paid occupation in Lithuania, is somebody's dependent or is paid a pension legally due to him or her in Lithuania;

- and pays on the territory of Lithuania income tax, and other taxes established by the laws of the Republic of Lithuania, or is exempt therefrom in the manner established by law.

4. To establish that persons who are citizens of the Republic of Lithuania under this Law and serve in the army of another state (except persons conscripted by force), or are employed as officers of state power or state governing bodies of another state, must terminate said service within the period up to 1 March 1992 or may apply to the Ministry

of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania for permission to temporarily continue their service.

After the expiration of the term, or upon being refused permission, the person shall be recognised as having severed actual links with the Republic of Lithuania, and shall lose citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania in the manner established by this Law.

5. To state that persons serving in the armed forces, internal troops and state security structures, as well as other law enforcement and repressive structures of the Soviet Union which have been unlawfully stationed and operating in Lithuania since 15 June 1940, may not be considered as permanently residing or employed in Lithuania.

6. To establish that the registration of foreigners who are legally permanently residing in Lithuania, and who have passports of the USSR, shall be performed by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania. Said persons must apply, not later than by 1 July 1992, to agencies of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania for permits to reside permanently in Lithuania. The permits must be issued within one month from the day of application.

Said persons must have their internal passports of the USSR changed for foreign passports of their [respective] states by 1 July 1992.

7. To state that with respect to persons specified in Article 1 of the Republic of Lithuania Law on Citizenship, citizenship of the Soviet Union shall be invalid.

8. Upon issuing the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania, passport agencies of the Ministry of Internal Affairs must check whether the person has been issued a Citizen of the Republic of Lithuania Certification Card or a Certification Testifying to the [Person's] Decision to Acquire Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania on valid and lawful grounds. A person who has been issued Republic of Lithuania Citizenship documents on invalid or unlawful grounds may not be issued the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania until the issue of his or her citizenship is resolved in pursuance of this Law.

9. Persons specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 of part 1 of Article 1 of this Law, who have not signed the Pledge which is to be signed upon being issued a Citizen of the Republic of Lithuania Certification Card or a Certification Testifying to the [Person's] Decision to Acquire Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania shall be issued passports of a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania or any other citizenship document only after said persons have signed the Pledge.

Upon issuing said persons with citizenship documents, passport agencies of the Ministry of Internal Affairs must require [the persons present] and check documents proving that the persons meet the requirements set forth in paragraphs 1 and 2 of part 1 of Article 1 of this Law.

10. From the day of entry into force of the Republic of Lithuania Law on Citizenship, passport agencies of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania must cease the issuance of internal passports of the USSR.

To establish that during the period until the passports of the Republic of Lithuania are issued, citizens of the Republic of Lithuania shall use a Citizen of the Republic of Lithuania Certification Card or a Certification Testifying to the [Person's] Decision to Acquire Citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania, and their current passports.

11. To commission the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to determine the documents confirming the right to citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania by 1 March 1992.

12. Priority in issuing passports of a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania shall be given

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to persons who are 16 years of age and receive a passport for the first time, to political prisoners, deportees, and participants in the resistance movement, as well as to persons who by 17 September 1991 had returned their passports of the USSR to passport agencies of the Ministry of Internal Affairs or submitted applications concerning their refusal of the passports of the USSR.

13. This Resolution shall enter into force on 11 December 1991.

VYTAUTAS LANDSBERGIS
President
Supreme Council
Republic of Lithuania

Vilnius
10 December 1991
No. I-2080
