

**50th Human Rights Council Session
Item 6 – UPR Outcomes
Lithuania**

Statement by International Lesbian and Gay Association

Mr. President,

This statement is drafted in consultation with the Lithuanian Gay League.

This year Lithuania received 29 UPR recommendations, the largest number yet, on sexual orientation and gender identity.

These recommendations focused on same-sex family rights recognition, the existing severe lack of protection for transgender people, “anti-gay propaganda” legislation, as well as a major need to strengthen strategic anti-discrimination and anti-hate crime measures to secure rights and equal treatment of LGBTI persons in Lithuania.

We commend Lithuania on accepting recommendations on SOGI issues and consider this to be a strong commitment to continue and intensify its human rights developments.

During these uncertain times and multiple threats coming from hostile neighboring countries, we stress the importance to persevere human rights standards that bolster and define our democracy and independence.

We encourage Lithuania to seize the opportunity to show political leadership in its very symbolic and important role as a member of the United Nations Human Rights Council.

We are prepared to work with the Lithuanian Government and dedicate our efforts, experience, and expertise towards increasing the protection and advancing equality of LGBTI people in Lithuania, its neighborhood, and beyond.

Thank you, Mr. President