



Lithuanian
development
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ADVOCACY • POLICY • PARTNERSHIP

**INTRODUCTORY MAPPING OF LITHUANIAN
UMBRELLA NGOs FOR ADVOCACY, POLICY,
AND PARTNERSHIP FOCAL POINTS**

Vystomojo bendradarbiavimo platforma (Lithuanian NGDO Platform)

www.vbplatforma.org

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Lietuvos Respublikos
socialinės apsaugos
ir darbo ministerija

ADVOCACY / POLICY / PARTNERSHIP

The NGO sector is generally understood as the operation of nongovernmental associations and foundations. This mapping does not include other forms of organised civil society: political parties, trade unions, and religious organisations. National associations and umbrella organisations are listed here for being the direct point of access for thematic areas. The mapping came from the needs expressed by Belarusian civil society organisations and nongovernmental organisations that are already operating in Lithuania or are planning to relocate to Lithuania to have a user-friendly tool – an overview of Lithuanian NGO networks, umbrella organisations and the NGO field for potential cooperation in policy and advocacy as well as possible matching points for partnership. Document prepared by Lithuanian Non-governmental development organizations' platform (www.vbplatforma.org).



CHARITY AND ASSISTANCE FUND “NGO INFORMATION AND SUPPORT CENTRE”

KEYWORDS:

NGOs in Lithuania

NGO consultation

NGO administration

NGO capacity building

NGO cooperation

ONLINE:

3sektorius.lt

Strategic goals:

- To strengthen the NGO sector: information dissemination, consultancy, trainings, methodical tools, databases, conferences and forums.
- To form and strengthen NGO coalitions: establishing NGO coalitions in various public policy fields; developing networks of NGO centres; establishing a national organisation that would unite NGOs; creating a system for the coalition's accountability.
- To strengthen cooperation between NGOs and the government: monitoring laws related to NGO activities; preparing bills and presenting them to the Lithuanian parliament and government; improving the mechanism for 2% income tax*; improving the NGO financing mechanism on national and municipal levels; creating a mechanism for NGO representation.
- To improve the outer environment for NGOs: raising awareness of NGOs in society; preparing “The Third Sector” digital newsletter; publicising information about the Lithuanian NGO sector in national and international publications; administering the coalition's websites; establishing a positive image of the NGO sector.
- To develop the volunteer tradition: creating a law regulating voluntary work and initiating its passing in parliament; creating conditions that would ensure that voluntary work is done and is compensated for; cultivating the society's awareness on the topic of volunteering.

* Under Lithuanian law, every tax-paying citizen can instruct the government to transfer 1.2% of their income tax (paid yearly before 1 May for the previous year) to a registered NGO or CSO in Lithuania as financial aid. Previously this rate was 2%, currently it is reduced to 1.2%.

NATIONAL NGO COALITION

Strategic goals:

- To unify national umbrella NGOs, to work together and cooperate with the aim to strengthen the NGO sector and represent its interests in dealing with governmental institutions.
- To participate in working groups, councils, commissions, and other types of meetings with the Lithuanian parliament, the government, ministries and other institutions for the strengthening and developing of the NGO sector.
- To monitor the NGO development law and to contribute to its implementation on local and national levels.
- To present proposals and recommendations for improving legislation.
- To strengthen civil society.
- To represent the Lithuanian NGO Coalition on international level.

KEYWORDS:

Link to Thematic
Associations

National Level
NGO Advocacy

National level
NGO Policy

ONLINE:

[www.3sektorius.lt/nisc/
nacionaline-nvo-koalicija](http://www.3sektorius.lt/nisc/nacionaline-nvo-koalicija)



LITHUANIAN YOUTH COUNCIL (LIJOT)

Lijot is a platform for discussions, working towards relevant changes for young people. Lijot unifies 70 non-governmental youth organisations and organisations that work with young people.

KEYWORDS:

Youth Policy

Youth Empowerment

Youth Work

Youth Information

ONLINE:

lijot.lt/en

Strategic directions:

- The representation of youth and youth organisations based on knowledge and facts and the formation of youth policy.
- The consolidation of membership and internal cooperation.
- The development of Lijot.
- Youth empowerment.



ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION

Environmental Coalition is an umbrella organisation that unites Lithuanian environmental NGOs. The Coalition aims at safeguarding healthy environmental conditions for current and future generations and creating co-existence between people and wildlife. Our mission is to exchange the knowledge, experience and resources between the organisations. Together we work on effective ways to shape environmental policy and its implementation in Lithuania.

KEYWORDS:

Environmental policy

SDGs and climate

ONLINE: akoalicija.lt/en



LITHUANIAN DISABILITY FORUM

KEYWORDS:

Monitoring Employment

Physical Accessibility

Information Accessibility

Education

ONLINE: lnf.lt

Lithuanian Disability Forum is the largest Lithuanian organisation representing the interests of various disability groups. LDF unites 15 organisations. The goal is uniting organisations that represent different disabilities and making a combined effort to change disability policies in Lithuania.



LITHUANIAN WOMEN'S LOBBY ORGANISATION

KEYWORDS:

Gender Equality

Legislation

Women's Participation in
Decision-Making

Women's Economic and
Social Rights

ONLINE:

lygus.lt/lietuvos-moteru-lobistine-organizacija/

Lithuanian Women's Lobby Organisation (LWLO) started its non-formal activities in 2004 after the agreement of its establishment has been signed between eleven Lithuanian women's organisations. LWLO promotes the active involvement of women's NGOs into the preparation processes of policies and legislation with regards to gender equality and decision-making in Lithuania and Europe.

Goals

- To promote active women's participation in all spheres of life by carrying on their work in a democratic and transparent way.
- To monitor the overall observance of equal opportunities ensuring the women's human rights and respect to women's needs and aspirations.
- To ensure that the needs of different women's groups are considered at any stage of their lives.
- To submit suggestions to LWLO on a regular basis to improve all areas of European Union action affecting women's lives' quality and promote equality between men and women.

KEYWORDS:

Community

Local Communities

Rural Communities

Municipal Autonomy

ONLINE:

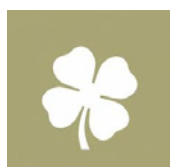
lvbos.lt

THE UNION OF LITHUANIAN LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

The Union of Lithuanian Local Community Organisations was established in 2010 by three organisations: the Union of Lithuanian Rural Communities, the Kaunas Association of Community Centres, and the Vilnius Community Association. Currently the Union, through various local unions and associations, has under its wings over 1,400 local communities established on the basis of the Association Law.

Objectives:

- To strengthen the partnership network between rural and urban communities on local and national levels.
- To organise joint events and implement joint projects.
- To represent its members' interests in front of government institutions at national and municipal levels.
- On the basis of agreements and contracts communicate with municipal and other government institutions as well as Lithuanian and international NGOs.
- To collect and disseminate information related to the activities of local community organisations and their associations and to mutually share good practices.
- To ensure truthful functioning of the Union by the means of seeking alternative funding sources for its activities and encouraging voluntary activities in local communities.
- To enlist funding from Lithuanian and foreign organisations, funds, businesses, and private persons for the development and coordination of community activities.
- To seek real autonomy of local municipalities and become a formal partner for government institutions in seeking real municipal autonomy and authority.
- To strive for conditions to be established for the diversity of municipal institutional models, based on the fact that municipalities are very diverse for example between rural areas and urban centres.



KEYWORDS:

Poverty Reduction

Social Exclusion

ONLINE: smtinklas.lt

NATIONAL NETWORK OF POVERTY REDUCTION ORGANISATIONS

National Network of Poverty Reduction Organisations has 52 member organisations which work in fighting poverty and social exclusion. Its aim is to strengthen the institutional capacities of its NGO members and develop their cooperation with local and national institutions in order to reduce poverty and social exclusion in Lithuania.

KEYWORDS:

Development Cooperation

Humanitarian Action

SDGs

Volunteering

Global Education

ONLINE:

vbplatforma.org/en

The NGDO Platform is an association uniting organisations working in the field of development cooperation (DP) from Lithuania. Currently the Lithuanian NGDO Platform has 21 members.

The Lithuanian NGDO Platform is working to strengthen intercultural, civic and democratic societies in Lithuania, to expand opportunities for Lithuanian NGOs to participate in international development cooperation activities and to help develop their skills.

Main areas of activities: advocacy, policy, monitoring, research, analysis, events and short term / long term programmes, trainings, actions, field work.

The Lithuanian NGDO Platform on social media (Facebook, Youtube, Soundcloud, Issuu, Flickr):

- facebook.com/VystomojoBendradarbiavimoPlatforma
- issuu.com/vbadmin
- bit.ly/3aDYBbl
- soundcloud.com/user-259801080
- www.mixcloud.com/PasaulioLaiku/



CONFEDERATION OF NGOS FOR CHILDREN

KEYWORDS:

Children's Rights

Children's Well-being

ONLINE:

nvovaiamskonfederacija.lt

Mission: to implement and regularly observe the implementation of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child in Lithuania and to work for the well-being of children.

Vision: to develop NGO cooperation for children's rights and children well-being.

Goal: to fight for the implementation of children's fundamental rights in Lithuania.

KEYWORDS:

Human Rights

Non-Discrimination

Equal Opportunities

ONLINE:

ztok.lt

COALITION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANISATIONS

The coalition of Human Rights Organisations, established in 2011, is a coalition of progressive organisations that apply constitutional standards for protecting human rights.

Mission: to seek an effective implementation of the principles of human rights, equal opportunities, and non-discrimination.

Goals:

- To monitor the implementation of human rights, equal opportunities, and the principle of non-discrimination based on disability, age, gender or sex, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, nationality, religious beliefs, language, origin, social status, personal views and other such basis in Lithuania.
- To make public human rights violations and to draw the attention of governmental institutions and the society to the rights of socially vulnerable people and potential cases of their violations.
- To achieve that governmental institutions take responsibility for human rights violations and every single human rights violation receive legitimate evaluation.



KEYWORDS:

Health

Patients' Rights

Legislation

ONLINE:

pacientutaryba.lt

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES OF LITHUANIAN PATIENT ORGANISATIONS

The main goal of the Council of Representatives of Lithuanian Patient Organisations is to represent patients' civil, social, and economic rights, to defend their freedoms and dignity by implementing the principle of full participation of patients in the society, based on the European Social Charter and UN, EU and Lithuanian legislations, international documents, and universal moral norms.

Objectives:

- Cooperation with public and governmental institutions in solving the patients' problems of being provided with adequate medicaments, treatment, and psychological and social adaptation.
- Participating in the creation and implementation of social programmes, taking into account the needs, interests, and capabilities of people who are sick.
- Presenting proposals to the Lithuanian parliament, the government, and other governmental and municipal institutions in preparing and passing new laws and changing existing legislation that is directly related to the interests of people who are sick.
- Organising cultural, educational, recreational, sport, health, and other types of activities.
- Maintaining connections with foreign and international organisations working in similar fields.



LITHUANIAN ART CREATORS ASSOCIATION – UNION OF INDEPENDENT CREATIVE ORGANISATIONS

KEYWORDS:

Art

Creativity

Writers

Artists

ONLINE: lmka.lt

Goal: to coordinate the cooperation between creators of art and their organisations in Lithuania, to represent the interests of professional Lithuanian artists and writers abroad, to organise disputes between artists and politicians on the development of culture and art.



LITHUANIAN CONSUMERS ALLIANCE

KEYWORDS:

Consumer Rights

Alliance

ONLINE:

lvoa.lt/en

Established in 2012, the Alliance of Lithuanian Consumer Organisations unifies 13 consumer associations: Lithuanian Consumer Association, Lithuanian Consumer Union, Consumer Rights Protection Centre, Lithuanian Association of Bank Customers, Lithuanian Citizens Advice Union, National Association of Financial Services Consumers, Association “For Honesty in Banking”, Mažeikiai Consumer Association, Consumer Rights Institute, FiKVA – the Finance and Credit Management Association, Insurance Policyholders Association, APGIDA – the Personal Privacy Protection and Data Security Association.

The main goal of the Alliance is to represent the interests of Lithuanian consumer associations at governmental institutions, business structures, and the non-governmental sector on the national and international level.

In order to achieve these goals the alliance works in these main areas:

- Participates in the preparation of legal acts related to consumer protection and makes proposals how to improve the consumer rights' protection system.
- Seeks to create an alternative dispute resolution framework and to participate in EU alternative dispute resolutions in activities of the association.
- Members of the Alliance actively conduct research and trainings, and organise conferences and seminars.
- Represent Alliance members and Lithuanian consumers' interests in governmental institutions, courts, non-governmental organisations, international organisations, and other institutions.
- Members of the Alliance represent consumer interests in EU institutions for example in the European Consumer Consultative Group or in the Payment Systems Market Expert Group.
- Spreads information about consumer associations work on the national and EU level.
- The Alliance represents Lithuania in The European Consumer Organisation (BEUC).

EU



KEYWORDS:

Education

Education Policy

Non-Formal Education

ONLINE:

svietimotinklas.lt/en/home

THE NATIONAL NETWORK OF EDUCATION NGOS

The Network operates as an association since 2019. It unites non-governmental education organisations working in the fields of pre-school and general education, higher education and non-formal education of children and adults, which together aim to:

- Ensure the sustainable participation of non-governmental education organisations in the formulation and implementation of a flexible Lithuanian education policy that adapts to the changing environment and learners' needs.
- Find consensus among the educational community on how to assess and improve the quality of education because it does not only cover learners' achievements and ratings of educational institutions.
- Increase the openness, accessibility and inclusion of the education system.
- Ensure that non-formal education becomes an integral part of the education system.
- Strengthen the institutional capacity of non-governmental education organisations.



KEYWORDS:

Culture

Creative Industries

Association

ONLINE:

creativeindustries.lt

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CREATIVE AND CULTURAL INDUSTRIES

Founded in 2008 as an umbrella organisation, the National Association of Creative and Cultural Industries unites CCI sectoral associations, creative incubators and institutions, creative enterprises, higher education institutions, and creative individuals.

Mission: acting as a facilitator of the Lithuanian CCI community, the National Association of Creative and Cultural Industries aims to form favourable and sustainable political, creative, legal and economic environment for a successful growth of the CCI sector and its potentiality, foster high added value of CCI sector in Lithuanian society.

Vision: as the leading national non-governmental umbrella organisation, the National Association of Creative and Cultural Industries unites and represents Lithuanian CCI sector on regional, national and international levels, fosters its partnership, competences and sustainable development.

The National Association of Creative and Cultural Industries promotes CCI networking by actively participating in international CCI networks, contributing to regional (Northern dimension, the Baltic sea) and global networking initiatives, acting as CCI cluster and supporting the clusterisation of the CCI sector.

