

LITHUANIA

THE MILITARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

In 2008 Lithuanian Armed Forces participated in the international military missions and operations in Afghanistan, Iraq, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Georgia. In total – 673 military personnel participated in the missions and operations abroad, 578 of them were deployed with the NATO led forces, and 95 in the non-NATO led military events.

NATO operations:

The largest force contribution was to the International Security Assistance Force operation in Afghanistan, comprising of Lithuanian led Provincial Reconstruction Team in Ghor province, staff officers in the Operational and Regional Headquarters, and Special Operation Forces unit¹ operating in the South of Afghanistan. Lithuania filled in four positions for trainers in the NATO Training Mission in Iraq and five in the NATO Training Team in Kosovo. One unit of the Land Forces with staff officers in the Operational Headquarters were deployed with Kosovo Force.

Non-NATO operations:

A Military officer was delegated to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, and one staff officer was stationed in the European led military operation's EUFOR ALTHEA Operational Headquarters in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Lithuania also contributed to the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia with two military observers.

In the end of the year, Lithuania finished its participation with the platoon-size unit and staff officers in the United States led Multinational Force operation in Iraq - Iraqi Freedom.

NATO Response Force (NRF) and EU Battle groups (EUBG):

One Special Operation Forces squadron, Water purification unit, and Joint Airport Support unit for Air Control Command was offered to the NRF.

In 2009 one MCM vessel will be on stand-by for the NRF-13. Substantial number of deployable forces will be increased in 2010 – Lithuania will submit 420-men strength force for the NRF-14 and later that year a Special Forces squadron and a Demining team for the NRF-15. Lithuania will also contribute to the EUBG in the first six months of 2010.

More information on current military missions and operations is available on <http://www.kam.lt/index.php/en/>
<http://www.kam.lt/index.php/en/144606/>

¹ A number of personnel of Special Forces participating in operation is subject to classified information and not added to the total number.