



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FORMER POLITICAL PRISONERS
AND VICTIMS OF COMMUNISM (Inter-Asso)

XXV Congress
Kronenstraße 5, 10117 Berlin
23 January 2026

Report on the Activities of the Lithuanian Association of Political Prisoners and deportees for
2023–2025

REPORT

Inter-Asso began its activities as an umbrella organisation in 1991, with the primary goal of promoting, coordinating and supporting the activities of independent organisations of political prisoners and victims of communism, as well as investigators of communist crimes and preservers of memory (Inter-Asso Statutes, Article 2(1)). To achieve this, Inter-Asso has set itself the following tasks (Inter-Asso Statutes, Article 2(2)) (2) to promote, coordinate and support the activities of independent organisations of political prisoners and victims of communism, as well as investigators of communist crimes and memory preservation initiatives, by gaining access to state security service files, investigating communist crimes, honouring the victims and seeking justice for them. Will these goals be achieved during the 2023–2025 reporting period...? This is a particularly important and debatable question on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of Inter-Asso, in terms of the future significance of Inter-Asso.

Taking into account the content of the resolution adopted at the 44th session of the Interparliamentary Baltic Assembly in Riga on 13–14 November 2025, which emphasises the importance of historical memory in addition to important issues related to the development of cooperation between the Baltic countries in various fields, activities were carried out at both the national and international levels in 2023 and 2024, taking into account the aspirations of similar organisations in Estonia, Latvia, and Poland. In accordance with the statutes of the Lithuanian Political Prisoners and deportees Union (as defined in point 2.4) and the objectives of the Inter-Asso organisation, activities were carried out at both the national and international levels in 2023 and 2024, taking into account the aspirations of similar organisations in Estonia, Latvia and Poland. To achieve partnership and closer cooperation, the Baltic Alliance Association for the Historical Memory of Exile and Deportation was established. Further information on socio-cultural and memorial events, book publications and the content of the daily newspaper Tremtinys, as well as reports on project application implementation, can be found on the LPKTS website: <https://www.lpkts.lt/>. More details can also be found in the following sections: <https://www.lpkts.lt/renginiai/2024-metu-renginiai/>; https://www.lpkts.lt/2025-metu-renginiai/?utm_source=chatgpt.com. Further information can also be found on the Facebook accounts of the most active branches in the country. Therefore, this 2023–2025 activity report only highlights activities that correlate with Inter-Asso's goals.

The objectives defined in the statutes of the Lithuanian Association of Political Prisoners and Deportees are as follows:

1. To participate in national, patriotic, educational, social, and cultural activities aimed at restoring historical justice regarding the occupations of 1939–1991, accurately constructing the narrative of the nation's resistance, and commemorating the memory of those who died fighting for freedom and those who were exiled. disseminating information about the crimes committed by the occupiers and passing on knowledge about the history of Lithuanian resistance to the younger generation;
2. The government is urged to negotiate with Russia, as the successor to the rights and obligations of the USSR, for reparations for the damage done to Lithuania and its people, and to demand compensation for forced labor in places of exile and imprisonment.
3. Defend the rights and legitimate interests of former political prisoners and deportees.
4. In social activities, strive for the full restoration of the property and civil rights of those who suffered from the Soviet occupation...
5. In cultural activities, it encouraged and supported the activities of choirs and ensembles of former political prisoners and deportees, as well as other artistic activities, by organizing their concerts, encouraging their

participation in festivals and other mass events, and organizing, encouraging, and supporting the activities of museums of deportation and resistance.

6. Maintain ties with compatriots living abroad, helping them to preserve their Lithuanian identity as far as possible.
7. cooperate with organizations of former political prisoners and other repressed persons in Lithuania and other post-communist countries, such as Inter-Asso (it should be noted that activity in 2023-2025 was particularly passive), the European and Conscience Platform, the Lithuanian World Community, or organizations in neighboring Baltic Sea region countries by establishing the Baltic Alliance Association for the Historical Memory of Deportations and Exiles in 2025, based in Kaunas, Laisvės al. 39.

In implementing the commitments under point 1, the following major cultural events will be held:



2023-08-05¹⁵

A meeting of the Presidium of the International Association of Former Political Prisoners and Victims of Communism was held in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, attended by: Inter-Asso President Christian Dietrich (Germany), Mirna Sunić-Žakman (Croatia), Ján Košiar (Slovakia), Jan Letický-Šveda (Slovakia), and Honorary President Christian Fuch (Berlin). Our Honorary Chairman Christian Fuch (Berlin) also participated in the meeting. The intention of Inter-Asso's invitation was related to the 35th anniversary of the Lithuanian Political Prisoners and Deportees Union in 2023. On Saturday evening, August 5, the board met in Vilnius. Chairman Ch. Dietrich reported on Inter-Asso's activities since the last board meeting, which took place in Berlin in December 2022. He reported on participation in several international meetings with representatives of European victims' associations. It should become clear in the near future how the board can remain functional if the presidium members from Hungary and Romania are no longer able to travel. Prof. Jonas Jakaitis, chairman of the Vilnius region of the LPKTS, participated in the meeting as a guest delegate of the LPKTS. The presidium discussed and approved the participation in, organization of, and partial financing of the Inter-Asso congress in the Lithuanian Parliament in Vilnius (from the presidium's 2023-2024 budget). The presidium discussed and approved participation in the Inter-Asso congress, its organization, and partial financing of the event in the Lithuanian Parliament in Vilnius (from the minutes of the presidium's decisions of 05-08-2023).



2023-11-17¹⁶

The Lithuanian Association of Political Prisoners and Deportees initiated the international conference "FORUMAS-23" as a preliminary event to the 25th Inter-Asso Congress in Vilnius, as well as organizing exhibitions of ex-libris and the "European Memory Platform" to commemorate the 35th anniversary of the Lithuanian Association of Political Prisoners and Deportees.

¹⁵ <https://interasso.org/2023/08/19/vorstand-der-interasso-tagte-in-litauen/#more-444>

¹⁶ <https://www.pozicija.org/forumas-23-moksliniu-straipsniu-rinkiny-kaip-istorines-atminties-iprasminimu-liudijimas/>

FORUMAS-23 in the Lithuanian Parliament marks the expanding activities of the LPKTS community with related organizations in Latvia, Poland, Moldova, Germany, Slovakia, Croatia, etc., in other words, with the International Association of Former Political Prisoners and Victims of Communism (Inter-Asso) and the Platform of European Memory and Conscience, allowing us to share experiences and ideas to improve the activities of our community... So we are shaping the directions and visions for our activities in the coming years, drawing up calendars, evaluating the experience we have gained... In summary, the results of the conference "Assessment of the Phenomenon of Resistance and Deportation in Today's Lithuanian Memory Culture" "FORUMAS-23" held at the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania were compiled and published on 30 March 2024 (attached) in a collection of scientific articles from the conference (Conference initiator and coordinator: Prof. Dr. Jonas Jakaitis. Chairman of the Vilnius branch of the Lithuanian Political Prisoners and Deportees Union, member of the LPKTS Council, professor at Vilnius Gediminas Technical University. The conference was funded by the LPKTS, LRS, LGGRTC, with the support of MEP R. Juknevičienė.) Based on the issues discussed at the conference, a resolution was adopted stating that the FORUM-23 event should be considered a continuation of the 25th Inter-Asso Congress to be held in Lithuania in 2024. Inter-Asso President Ch. Dietrich and Lena Ens, Representative of the Federal Foundation for the Study of the Communist Dictatorship in Germany and Inter-Asso, participated in the forum and read presentations.

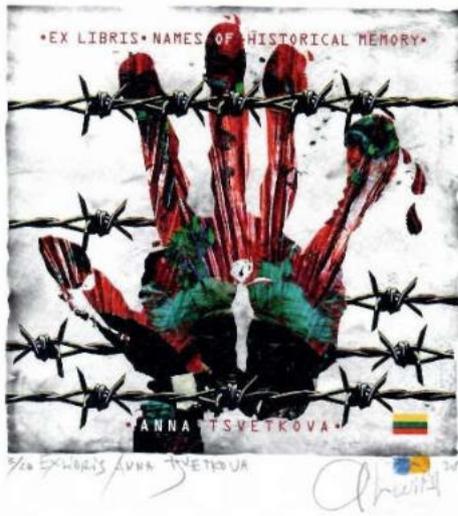


2023-11-17¹⁷

"Names of Historical Memory" – an international ex-libris competition at the Lithuanian Parliament, whose objectives are to commemorate the names of Lithuanian freedom fighters and the founders of the Lithuanian army – historical figures and events – and to mark the years of Lithuanian political prisoners and exiles, to promote interest in the history of the Lithuanian army and freedom fighters, Lithuania's struggles for freedom and independence from the 1863 uprising to the restoration of independence, with the participation of Lithuanian and foreign artists from Argentina, Germany, Finland, Poland, and Ukraine. Competition partners: Lithuanian Political Prisoners and Deportees Union (LPKTS), World Lithuanian Center. Sponsors: Lithuanian Foundation (USA), Commission for the Promotion of Lithuanian Traditions and Heritage, LŠS V. Putvinskio-Pūtvio Club, Lithuanian Political Prisoners and Deportees Union (LPKTS), Lithuanian Riflemen's Union Vytautas the Great 2nd Brigade. Chairman of the Competition Evaluation Committee, Chairman of the Vilnius Branch of LPKTS, Prof. Jonas Jakaitis. 2023-11-17 "Names of Historical Memory" – an international ex-libris competition at the Lithuanian Parliament, whose objectives are to commemorate the names of Lithuanian freedom fighters and the founders of the Lithuanian army – historical figures and events – and to mark the years of Lithuanian political prisoners and exiles, to promote interest in the history of the Lithuanian army and freedom fighters, Lithuania's struggles for freedom and independence from the 1863 uprising to the restoration of independence, with the participation of Lithuanian and foreign artists from Argentina, Germany, Finland, Poland, and Ukraine. Competition partners: Lithuanian Political Prisoners and Deportees Union (LPKTS), World Lithuanian Center. Sponsors: Lithuanian Foundation (USA), Commission for the Promotion of Lithuanian Traditions and Heritage, LŠS V. Putvinskio-Pūtvio Club, Lithuanian Political Prisoners and Deportees Union (LPKTS), Lithuanian Riflemen's Union Vytautas the Great 2nd Brigade. Chairman of the Competition Evaluation Committee, Chairman of the Vilnius Branch of LPKTS, Prof. Jonas Jakaitis.

In implementing the commitments under [point 3](#), more important events will be held to defend the rights and legitimate interests of former political prisoners and deportees in connection with law-making:

¹⁷ <https://www.pozicija.org/istorines-atminties-vardai-tarptautinis-ekslibrisu-konkursas/>



2023-11-27¹⁸

The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania initiated a working group discussion with Minister of Health Arūnas Dulkys on amending legislation to legalize medical and/or social rehabilitation for political prisoners, deportees, resistance participants, partisans, or others who suffered as defenders of their homeland from the Soviet totalitarian regime of 1939-1990.



Jonas Jakaitis. LGGRTC reorganizacija voliuntaristinių jėgų spąstuose?

JŪVALGOS Redakcija - 2024-07-20

Apžvelgiant į valstybių nukentėjusių nuo autoritarinių režimų tiek nuo nacistinės okupacijos II-ojo pasaulinio karo metu, tiek nuo sovietinės okupacijos ar agresijos karo metu ar...

2024-07-16¹⁹

When presenting the draft law amending Law No. VIII-238 on the Lithuanian Genocide and Resistance Research Center, the Lithuanian Association of Political Prisoners and Deportees participated in the Lithuanian Parliament by submitting proposals on the reorganization of the LGGRTC, with the aim of improving and streamlining the Center's activities. VIII-238, the LPKTS participated in the Lithuanian Parliament by submitting proposals on the reorganization of the LGGRTC, with a view to improving and streamlining the Center's management powers and ensuring the level of funding necessary for the Center to carry out its tasks...

In implementing the commitments under point 5, the following major cultural events will be held:



2024-06-15²⁰

The 16th national festival of songs and poetry by political prisoners and deportees, "Leiskit į Tėvynę" (Let Us Return to Our Homeland), took place in Utena. Held every two years, the national festival of songs and poetry by deportees and political prisoners, "Let Us Return to Our Homeland," is an event aimed at strengthening community spirit by bringing together various Lithuanian groups, compatriots, local communities, and organizations, to promote respectful citizenship and the preservation of historical memory, to remember the victims of Soviet repression (deportees, political prisoners), and to involve younger generations through song and poetry.

¹⁸ <https://www.pozicija.org/lietuvos-politiniu-kaliniu-ir-tremtiniu-bei-rezistentu-sauksmas-tyruose/>

¹⁹ <https://www.pozicija.org/jonas-jakaitis-lggrtc-reorganizacija-voliuntaristiniu-jegu-spastuose/>

²⁰ https://www.voruta.lt/utenoje-vyko-xvi-oji-respublikine-politiniu-kaliniu-ir-tremtiniu-dainu-ir-poezijos-svente-leiskit-i-tevyne/?utm_source=chatgpt.com

In implementing the commitments under **point 7**, the following major international events will be held:



2024-09-17²¹

A delegation from the Lithuanian Political Prisoners and Deportees Union (LPKTS), at the invitation of the Polish Association of Siberian Deportees (Związek Sybiraków, ZS), participated in a ceremony in Gdańsk commemorating the tragic events of the 85th anniversary of the Soviet army's aggression against Poland. It is particularly important for the LPKTS to strengthen the partnership between Lithuanian and Polish organizations with their brothers in exile. And it succeeded... During informal meetings with members of the Siberian community, opportunities for cooperation were discussed, seeking new forms of communication, including project activities. **The idea of the Baltic Alliance began to develop...**



2024-11-21²² Representatives of the **Lithuanian Association of Political Prisoners and Deportees, the Association of Polish Deportees to Siberia, the Association of Politically Repressed Persons in Latvia, and the Estonian Broken Wheat Society** signed a cooperation agreement in Riga with the aim of "... *foster a common cultural identity, commemorate the fate of Siberian deportees, maintain their graves and memorials, and organize activities for the benefit of Siberian deportees, political prisoners, and their families. They also agreed to work in the field of patriotic education for young people, with a particular focus on promoting the values that guided Siberian deportees and political prisoners. The parties also undertake to cooperate in the field of historical education and memory, in particular through "living history" lessons involving Siberian deportees, political prisoners, historians, and representatives of other scientific fields...*". At the first meeting of the International Coordinating Commission, Prof. Jonas Jakaitis, representing Lithuania, was elected as chairman.



2025-04-25²³ Visit by members of the Baltic Alliance to Wrocław to participate in the commemoration of the 85th anniversary of the start of mass deportations of Poles to Siberia and the 20th anniversary of the Eastern Golgotha March in Wrocław...

²¹ <https://www.voruta.lt/gdanske-paminetos-ssrs-1939-metu-rugsejo-17-dienos-invazijos-i-lenkija-85-osios-metines/>

²² <https://www.pozicija.org/baltijos-regiono-represuotu-asmenu-bendradarbiavimo-susitarimas/>

²³ https://www.lpkts.lt/2025-metu-renginiai/?utm_source=chatgpt.com



2025-05-24²⁴

Commemorating the date of the most massive deportations of 1948-05-22/27, by mutual agreement of the International Coordination Commission (ICC) of the Baltic Alliance, the 1st Conference of the Baltic Alliance – **Latvian, Lithuania, Estonia, and Poland**, dedicated not only to commemorating the most massive deportations from the Baltic states and Poland, but also to discussing the problems faced by today's deportees and political prisoners and aspects of justice against the aggressor against Ukraine. **At the 1st Baltic Alliance Conference** (Latvia) and the meeting of the International Coordination Commission held at the Ariogala 2024 Festival (Lithuania), it was decided to submit a Baltic Alliance petition and resolution (documents attached – 1. APPENDIX) condemning totalitarian communist and Nazi ideologies **to the 2nd conference to be held in Tallinn in 2025**, in the hope that the EU institutions will take concrete steps to ensure that the European Commission, in cooperation with the European Parliament and the Council, initiate legislative work aimed at creating conditions for the frozen assets of the Russian Federation to be used to compensate both the losses of Soviet victims and the consequences of the war in Ukraine.



2025-09-18/19²⁵

In implementation of the 2024-11-21 cooperation agreement between the Baltic States and Poland, **the Baltic Alliance initiated the 2nd international conference "Victims of Occupation Without Borders"** on 2025-09-18/19 at the Estonian Parliament in Tallinn. The documents of the Resolution (attached) and Petition were distributed among the members of the European Parliament, the parliaments and governments of the Baltic Alliance countries, non-governmental organizations, and the media. A presentation is planned to be made at the Baltic Assembly Conference in Tartu.

Plans and proposals for the future:



2026-01-23

- Continue the above-mentioned activities for 2023-2025 at both national and international levels, as far as possible, strengthening ties and integration with partner institutions. Seek to exchange expeditionary and exploratory trips to the national organizations of Inter-Asso members, strengthening project activities.

²⁴ https://www.lpkts.lt/2025-metu-renginiai/?utm_source=chatgpt.com

²⁵ <https://www.pozicija.org/prof-dr-jonas-jakaitis-okupacijos-aukos-be-sienu/>

- Seek more active participation of Baltic representatives in the management of Inter-Asso, thus proposing an amendment to Article 8(1) of the Statutes: "The Presidium shall consist of one natural person delegated by each national organization."
- Seek closer coordination between Inter-Asso and the Baltic Alliance Association for the Historical Memory of Deportations and Exiles in addressing issues of social and moral well-being and justice for deportees, political prisoners, and resistance fighters, not only at the national level, but also at the level of the European Union and the European Parliament.
- Seek unity and support for the initiatives and statements of the Baltic Alliance Association set out in the documents adopted by the Estonian Parliament on 19 September 2025 (attached).
- Propose and essentially endorse the statements formulated in the Baltic Alliance petition and resolution, as well as the FORUM-23 resolution.
- Propose and invite Inter-Asso members to contribute to the Baltic Alliance initiative to organize and participate in the activities of the 26th Congress in the Lithuanian Parliament in Vilnius.
- To give priority to issues related to the preservation of historical memory for the integration of young people when applying for funding for activities from various European or national funds.

Report prepared by:

Vladas Sungaila

Chairman of the Board of the Lithuanian
Political Prisoners and Deportees Union

Prof. Dr. Jonas Jakaitis

Member of the Council of the Lithuanian
Political Prisoners and Deportees Union;
President of the Baltic Alliance - Association for
the Preservation of Historical Memory of
Deportations and Exiles



→ ¶
Baltic Alliance ¶
Second International conference ¶
Occupation Victims Without Borders ¶

¶
Held on September 19, 2025 ¶
AT TOOMPEA CASTLE (ESTONIA) ¶

RESOLUTION: ¶

The participants of the international conference 'Occupation Victims Without Borders', organised by the Baltic Alliance Association, set out the main provisions in this ¶

RESOLUTION: ¶

Recalling the mass deportations and inhumane acts of terror and aggression carried out against the population during the years of Soviet occupation in the Baltic States, Poland and throughout Eastern Europe, which aimed to destroy national identity and physically eliminate resistance fighters who opposed the totalitarian regime (in Lithuania, resistance continued 1944–1953), the participants of the International Conference in Tallinn note that these crimes have not yet been properly assessed. It is therefore necessary to continue bearing witness and taking all measures to ensure justice for the victims, giving those who suffered repression, as well as their families, the right to claim fair compensation for material losses and emotional damage. ¶

The occupation of the entire Eastern European region, the annexation of the Baltic States in 1940 and 1944–1945, and the deportations and imprisonments that occurred at that time encourage the consolidation of public organisations of political prisoners and deportees from the Baltic States, Poland and Ukraine into an organisation called the Baltic Alliance. The Baltic Alliance's goal is to highlight the crimes of the Soviet Union. The Baltic Alliance aims to highlight Russia's past and present aggression towards its neighbours, develop socio-cultural ties, and pass on historical memory to the younger generation based on historians' and other scholars' analyses and the stories of deportees, political prisoners, and participants in the struggle for freedom. ¶

Participants at the international conference in Tallinn acknowledge that the Bolsheviks persecuted the Baltic peoples on national and social grounds from 1940 onwards, the Nazis on racial grounds, then the Bolsheviks again... thus destroying not only the democratic, political, economic, and cultural fabric of the Baltic, Polish, and Eastern European nations, but also the political, economic, and cultural elite that these nations had built up over centuries. ¶

Recalling the objectives of the **International Congress on the Assessment of Communist Crimes, which took place for the first time in Europe in Lithuania on June 12-14, 2000**, to examine the crimes of communism against humanity, punish their organizers, condemn communism, and discuss the prevention of the restoration of communist regimes, it was emphasized that *'the scale of the crimes of communist regimes is much greater than that of Nazism, but the damage they have done to humanity has not yet been assessed at the international level...'* The international congress adopted a resolution declaring that, based on communist ideology, about 100 million people were killed and the economies of many occupied countries were destroyed. It was stated that all variants and models of communist and socialist thinking are based on coercion and terror, just like the flawed ideology of nazism. It must be acknowledged that neither the International Congress, nor the subsequent **International**



Conference 'Forum-23', organised by the Lithuanian Political Prisoners and deportees Union and the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania in 2023, nor the 'Assessment of the Phenomenon of Resistance and Deportation in Today's Lithuanian Memory Culture', organised by the Lithuanian Association of Political Prisoners and deportees and the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania in 2023, had a significant impact at the European level. Therefore, as a participant in the Tallinn Conference, the Baltic Alliance draws attention to the fact that resolutions on the crimes of totalitarian regimes in the 20^(th) century, starting with the Charter of the International Military Tribunal adopted in Nuremberg and ending with contemporary codifications such as the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court of 17 July 1998, are important documents for the European Union institutions. Resolution No. 1481 of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on 26 January 2006, which calls for international condemnation of crimes committed by totalitarian communist regimes, and the 2019 European Parliament resolution which condemns totalitarianism, including both Nazism and communism, as well as any manifestation or promotion of totalitarian ideologies. This includes the European Parliament resolution of 2 April 2009 on the European conscience and totalitarianism, and the European Parliament resolution of 15 December 2022, which marks the 90^(th) anniversary of the Holodomor. Recognising the Mass Killings by Starvation as Genocide; European Parliament resolution of 17 January 2024 on European historical awareness; European Parliament resolution of 25 January 2025. ¶

Participants at the second International Conference in Tallinn noted that the condemnation of crimes committed by the USSR had not yet been fully realised. This must be achieved by ensuring that victims of Soviet terror have access to justice. They also declared that: ¶

– **communism and national socialism are criminal socio-political movements** that should be condemned as ideologies. Scientific research should be used to shape understanding of the inhumanity of these ideologies. International and interinstitutional cooperation at various levels of the European Union must become an absolute priority in order to bear witness to the criminal activities of communism and National Socialism, both historically and in the context of the war in Ukraine today. ¶

– **they express their fundamental approval of the document** presented by the Baltic Alliance Association to the participants of the International Conference in Tallinn, the PETITION document, on the basis of which political decisions will be made to ensure justice for deportees, political prisoners, and their family members who have returned from places of deportation or imprisonment. This will include compensation for moral, psychological, health, and social damage at national and international levels. The participants of the International Conference in Tallinn urge governments to prioritise social care for victims of the communist regime. ¶

– **it is necessary** to initiate educational and cultural policies that ensure access to sources of historical memory and teaching programmes that promote anti-totalitarian civic education for younger generations in an appealing way. This can be achieved by pooling resources at the national level and reviewing existing teaching and learning programmes and tools. It is also important to include historical facts in educational programmes and history textbooks to help young people understand the importance of democracy and human rights. ¶

– **it instructs the Baltic Alliance Association's TTK** to forward this resolution to the European Commission, the governments and parliaments of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Ukraine, and to disseminate it through the mass media. ¶

¶

On behalf of the organizers of the Second International Baltic Alliance Conference in Tallinn: ¶

Professor Dr Jonas Jakaitis ¶

Chairman of the Baltic Alliance TTK and Member of the LPKTS Council ¶