

United States Senate

May 17, 2022

His Excellency Gitanas Nausėda
President
Office of the President of the
Republic of Lithuania
S. Daukanto a. 3
LT-01122 Vilnius
The Republic of Lithuania

The Honorable Ingrida Šimonytė
Prime Minister
Office of the Government of the
Republic of Lithuania
Gedimino pr. 11
LT-01103 Vilnius
The Republic of Lithuania

Dear President Nausėda and Prime Minister Šimonytė:

Last month, I had the honor of visiting Lithuania and meeting with a number of great Lithuanian leaders, including the Minister of Foreign Affairs Gabrielius Landsbergis and multiple members of Parliament: Andrius Mazuronis, Zygimantas Pavilionis, Emanuelis Zingeris, Dovile Sakaliene, Giedrius Surplys and Ruta Miliute. I am grateful for the work of the Lithuanian government to support freedom and democracy in Europe and around the world.

I want to thank your government and the Lithuanian people for your tremendous efforts in accepting Ukrainian refugees who have been forced from their homes by Russia's unjust war. I join you in total condemnation of Vladimir Putin's murderous attacks on Ukraine. And I trust that Lithuania will continue to provide essential support to Ukrainian refugees, and all necessary support to the Ukrainian military, in partnership with the United States and other allies, so that the Ukrainian people can win this war.

Following my visit, I'm convinced there is a promising future for the bilateral relationship between the United States and Lithuania, and that there are many opportunities for our two nations to increase our trade relationship and jointly support our freedom-loving, democratic partners, especially in the face of growing tyranny around the world.

I'm especially grateful for your support of the democratic desires of Belarusians, and your willingness to provide a base for Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, the legitimate leader of Belarus. Similarly, I'm thankful that you have welcomed a Taiwanese Representative Office. During my time in Lithuania, I was proud to become the first United States Senator to visit the Taiwanese Representative Office. Despite immense

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pressure from Beijing, we must continue to stand strongly and unapologetically beside Taiwan and in support of its democracy. Furthermore, I want to express the gratitude of millions of Floridians who thank you for supporting the Cuban people and standing against the proposed European Union investment treaty with the communist regime. The world's democracies must stand strongly together. To protect freedom in Europe and beyond, we need more leaders like you who will act courageously, even when it requires sacrifice.

As we look to the future, I also welcome an increase in our security cooperation. As NATO partners, we can hold our partner nations, including Germany, accountable for their role in preserving democratic sovereignty in Europe and security for all NATO members. I hope other nations look at our example, and live up to their commitments to do more for the cause of freedom in Europe. Likewise, our nations can jointly confront Beijing as it seeks to isolate the United States from the European economy, and address security concerns stemming from Communist China's economic activity in Europe. We must continue to forcefully call out Russia and Communist China for their clear plans for world domination, and vocally condemn and punish the attacks on democracy we see from these evil regimes.

Thank you again for all your hard work, commitment to democracy and for your gracious hospitality during my visit to Lithuania. We pray that the Ukrainian people will soon be able to return to their homeland where they can govern themselves free from Russian influence. I look forward to working together toward that moment and building a stronger relationship between our two democracies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott". The signature is stylized with a large initial "R" and a prominent "S".

Rick Scott
United States Senator