

Lithuania

Overview and recent developments

There is no single formal government regulatory policy in Lithuania, though some elements are embedded in several strategic documents. While impacts are required to be assessed for any legislative acts, RIA remains a largely formal exercise to justify choices already made, rarely based on data or analysis of alternative options. Around two-thirds of about 900 draft laws submitted to the *Seimas* every year are parliamentary drafts with similar requirements for conducting RIA and public consultations as for those developed by the executive, however, without any oversight. Consultations in the development of regulations are anchored in the administration and interaction between stakeholders and the government sometimes takes place before a decision to regulate is made. Yet consultations currently lack methodology and technical guidance.

A major part of the Lithuanian government's efforts focuses on administrative burden reduction, mainly for businesses. There are some general requirements to conduct monitoring and *ex post* reviews of existing regulations, and the government plans to introduce a pilot of more in-depth 'fitness checks'. Concerning regulatory enforcement and inspections reform, Lithuania is ahead of most of OECD countries. Lithuania could consider building on existing efforts for better co-ordination of regulatory policy by bringing the different elements of regulatory policy together in an integrated strategic plan and strengthening the role of the Government Office. It should also improve RIA processes, with a special focus on starting early in the regulation-making process and better quantification of regulatory impacts.

Institutional setup for regulatory oversight

The institutional responsibility for co-ordinating regulatory policy and promoting regulatory quality is spread across several institutions, with the main role attributed to the **Government Office**. Its co-ordination role is gradually being strengthened. It co-ordinates and supervises the law-making process when draft laws are initiated by the executive and is in charge of preparing the annual legislative programme. It monitors the overall quality of impact assessment and provides guidance and training. The **Ministry of Economy** co-ordinates initiatives in the field of administrative simplification for business, including licencing and business inspection reforms and administrative burden reduction plans. The **Ministry of Interior** is responsible for developing the administrative burden policy for citizens and public sector organisations. Once the draft law is submitted to Parliament, the **Legal Department of the Office of the Seimas** checks compliance of the draft with the laws which are already in effect and technical law-making requirements.

Indicators of Regulatory Policy and Governance (iREG): Lithuania, 2018



Notes: The more regulatory practices as advocated in the [OECD Recommendation on Regulatory Policy and Governance](#) a country has implemented, the higher its iREG score. The indicators on stakeholder engagement and RIA for primary laws only cover those initiated by the executive (67% of all primary laws in Lithuania).

Source: Indicators of Regulatory Policy and Governance Survey 2017, <http://oe.cd/ireg>.

StatLink <https://doi.org/10.1787/888933815870>

Location of regulatory oversight functions: Lithuania

Regulatory oversight functions		Centre of government	Ministry of Finance, Economy or Treasury	Ministry of Justice	Other ministries	Non-departmental body	Parliament	Office of the Attorney General	Supreme audit institution	Part of the judiciary
Quality control of...	RIA	●	●		●					
	Stakeholder engagement									
	Ex post evaluation									
Identifying policy areas where regulation can be made more effective		●	●							
Systematic improvement of regulatory policy		●	●	●						
Co-ordination of regulatory policy		●	●							
Guidance, advice and support		●	●	●	●					
Scrutiny of legal quality		●		●			●			

Notes: ● indicates that a given regulatory oversight function is covered by at least one body in a particular location. Data present the situation as of 31 December 2017 and do not reflect changes that may have taken place in 2018.

Source: Survey questions on regulatory oversight bodies, Indicators of Regulatory Policy and Governance Survey 2017, <http://oe.cd/ireg>.