

Blaðamannafundur með utanríkisráðherra Litháen

- I sincerely thank Minister Landsbergis for the warm welcome here in Vilnius and for an enjoyable and productive meeting.
- My visit here underscores the close relationship and friendship between our two countries.
- We are extremely proud to have played a part in your history and independence and highly value how you continue to celebrate Iceland, with festivals and street names in Iceland's honour.
- In our meeting, Gabrielius and I discussed Iceland's and Lithuania's excellent bilateral relationship and how it can be strengthened even further.
- Iceland and Lithuania share a deep connection through history, common values, and broad-based cooperation – be it internationally or bilaterally.
- Iceland and Lithuania also have excellent people-to-people relations which are crucial to our relations. Around 4600 Lithuanians live in Iceland and form an integral part of Iceland's community.
- Our shared values of freedom and democracy unite us in so many ways as is reflected in our cooperation as NATO Allies and in increased common messaging in other international organizations.
- Gabrielius and I share a deep conviction that we must defend those values at all costs. We must do everything in our power to support Ukraine in their fight against Russia.
- Their fight boils down to all of the things that we hold dear: the respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries, international law, human rights and fundamental freedoms of all people.
- Lithuania has indeed become a leader in so many ways, and we look forward to continuing our close cooperation – both internationally and bilaterally.
- I'm ready to take questions.