



Factsheet:

Access to Base Registries in Lithuania

Published 10/09/2018

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Lithuania towards Interoperability

Lithuania has worked towards improving their interoperability for the last two decades, with experience of significant growth and development in the area of public administration modernisation. The journey started with a position paper on e-Government called the **e-Government Concept (2002-2004)**, which sets the basis for the future Lithuanian e-Government. The **Implementation Plan of the e-Government Concept**¹ lasted from 2004 until 2008 and included actions mainly geared towards creating and adapting legislation which would allow easier adaptation of new processes and technologies in the years to come. Aside from changes in legislation, the Plan also placed emphasis on increasing the availability and usage of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to promote e-services and speed up the delivery of services from public administration to citizens and businesses.

The **Programme of the Lithuanian Government 2008 – 2012**² represented a natural extension of the previous Plan, as it aimed to implement some e-Government measures for an increase in the living standards of citizens and the competitiveness of businesses in Lithuania. Some of the objectives were aimed to increase the effectiveness of public administration regarding base registries improvement and interoperability in particular.

These included:

1. The construction of a national base to provide the necessary interaction for safe, effective and reliable data exchange among national registries and information systems in Lithuania and abroad;
2. The establishment of common requirements for electronic services provision, to ensure that common technical and informational infrastructure components are jointly developed and built at each institution;
3. The increase of capacities for citizens, businesses and public administration to use and benefit from the opportunities provided by ICT.

The currently active Programme in Lithuania is the **Information Society Development Programme 2014-2020: Digital Agenda for Lithuania**³, which is aligned with the Digital Agenda for Europe 2020. One of its main objectives is to reduce the digital divide among the Lithuanian population and to encourage them to acquire the knowledge and skills to benefit from ICT fully. The general coordination of the Programme is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transport, and while the Programme is designed to address and implement some developments, some are directly linked to interoperability and its consolidation in Lithuania, as well as the increase in availability of public e-services. Concretely, these correspond to movement of administrative services into digital space and providing them with a single access point⁴. Promoting the usage of ICT for business establishment and development, along with ensuring a safe, reliable and interoperable ICT infrastructure to protect state information resources are objectives, which should generate increased usage of digital channels to exchange information between citizens and the public administration, in turn increasing service provision efficiency and reducing the burden on citizens.

Moreover, at the beginning of 2012, there was approved the **Public Governance Development Programme 2012-2020** (PGDP) through the Government Decree No. 171. The strategic objectives of the Programme are aimed to increase the openness of public administration processes and participation of the general public, all while providing high-quality administrative and public services and ensuring the enhancement of the performance in the management of public administrations. The current framework for interoperability in Lithuania is structured around the PGDP and the Law of Management of Government

¹ http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter2/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=273105

² https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.3F36D5A73A82/TAIS_352984

³ http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=467638&p_tr2=2

⁴ <https://www.epaslaugos.lt/portal/>

Information Resources⁵, which in essence laid out the legal framework for the State Information Resources Interoperability Platform (SIRIP). The legislation covers the principles, conceptual model, interoperability levels and interoperability agreements in place and the SIRIP platform.

Concerning the National Interoperability Framework (NIF), Lithuania has no single formal document encompassing an NIF. However, Lithuania includes it in the already mentioned **PGDP**, **State Information Resources Management Law**, and the **SIRIP** platform itself.

⁵ <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/legalAct.html?documentId=TAR.85C510BA700A>

Legal Interoperability

In Lithuania, the **Law on the Management of State Information Resources**⁶ classifies the State information system resources in four different types: (1) critical state information resources, (2) relevant state information resources, (3) departmental public information resources and (4) other state information resources. Base registries fall under the critical state information resources, as they are main state registries, and the Law thus states that a registry corresponds to the legal, organisational, technical elements intended to register the registry object, registry data, information and documents submitted for the usage of the registry. The data contained in the registry is correct, until a request to correct it has been issued. In Article 17, the same law also prescribes which **reasons will lead to the establishment of a state registry**, and these are when: Article 17 prescribes three main reasons that will lead to the establishment of a state registry:

1. The fact of registering the object is required for regulation of public relations arising when solving economic, social, law enforcement or other goals on the national scale in the Republic of Lithuania;
2. The registry is a component of the registries or information systems administered in the Member States of the EU or the countries of the European Economic Area;
3. The registry data is necessary when exercising the statutory functions of the governing authorities and state institutions of the Republic of Lithuania in several management areas.

Furthermore, there are some specific legislations defining specific base registries and their activities:

- The Regulation **On the establishment of the Registry of Legal Persons and Legal Entities Registry**⁷ states that the Registry of Legal Persons is the main state registry for objects such as legal entities, their branches and representative offices of foreign legal persons and other organisations. According to the regulation, the Ministry of Justice is the body in charge of the Registry, and it states exactly what types of entities can be recorded in the Registry. Furthermore, the registry documents, data and information can be provided for a fee, as long as the request is in compliance with the Official Secrets Act, the Lithuanian Personal Data Protection Act and Lithuanian Law on Competition.
- The **Population Registry Law**⁸ establishes the Lithuanian Population Registry and management procedures with the objects in it, the data processed and the data policy. The law sets out the registry as the main state registry with the duties of collecting, storing and processing data of Lithuanian citizens and residents. Furthermore, the law specifies what basic personal data is to be processed in the Registry, as well as that the Ministry of Justice is the body managing the registry.
- The **Real Estate Registry Law**⁹ sets out the legal framework for the Real Estate Registry whose purpose is to establish immovable items, property and other real rights and constraints to these objects. All real estate entries made in the registry are considered correct and complete until contested. Additionally, according to the Law, the Registry is managed by the Ministry of Justice, and more specifically by the Central Registrar and some territorial registrars who are subordinate to the central one.
- The **Regulations on the Registry of Road Transport Vehicles** sets out the Road Vehicles Registry's¹⁰ management bodies, their rights and obligations, the registry data, its interaction with

⁶ http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=415499

⁷ <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.9E302593CE80>

⁸ <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.DCBDC82E26CD/GwGDgTejXi>

⁹ <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.DC9EEDAC123F>

¹⁰ <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.1BBA0B658863>

other registries, as well as registry data safety and reorganisation. The authoritative body for the Vehicles Registry is the Ministry of Interior, as defined by the legislation, which also describes the exact data to be processed in the registry, such as: the technical data of the road vehicles, restrictions, the unique identification code of the registry object, the vehicle registration plates, etc.

In addition to the legal provisions for base registries, a number of laws have been put in place to, among others, facilitate the usage of base registry data in Lithuania and to bring the base registry procedures and processes up to speed with European practices.

- The **Public Information Law**¹¹ in Lithuania enables and ensures the collection of public information, its compilation, publication and distribution. According to the Law, public information is information intended for public dissemination with exception to information which cannot be disseminated under the laws of the Republic of Lithuania.
- Closely linked to the above legislation, the **Law on Obtaining Information from Central and Local Government Institutions**¹² transposes the **PSI Directive** (2001/36/EC), and thus regulates the right of citizens and private companies to obtain and reuse information from central and local authorities in Lithuania. The purpose of the Law is to establish a person's right to receive information from state, local government agencies and law enforcement authorities. However, it also states grounds for refusal which pertain to instances when it is necessary for a democratic society and is more important than an individual's right to information.
- Furthermore, the Lithuanian **Law on Services**¹³ is aligned with Directive 2006/123/EC and serves to reduce burdens for the establishment of business and provision of cross-border services. It sets out the requirements for freedom of establishment as well as ensuring those freedom to provide services in Lithuania and abroad.
- Also, the **Protection of Personal Data Law**¹⁴ in Lithuania protects the human right to/for the privacy of personal data. The law states at what point personal data must be retained or destroyed and denotes the criteria required to legally process personal data in Lithuania. Furthermore, in line with the Protection of Personal Data Law, a data subject whose data is being processed has the right to know which of his/her data is being processed and who is processing it. To ensure that no breaches of the law occur during personal data processing, the State Data Protection Inspectorate that is the body responsible for coordinating and supervising data controllers will rule on the punitive action in case of offence.

Finally, the **State Information Resources Interoperability Platform Operating Rules**¹⁵ is the main piece of legislation regulating the SIRIP platform. The legislation established the SIRIP legal framework, goals, tasks, functions, organisational, informational, functional structures, the provision of data and use of data security requirements, financing, modernisation and liquidation. Furthermore, among its provisions, it denotes the services available via SIRIP, which include data transmission services, identification, payment, electronic design service (construction service), monitoring service, digital content management service, electronic messaging and document delivery service. Accordingly, **SIRIP's main purpose** is to allow the information systems and registries of the state to exchange data using web services in a standardised way, accelerate the development of electronic services and deliver it centrally.

¹¹ <http://workspace.unpan.org/sites/internet/Documents/UNPAN039762.pdf>

¹² <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.FA13E28615F6>

¹³ <https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.361342>

¹⁴ <http://unpan1.un.org/intradoc/groups/public/documents/unpan/unpan034020.pdf>

¹⁵ <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/en/legalAct/TAR.9623682A5AFC>

Organisational Interoperability

Lithuania's organisation and governance of base registries are one of the most streamlined and straightforward in Europe. With the creation of their catalogue of registries, data and data owners are easy to retrieve, while the State Enterprise Centre of Base Registries, i.e. a single body, is charged with the most relevant and most used base registries in the country.

As mentioned, a **Catalogue of Registries and Information Systems**¹⁶ is available in Lithuania and can be accessed even without credentials. The catalogue contains information such as the name of the registry, its identification code, the registry object, etc.

General information: Name	General information: Identification code	General information: The registry object (s)	General information: The control area	General information: Date	General information: Regulations	General information: Specification	General information: Admission Act
Public bodies Antikainis outpatient information system	7792			2016-09-23	✓		
National Cancer Institute Information System	0145			2016-09-20	✓		
Training Regional Clinic Information System	8437			2016-09-12	✓		
Call aviation services information system	1298	0		2016-07-25	✓		
Persons, which are applications to prevent them enter into consumer credit contracts, a list of the information system	8317	0	Other	2016-06-30	✓	✓	
Central purchasing organizations CPO E Information System	6806			2016-05-31	✓		
Public and administrative services for monitoring and analysis of the information system	7132			2016-04-20	✓		
Electronic Monitoring Information System	2337	0	Ministry of Internal Affairs	2016-02-03	✓	✓	✓
Numbers and codes of management and the right to use the domain name and the Lithuanian electronic communications networks and services providers list Administration Information System	2844	0	Other	2016-01-22	✓		
Curriculum Information System	3792	0	Ministry of Education and Science	2016-01-18	✓		
Animal breeding information system	1454	0	Ministry of Agriculture	2016-01-05	✓		
Pet register	0644	cats, dogs, ferrets and other pets, marked chip	Ministry of Agriculture	2015-12-17	✓		
Public health professionals register	7789	Specialists performing public health functions Lithuanian national health system of public health care institutions	The Ministry of Health	2015-11-27	✓	✓	
Boxes and inventory management information system	6433	0	The Ministry of Health	2015-10-27	✓		
Non-food products market surveillance information system "RIPP"	6762	0	Ministry of Agriculture	2015-09-21	✓		
The national electronic identity information system	7521	0	Ministry of Internal Affairs	2015-08-28	✓	✓	✓
Intangible Cultural Heritage Compendium	4235	0	The Ministry of Culture	2015-08-19	✓		
Traffic Event Information System	5118	0	Ministry of Internal Affairs	2015-07-08	✓	✓	✓
Child health monitoring information system	0395	0	The Ministry of Health	2015-06-25	✓	✓	
Technical assistance measures accounting information system	6142	0	Social Security and Labour	2015-06-23	✓	✓	✓

The following table gathers the main base registries in Lithuania, the Public Administration bodies to which they belong to and the Master Data Type(s) they handle:

Base Registry	Authority	Master Data
The Registry of Legal Entities	Ministry of Justice; State Enterprise Centre of Registries	BUSINESS
Real Property Cadastre and Registry	Ministry of Justice; State Enterprise Centre of Registries	LAND, PARCELS, MAPS
Address Registry	Ministry of Justice; State Enterprise Centre of Registries	ADDRESS
Population Registry	Ministry of Justice; State Enterprise Centre of Registries	PERSONS
Registry of Road Vehicles	Ministry of Interior	VEHICLES

The creation of the **State Enterprise Centre of Registries**¹⁷ is an interesting development in Lithuania. Its primary function is to administer the **Real Property Registry and Cadastre**, the **Registry of Legal Entities** and the **Address Registry**, while its owner is the Ministry of Justice. As of recently, the **Population Registry**

¹⁶ http://registrai.lt/management/overview/list_objects

¹⁷ <http://www.registrucentras.lt/en/>

has also been placed under the governance of the State Enterprise Centre of Registries. However electronic access to it through the Centre is still under construction. In 2010, the Centre of Registries introduced its first service of virtual foundation and registration of legal entities via the Internet. As a result, the service no longer requires paper documents and relies heavily on electronic signature based on the Public Key Infrastructure (PKI). So far, virtual foundation and registration of legal entities via the Internet is available for citizens of Lithuania. However, the Centre of Registries is investing significant efforts into the implementation of equal possibilities for foreign investors as well.

All of the registries mentioned above are available in electronic format, while the Population Registry is available both in paper and electronic formats.

Semantic Interoperability

In the area of e-Government, information interoperability faces a recurrent issue. Due to the still non-electronic nature of many public sector services, there is a lack of common fields, standardisation and adherence to common definitions. Moreover, when services are being made electronic, usually the existing diversity of data, documents and forms are just transferred to an electronic format, resulting in non-interoperable components.

In this context, the State Information Resources Interoperability Platform Operating Rules established SIRIP's information and functional structures. SIRIP is based on separate components that serve specific purposes. The communication between these components is implemented using **open standard technologies - XML for data structures, WSS for data security, XML Signature for data integrity**. Whenever possible, web-services are preferred to other means of interoperability, enabling each of the SIRIP logical components to be deployed and scaled independently.

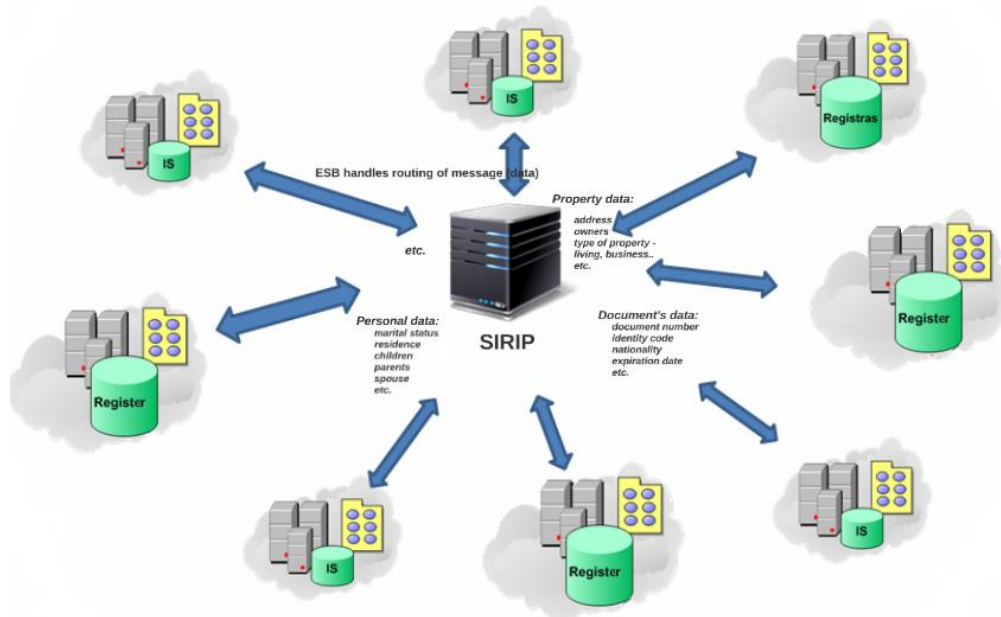
Technical Interoperability

Technical Interoperability covers the applications and the infrastructures linking systems and services including aspects such as interface specifications, interconnection services, data integration services, data presentation and exchange, secure communication protocols, etc. While Public Administrations have specific characteristics at political, legal, organisational and information layers, interoperability at the technical layer does not exhibit specific characteristics. Therefore, technical interoperability should be ensured, whenever possible, via the use of standards and specifications.

In line with the previous and also with the State Information Resources Interoperability Platform Operating Rules, **SIRIP**¹⁸ (State Information Resource Interoperability Platform) is thus the Lithuanian interoperability platform which offers simple solutions for public authorities to design, deliver and manage e-services through the **e-Government Gateway**¹⁹, which is the central electronic services platform.

The delivery of the services and transmission of the data is possible thanks to the second part of SIRIP, the **data exchange platform**. Many e-services have been made available in an easily accessible one-stop-shop portal for the benefit of citizens, business entities and civil servants, and more services are continuously added.

The figure below demonstrates how data is exchanged via SIRIP and secured by Enterprise Service Bus.



Moreover, SIRIP is managed by the Information Society Development Committee, a body under the governance of the Ministry of Transport.

Furthermore, the **Order for Administrative Services using Information and Communication Technology measures of recommendations for approval** provides with the technical specifications necessary for administrative services in an electronic environment, more specifically in SIRIP. The system

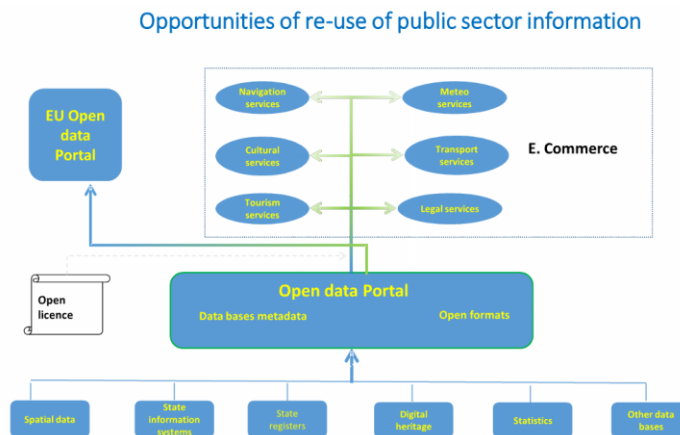
¹⁸ https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/community/open_standards_ict/topic/sirip-state-information-resource-interoperability-platform

¹⁹ <https://www.epaslaugos.lt/portal/>

must allow administrative services to provide the receipt and delivery of data using **Web services** created by the **WSDL standard**, including:

- Electronic document formats must adhere to digitally signed electronic document **ADOC-V1.0** specification;
- Web service message format to use is **XML**;
- Recommended web services verification by the **Web Services Interoperability standard**.

Additionally, it is recommended to use a Simple Data Transfer Protocol (**SOAP/SDTP**) and set the rules for the management of exceptions. Further recommendations in the legislation are for all web services to provide documentation and a Web Service Definition Language (**WSDL**) scheme, as well as the recommended usage of a single Web Services Security Standard (**WSS**) commercialisation tools. Furthermore, Lithuania has an open data portal²⁰ containing 466 datasets. With time, the structure of the portal will be improved, and more datasets will be opened to promote and increase the re-usage of Public Sector Information (PSI). The figure below conveys how open data can be reused to boost activities and improve services.



According to the European Data Portal, Lithuania's Open Data portal in 2016²¹ is in the following state:



²⁰ <http://opendata.gov.lt/>

²¹ http://www.europeandataportal.eu/sites/default/files/country-factsheet_lithuania.pdf

Cross-border Interoperability

Regarding cross-border interoperability, Lithuania has mostly invested efforts towards connecting to European Information Services. Accordingly, Lithuania is one of the six member countries of the European Land Information Service (**EULIS**)²² with a fully implemented and live connection. Furthermore, Lithuania is a participant of the European Car and driving license Information System (**EUCARIS**)²³, and is thus providing vehicle and driving licence information based on the EUCARIS Treaty. Moreover, Lithuania is a member country of the European Business Registry (**EBR**)²⁴ and the European Criminal Records Information System (**ECRIS**)²⁵.

Finally, Lithuania takes part in the **Nordic-Baltic mobility program for public administration**, established among the 8 Nordic and Baltic countries: Denmark, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Finland and Sweden. The program is designed to promote and strengthen public administration cooperation, knowledge transfer and networking activities at various levels.

²² <http://eulis.eu/service/countries-profile/lithuania/>

²³ <https://www.eucaris.net/countries/lithuania/>

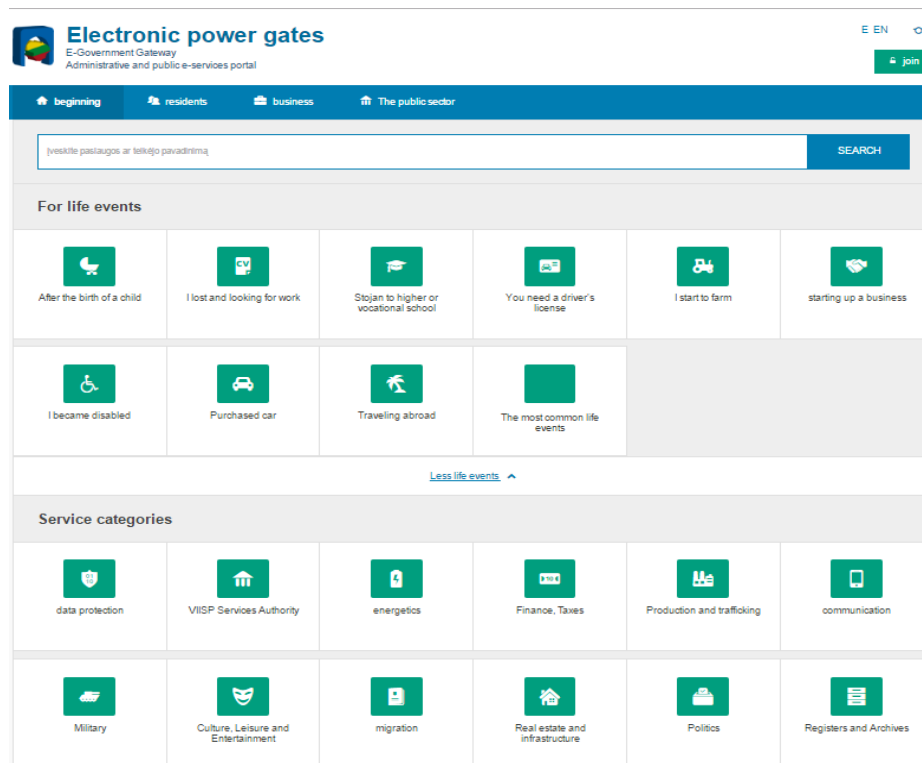
²⁴ <http://www.ebr.org/index.php/member-countries/>

²⁵ https://e-justice.europa.eu/content_criminal_records-95-lt-en.do?member=1

E-Government Public Services making use of Base Registries data

As a part of SIRIP, Lithuania has created its **e-Government Gateway**²⁶, which serves as a One-Stop-Shop or Single Point of Contact for citizens, businesses and public administration to provide and use services, information and guidelines enabling the full exploitation of modernisation and digitalisation of the public administration and its systems to reduce government burdens on citizens and businesses alike.

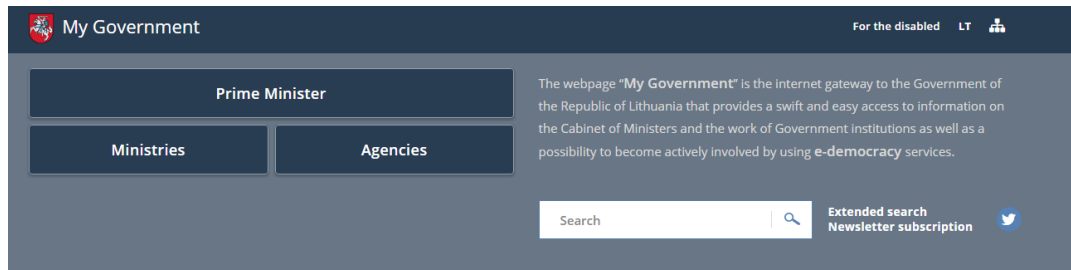
The portal offers different services based on the subject/user (resident, business or public sector), as well as service category or life events.



The most popular services for citizens' include the electronic voters' page, the services for the road vehicle registration system, the construction permit applications and the requests for social grants and financial support. The most popular services for businesses include the road vehicle registration system, the construction permit applications, the electronic messaging applications and the document delivery applications, as well as the criminal convictions' certificates dispensing service.

²⁶ <https://www.epaslaugos.lt/portal/>

Additionally, Lithuania has a **My Government** portal²⁷ which serves as the Internet gateway to the Government of Lithuania. It provides easy access to information about the Cabinet of Ministers, work of Government institutions as well as e-democracy services.



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²⁷ <http://lr.v.lt/en>