COUNTRY NAME: LITHUANIA
YEAR: 1919

EVENT TYPE: INTERIM

DATE DRAFTED: NOT SPECIFIED
DATE PROMULGATED: 04/04/1919
DATE IN FORCE: NOT SPECIFIED
DATE OF MOST RECENT AMENDMENT: 11/17/1919

TRANSLATOR: SARAH JAYNE CROOKSTON
TRANSLATION DATE: NOT SPECIFIED
SOURCE LANGUAGE: LITHUANIAN
TARGET LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

SOURCE: CONSTITUTIONS OF THE WORLD 1776 TO PRESENT
PUBLISHER: K.G. SAUR VERLAG
DATE OF PUBLICATION OR ACCESS: 12/23/2010
PUBLICATION YEAR: 2002
PUBLICATION LOCATION: MUNCHEN
INTERIM CONSTITUTION OF LITHUANIA  
APRIL 4, 1919, AS AMENDED TO NOVEMBER 17, 1919  

Before the Constituent Parliament will be held in the form of Lithuanian State government and constitution; the Lithuanian State Council, will express the sovereign power of Lithuanian. The State Government has set-up vacancies in the foundations of the Temporary Constitution:

1. General Part

1. The chief bodies include:
   a. President of the State,
   b. The Council of the State and
   c. Ministry of the Cabinet.

2. The State’s oldest member is the Capitol of the State of Lithuania, Vilnius.

3. Legislative initiatives are controlled by the State Council and the Cabinet of Minister.

4. All public credit is assigned by the law.

5. All Provisional Constitutional framework laws shall be 2/3 votes, they may be supplemented or replaced. Only half of the members of the State Council vote is required to request amendments or additions and 2/3 votes for adoption.

2. President of the State and his Jurisdiction.
6. Before founding the Constituent Parliament, the state’s management (leader) will meet and decide the form and Constitution. The President of the State shall be elected by the State Council.

7. If the President of the State dies or is unable to perform his duties, his replacement is the Chairman of the State Council.

8. The President of the State’s executive power belongs to that which it is engaged through the Cabinet of Ministers answered before the State Council.

9. The President of the State:
   a. Publishes with his signature, laws and treaties with other countries:
   b. Invites the Chairman of the Ministry and instructs him to create the Cabinet of Ministers:
   c. Represents the State:
   d. Appoints envoys and accepts accredited foreigners to the state envoys:
   e. Appoints highest militaries and civilian state officials:
   f. Keeps its army at the disposal of Lithuania’s independence, defends Lithuanian land’s integrity and appoint the Central Army Commander:
   g. Holds and runs the State’s amnesty sessions.

10. The President of the State relies/depends on amnesty laws.

11. All Presidents of the State’s legal announcements/picks must be signed by the Chairman of the Ministry or have the Ministry’s signature labeled.
12. The President of the State is at the disposal of the Lithuanian State stamp.

3. **The President of the State’s right to legislate.**

13. The State President has the right to pass laws agreed upon in the Cabinet of Ministers between the State Council’s sessions or during breaks.

14. The President of the State can return to the Cabinet of Ministers the intention of the law arrived at with their comments. The Cabinet of Ministers will then consider the law a second time. If the President finds possibility and the second case by the Cabinet of Ministers debated and adopted the intention to sign, then the intention of the law is placed to the State Council and the session must be convened immediately.

4. **The State Council**

15. The State Council shall discuss and decided the laws and agreements with other countries.

16. The Cabinet of Ministers adopts and the President of the State signs laws not brought to the State Council.

17. The President of the State can return the law proposals to the Cabinet of Ministers with his comments. Then, the State Council shall consider it a second time. In the second case, the President of the State must sign legislation discussed and adopted by the State Council.

18. The State Council belongs to the right of interpellation and inquiry.

5. **The Cabinet of Ministers**

19. The Cabinet of Ministers consists of the Chairman of the Ministry.
20. The Cabinet of Ministers approves the President of the State.

21. The Cabinet of Ministers works together with solidarity and is responsible for each other.

22. The State Council expresses confidence in the Cabinet of Ministers, this resignation.

23. The Cabinet of Ministers represents the Chairman of the Ministry or he is replaced by one of the Ministry.

24. When you enter the Council of Ministers, the Members of the Council of the State do not cease to be Members of the Council of the State.

25. The Cabinet of the Ministry and individual Ministries, the State Council and Commissions request has to provide knowledge and explanation.

6. The fundamental rights of citizens.

26. All citizens of the state, regardless of gender, nationality, religion, are equal before the law. There are no class privileges.

27. Guarantees personal, housing and property integrity; religious, press, freedom of speech and freedom of assembly and association. If only the purpose and purpose tools are not contradictory to the Nation’s laws. A meeting of armed individuals is prohibited.

28. Areas, where the State of Lithuania did not issue new laws, temporarily leaving those who have been against the war, as long as they are consistent with the Lithuanian State Interim Constitution Foundational Laws.

29. During war years, as well as during imminent revolt to the State or during prohibited riots, they are subject to the specific statutes, which temporarily restrict civil liberties guarantees.

7. Constituent Parliament

31. The Constituent Parliament is elected on the basis of general voting, plain voting, straight voting and secret voting.

32. After the election of the members of the Constituent Parliament, the Parliament shall meet in Vilnius on the State Government appointed day.

33. The Constituent Parliament starts work when 2/3rds are assembled.

8. State Control

34. The State Control cares for, that which has been legally and properly cultivated decisive and executive work income, expenditure and public finances and other public property storage area.

35. Report to the State Control of all state and municipal authorities,

36. The State Control must always be available to the public: all statements, all books and all 35 (paragraph) institutions referred to action.

37. The State Control appoints their own initiative and carries out audits.

38. The State Control is a separate part of the State’s administration and is independent of the Cabinet of Ministers.

39. The State Controller selects and appoints the State President.

40. The State Controller, State Council and their Commission’s request to provide knowledge and explanation.
41. The State Controller is involved with the Cabinet of Minister deliberative vote.

42. The State Controller is responsible for their own work before the State Council, and the resignation of the State Council expressed by the State Council’s confidence.

LVZ appendix (1919 V. 8) NR. 6-24 a in: is printed in a booklet.

1.1-5. Laws about the State of Lithuania Temporary Constitution Framework principle with replacement of paragraph 32 & 33.

32. The Constituent Parliament meets the President of the State at the specified location and the appointed day.

33. The Constituent Parliament can begin work when one-half and one of the representatives are present.

Smetona – President of the State. Galvanauskis – Chairman of the Ministry. Kaunas. November 17th, 1919. LVZ. 1919. XII 2. Nr. 16-194

1.16 The Interim Constitution of the State of Lithuania

The President of the State publishes the Interim Constitution of the State of Lithuania.

1.

1. The State of Lithuania is a democratic republic.

2. The Constituent Parliament is to express the sovereign power of Lithuania.
3. Those who worked before the date of publication of this Constitution law, who do not object this Constitution, are valid to leave.

4. The Constituent Parliament shall enact laws, ratify treaties with other countries, approve the state budget and supervise the executive laws.

5. Executive power is entrusted with the President and the Cabinet of Ministers.


II.

7. The President of the Republic shall elect the Constituent Parliament.

8. The President of the Republic:

   a) invites the President of the Ministry, instructs him to conclude the Cabinet of Ministers, accept claims which have been drawn up and resignations from the Cabinet of Ministers;

   b) selected and appointed by the State Controller;

   c) represents the Republic;

   c1) appoints envoys accredited to take accredited foreign state representatives;

   d) appointed highest army and civilian state officials;

   e) publish the laws;

   f) has the right to pardon.
9. Until the President of the Republic is elected, his duties go to the Chairman of the Constituent Parliament. After the death, resignation or illness of President of the Republic, the Chairman of the Constituent Parliament is his replacement.

10. All acts shall be the President of the Ministry’s or the President of the Ministry’s signature shall be labeled.

III.

11. The Cabinet of Ministers is from one work and one response.

12. The Cabinet of Ministers is accountable before the Constituent Parliament and expresses distrust for this resignation.

13. The Cabinet of Ministers will not cease when members of the Constituent Parliament enter.