





JOINT STATEMENT OF THE CHAIRS OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEES OF THE ESTONIAN, LATVIAN, AND LITHUANIAN PARLIAMENTS

IN SUPPORT OF THE ACCESSION OF FINLAND AND SWEDEN TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANISATION

18 May 2022

We, the Chairs of the Foreign Affairs Committees of the Baltic parliaments, welcome the decision of Finland and Sweden to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

The accession of Finland and Sweden to the Organisation is of vital importance in the current European security situation, which is fraught with grave menaces. Therefore, on behalf of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, we pledge our readiness to engage in even closer cooperation to strengthen the defence capabilities of Finland and Sweden and, through this cooperation, ensure better security in the Baltic Sea region.

We reiterate that it is the sovereign right of every nation to make decisions about joining international organisations and condemn Russia's threats that are intended to block such steps from being taken.

Our parliaments are ready to be among the first to approve the accession protocols of Finland and Sweden as soon as the North Atlantic Council has approved these protocols.

We call on the parliaments of NATO member states to ensure the smooth ratification of the Protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty on the Accession of Finland and Sweden.

Marko Mihkelson	Rihards Kols	Laima Andrikienė
Chairman	Chairman	Chairwoman
Foreign Affairs	Foreign Affairs	Foreign Affairs
Committee	Committee	Committee
The Riigikogu	The Saeima	The Seimas
Estonia	Latvia	Lithuania