

Annex I


Public

COUR PÉNALE INTERNATIONALE

BUREAU
DU PROCUREUR

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

OFFICE OF
THE PROSECUTOR

To	Judge Tomoko Akane, President Judge Rosario Salvatore Aitala, First Vice-President Judge Reine Alapini-Gansou, Second Vice-President	From	Mr Karim A. A. Khan KC, Prosecutor 
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Date	30 September 2024	Attachment(s)	1 (copy of the referral)
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Ref.	OTP2024/012053	Copies	Mr Osvaldo Zavala Giler, Registrar
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Subject	Notification Referral from the Republic of Lithuania pursuant to articles 13(a) and 14(1) of the Rome Statute regarding the situation in the Republic of Lithuania/the Republic of Belarus.		
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1. In accordance with the provisions of regulation 45 of the Regulations of the Court, I hereby formally notify you that on 30 September 2024, my Office received from the Government of the Republic of Lithuania a State Party referral pursuant to articles 13(a) and 14(1) of the Rome Statute ("Statute").
2. The referral alleges that "there are reasonable grounds to believe that, beginning in April 2020, and from at least 1 May 2020, partly ongoing to the present day, and continuing, crimes against humanity - including deportation, persecution and other inhumane acts - have been carried out against the civilian population of Belarus, at the behest of senior Belarusian political, law enforcement and military leaders, and that part of the element of these crimes was committed on the territory of Lithuania, bringing such crimes temporally, territorially, and materially (by subject-matter) within the jurisdiction of the Court" (see Annex).
3. As a result, the Government of Lithuania requests my Office "to investigate all past, ongoing and future crimes within the Court's jurisdiction, including as referred, as committed in the territory of the Republic of Belarus, and partly on the territory of Lithuania, since at least 1 May 2020".

4. My Office will conduct a preliminary examination of the situation of the Republic of Lithuania/the Republic of Belarus, within the limits of the ICC jurisdiction and strictly guided by the requirements of the Statute.
5. To facilitate the timely assignment of the situation by the Presidency to a Pre-Trial Chamber, I attach the referral dated 30 September 2024, which was hand delivered to my Office by the Vice-Minister of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania, Ms Gabija Grigaitė-Daugirdė.
6. A statement publicly acknowledging the referral has been issued in accordance with the Office's existing practice.

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Ms Ewelina Dobrowolska
Minister of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania

H. E. Prosecutor Karim A. A. Khan KC

International Criminal Court
Oude Waalsdorperweg 10
2597 AK Den Haag, Netherlands

30 September 2024

To the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court,

Re: State Party Referral of the Situation in Belarus

The Government of the Republic of Lithuania presents its compliments to His Excellency, the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (“Court”), and has the honour to inform the Prosecutor of the Court as follows.

The Minister of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania, acting on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, pursuant to Articles 13(a) and 14 of the Rome Statute of the Court, refers the Situation in the Republic of Belarus for investigation by the Office of the Prosecutor.

The Government of the Republic of Lithuania finds that there are reasonable grounds to believe that, beginning in April 2020, and from at least 1 May 2020, partly ongoing to the present day, and continuing, crimes against humanity - including deportation, persecution and other inhumane acts - have been carried out against the civilian population of Belarus, at the behest of senior Belarusian political, law enforcement and military leaders, and that part of the element of these crimes was committed on the territory of Lithuania, bringing such crimes temporally, territorially, and materially (by subject-matter) within the jurisdiction of the Court. It is also reasonable to believe that part of the elements of these crimes was committed, and continues to be committed, on the territory of other States Parties. The requirements for admissibility and the interests of justice are manifestly met. We enclose relevant materials for your consideration.

As such, the Government of Lithuania specifically asks the Prosecutor to investigate all past, ongoing and future crimes within the Court's jurisdiction, including as referred, as committed in the territory of the Republic of Belarus, and partly on the territory of Lithuania, since at least 1 May 2020 so that those most responsible for these crimes may be held accountable for their actions without further delay. The referral aims to ensure

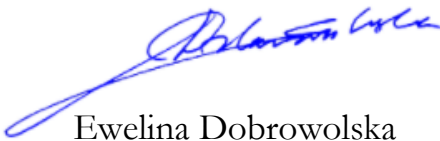
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that hundreds of thousands of victims are provided justice at the Court, and to help bring an end to, and prevent the recurrence of, such crimes against them.

The Government of the Republic of Lithuania respectfully requests, pursuant to Regulation 45 of the Regulations of the Court, that the Prosecutor immediately inform the Presidency of the Court of this Referral so as to "facilitate the timely assignment of [the] situation to a Pre-Trial Chamber."

The Government of the Republic of Lithuania avails itself of this opportunity to renew, to the Office of the Prosecutor of the Court, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Ewelina Dobrowolska
Minister of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania