



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual *Financial Disclosure Statements* of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House, by email at [gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov](mailto:gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov), within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

1. Name of Traveler: Caleb Kostreva
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR** None   
 b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates: Departure: August 28, 2022 Return: September 3, 2022  
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR** None
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Vilnius, Lithuania and Warsaw, Poland Return City: Washington, DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended:  
 Meetings with Lithuanian and Polish government officials in national security, defense, diplomatic, and relevant roles, as well as non-governmental organizations working in Russian democratic movements and that provide assistance to Ukraine.
7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box*:
  - a.  a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
  - b.  the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all** attachments **and** the *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
  - c.  page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the employee; **and**
  - d.  the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a.  I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda.  
**Signify statement is true by checking the box.**  
 b. If not, explain:

**I certify that the information contained on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature of Traveler: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 09/19/2022

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Ken Buck

Date: 09/19/2022

Signature of Supervising Member: \_\_\_\_\_



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

Original  Amendment

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. **A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated on the trip within ten days of their return.** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House rules and the Committee's travel regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

1. Sponsor(s) who paid for the trip: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Travel Destination(s): \_\_\_\_\_
3. Date of Departure: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Return: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): \_\_\_\_\_

*Note:* You may list more than one traveler on a form only if *all* information is *identical* for each person listed.

5. Actual amount of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler				
Accompanying Family Member				

6.  All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. Signify statement is true by checking box.

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Julie Varghese Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

- I am an officer of the above-named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.**

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Caleb Kostreva
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip:  
Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Vilnius, Lithuania and Warsaw, Poland
4. a. Date of Departure: August 28, 2022 Date of Return: September 3, 2022  
b. Yes  No  Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?  
If yes, list dates at personal expense: \_\_\_\_\_
5. a. Yes  No  Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? **If yes:**  
(1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
(3) Yes  No  Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age:
6. a. Yes  No  Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?  
b. **If yes, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:**
7. Yes  No  *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.  
*NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.*
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties.  
**Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.**  
The purpose of the trip is to provide information about Russia's war in Ukraine and regional perspectives on the conflict, which directly pertains to my responsibilities as a Legislative Assistant to advise Congressman Buck on matters related to national defense and foreign affairs.
9. Yes  No  **Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**
10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

### ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member

Ken Buck

Date

07-27-2022



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* **at least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should *NOT* submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee website ([ethics.house.gov](http://ethics.house.gov)) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips.**

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:  
Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center
2.  I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. Signify that the statement is true by checking box.
3. **Check only one.** I represent that:
  - a.  The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip: **OR**
  - b.  The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds: **OR**
  - c.  The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.  
If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors:
4. Provide names and titles of **ALL** House Members *and* employees you are inviting. **For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited** (include additional pages if necessary):  
See attached.
5. Yes  No  Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of departure: August 28, 2022 Date of return: September 3, 2022
7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC, USA  
b. Destination(s): Vilnius, Lithuania, and Warsaw, Poland  
c. City of return: Washington, DC, USA
8. **Check only one.** I represent that:
  - a.  The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: **OR**
  - b.  The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent: **OR**
  - c.  The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
9. **Check only one of the following:**
  - a.  I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
  - b.  I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
  - c.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
  - d.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted:



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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

10.  Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*
11. **Check only one of the following:**
- a.  I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box; OR*
- b.  *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.
12. For **each** sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip **and** its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:
- The Atlantic Council promotes constructive leadership and engagement in international affairs. The Council's Eurasia Center aims to enhance transatlantic cooperation and generate awareness about the region. The Atlantic Council is the full sponsor of the trip and is organizing and conducting all aspects of the trip.
13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**
- a. Mode of travel: Air  Rail  Bus  Car  Other  (specify: \_\_\_\_\_)
- b. Class of travel: Coach  Business  First  Charter  Other  (specify: private bus)
- c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:
14.  I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*
15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:
- a.  The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
- b.  The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation.
- If "b" is checked:
- 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided):  
Vilnius: \$115. Warsaw: \$83. (for each: maximum, approximate)
- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:  
Insight from Vilnius & Warsaw is key to the Western response to Russia's war in Ukraine.
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
- Hotel Name: Hotel Vilnia City: Vilnius Cost Per Night: \$88  
Reason(s) for Selecting: Location, rate, availability
- Hotel Name: Hotel Bristol City: Warsaw Cost Per Night: \$139  
Reason(s) for Selecting: Location, rate, availability, and prior experience with hotel
- Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_
17.  I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*



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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

### 18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$2568	\$542	\$594
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$208	Private transportation
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

### 19. Check only one:

- a.  I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
- b.  *Not Applicable*. Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

### 20. I certify by my signature that

- a. I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;
- b. I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and
- c. The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Julie Varghese Date: 08/22/2022  
 Name: Julie Varghese Title: Chief Operating Officer  
 Organization: Atlantic Council of the United States, Inc.  
 Address: 1030 15th St. NW, 12th floor, Washington, DC 20005  
 Email: jvarghese@atlanticcouncil.org Telephone: (202) 813-8200

## INSTRUCTIONS

Complete the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* and submit the agenda, invitation list, any attachments, and any *Additional Trip Sponsor Forms* directly to the Travelers.

Written approval from the Committee on Ethics is required before traveling on this trip. The Committee on Ethics will notify the House invitees directly and will not notify the trip sponsors.

**Willful or knowing misrepresentation on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.**

**For questions, please contact the Committee on Ethics at:**

1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

[ethicscommittee@mail.house.gov](mailto:ethicscommittee@mail.house.gov) | 202-225-7103  
More information and forms available at [ethics.house.gov](http://ethics.house.gov)



# U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Washington, DC 20515

August 26, 2022

Mr. Caleb Kostreva  
Office of the Honorable Ken Buck  
2455 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Kostreva:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Lithuania and Poland,<sup>1</sup> scheduled for August 28 to September 3, 2022, sponsored by Atlantic Council.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$415 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House employees may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently \$415] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

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<sup>1</sup> Please be aware that the Committee's review of the proposed trip does not extend to either the security situation in the destination country or security related to foreign travel in general. We recommend you contact the Office of House Security (OHS) for a safety and security briefing prior to your departure. OHS may be reached at (202) 226-2044 or [ohsstaff@mail.house.gov](mailto:ohsstaff@mail.house.gov). House travelers should also register for the U.S. State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at <https://step.state.gov>.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,



Theodore E. Deutch  
Chairman



Michael Guest  
Acting Ranking Member

TED/MG:tn



# US House of Representatives

Committee on Ethics

## Primary Trip Sponsor Form supplemental documentation

Atlantic Council of the US, Inc.

House employees invited:

1. **Benjamin Cooper**
  - a. *Professional Staff Member, Subcommittee on Europe, Energy, the Environment, and Cyber, House Committee on Foreign Affairs*
  - b. Reason for inviting: Lithuania and Poland are playing critical roles in the support of Ukraine against Russian aggression. Lithuania is providing critical support to the opposition in Belarus. Ukraine, and Eastern Europe on the whole, is relevant to the staffer's official professional portfolio at the House of Representatives.
2. **Caleb Kostreva**
  - a. *Legislative Assistant, Office of Representative Ken Buck*
  - b. Reason for inviting: Lithuania and Poland are playing critical roles in the support of Ukraine against Russian aggression. Lithuania is providing critical support to the opposition in Belarus. Ukraine, and Eastern Europe on the whole, is relevant to the staffer's official professional portfolio at the House of Representatives.
3. **James Loomis**
  - a. *Senior Defense and Foreign Policy Advisor, Office of Representative Stephanie Murphy*
  - b. Reason for inviting: Lithuania and Poland are playing critical roles in the support of Ukraine against Russian aggression. Lithuania is providing critical support to the opposition in Belarus. Ukraine, and Eastern Europe on the whole, is relevant to the staffer's official professional portfolio at the House of Representatives.
4. **Gianluca Nigro**
  - a. *Senior Legislative Assistant, Office of Representative Brendan Boyle*
  - b. Reason for inviting: Lithuania and Poland are playing critical roles in the support of Ukraine against Russian aggression. Lithuania is providing critical support to the opposition in Belarus. Ukraine, and Eastern Europe on the whole, is relevant to the staffer's official professional portfolio at the House of Representatives.
5. **Natasha Wood**
  - a. *Legislative Assistant, Office of Representative Jim Costa*
  - b. Reason for inviting: Lithuania and Poland are playing critical roles in the support of Ukraine against Russian aggression. Lithuania is providing critical support to the opposition in Belarus. Ukraine, and Eastern Europe on the whole, is relevant to the staffer's official professional portfolio at the House of Representatives.

## Agenda: Lithuania and Poland Study Trip, 2022

For reference: [Eurasia Center Congressional Fellowship program](#)

(All times listed are local)

### Sunday, August 28 – depart US for Vilnius

6:10 p.m. – 8:10 a.m. +1 Delegation flies from Washington Dulles (IAD) to Frankfurt (FRA) on United Airlines flight UA 8826

### Monday, August 29

Arrival - 10:20 a.m. Layover, delegation connects in airport, boards flight to Vilnius

10:20 a.m. - 1:20 p.m. Delegation flies from Frankfurt (FRA) to Vilnius (VNO) on Lufthansa flight LH 886

1:20 p.m. - 1:50 p.m. Arrival in Vilnius, pick up luggage, meet driver

1:50 p.m. - 2:10 p.m. Delegation transfers to hotel via private transportation

Location: Hotel Vilnia  
Maironio str 1, LT-01124 Vilnius

Pickup location: Arrivals

2:10 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. Check into Hotel Vilnia

2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Delegation meets in hotel lobby for check in with Ambassador Herbst and Shelby Magid

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Delegation visits Fight for Freedom Museum at Vilnius TV Tower

Location: Sausio 13-osios g. 10, Vilnius 04347



# Atlantic Council

Topics: Lithuania's fight for independence from Russia

Relevance: Staffers will learn about Lithuania's "Bloody Sunday" in 1991, when pro-independence demonstrators clashed with Soviet forces. The event is critical to Lithuanian independence from the Soviet Union, which looms in current confrontations with Moscow.

5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

**Dinner with Ambassador Petro Beshta, Ambassador of Ukraine to the Republic of Lithuania**

Location: Vilnius TV Tower  
Sausio 13-osios g. 10, Vilnius 04347

Topics: Lithuania's response to Russia's war against Ukraine and aggression in the region, Ukrainian-Lithuanian relations

Relevance: Staffers will hear from Ukraine's ambassador to Lithuania about the view on Russia's war from Lithuania, the status of Ukrainians in Lithuania, and views on US policy toward the region.

7:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Delegation transfers to Hotel Vilnia**

Departure location: Vilnius TV Tower  
Sausio 13-osios g. 10, Vilnius 04347

8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**Evening coffee, tea, dessert with Linas Kojala, Director of the Eastern European Studies Centre**

Location: Hotel Vilnia

Topics: Russia's war in Ukraine and the threat it poses to Baltic states

Relevance: Staffers will hear from the director of Lithuania's top think tank about their assessment of Russia's war in Ukraine and the threat Moscow poses to the Baltic states.

## Tuesday, August 30

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

**Breakfast roundtable with The Hon. Robert S. Gilchrist, US Ambassador to the Republic of Lithuania**

Location: Hotel Vilnia

Topics: US support for the Baltic states in the face of Kremlin aggression.

Relevance: Staffers will hear from the US ambassador to Lithuania about the challenges facing the Baltic region as Russia's war on Ukraine continues, as well as Lithuania's response to the war and support for Ukraine. The ambassador will also discuss the Russian and Belarusian democratic movements that are headquartered in Vilnius.

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

## Delegation travels to Ministry of Defense

Departure location: Hotel Vilnia

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

## Meeting with Minister of Defense of Lithuania Arvydas Anušauskas

Location: Totorių g. 25, Vilnius 01121

Topic: Lithuania's response to Russia's war on Ukraine and threats to Lithuania's security and independence, the destabilization of Belarus

Relevance: Staffers will learn about how Lithuania has been a key supporter of Ukraine during Russia's invasion, the threats Lithuania is facing itself from Moscow, and how recent announcements at the NATO Summit in Madrid impact Baltic security. The defense minister will also cover the destabilizing role that Belarus has played in Lithuania's security.

12:00 p.m. - 12:15 p.m.

## Delegation travels to office of Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya

Pickup Location: Totorių g. 25, Vilnius 01121

12:15 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

## Lunch

Location: Café near office of Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya

1:00 p.m. – 1:40 p.m.

## Meeting with Belarusian human rights defenders and organization Viasna

Location: Office of Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, Vilnius

Participants: Viasna staff, Sergei Yakupov, Valiantsin Stefanovich

Topic: The state of civil society resistance to Belarusian strongman Alyaksandr Lukashenka

Relevance: Staffers will learn from leaders of key Belarusian human rights organizations about how civil society continues to resist Belarus's authoritarian government following the emergence of a democratic opposition movement in 2020, as well as efforts to free political prisoners in Belarus and maintain support for those persecuted.

1:45 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.

**Meeting with Belarusian democratic opposition leader Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya and chief adviser Franak Viačorka**

Location: Office of Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, Vilnius

Topic: The state of the Belarusian democratic opposition movement

Relevance: Staffers will meet with the leader of the Belarusian democratic opposition movement and rightful winner of the 2020 Belarus presidential election Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya to learn about the state of her movement, how foreign support has aided democracy in Belarus, the involvement of Belarusian ruler Alyaksandr Lukashenka in the war on Ukraine, and her relationship with the US.

2:40 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Delegation travels to the Office of the Prime Minister of Lithuania**

Pickup Location: Office of Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, Vilnius

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Meeting with members of the Office of the Prime Minister of Lithuania**

Location: Office of the Government of Lithuania; Gedimino pr. 11, Vilnius 01103, Lithuania

Participants: First Vice-Chancellor Rolandas Kriščiūnas, Head of the International Relations and European Union Group Kestutis Vaškelevičius, and advisers to the prime minister

Topic: Lithuania's response to Russia's war on Ukraine and threats to Lithuania's security and independence

Relevance: Staffers will learn about how Lithuania has been a key supporter of Ukraine during Russia's invasion and how the Lithuanian government sees its role in the response to increasing threats from Russia.

4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Delegation travels to Botanist for dinner**

Pickup Location: Office of the Government of Lithuania; Gedimino pr. 11, Vilnius 01103, Lithuania

5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

**Dinner with Dr. Laurynas Kasciunas, chair of the National Security and Defense Committee of the Parliament of Lithuania**

Location: Botanist, Didžioji g. 26, Vilnius 01128, Lithuania

Topic: Lithuania's foreign policy and relations with the United States

Relevance: Lithuania is a key supporter of both Ukraine and the democratic movement in Belarus, and Moscow has tried to pressure Vilnius as a result. Lithuania feels vulnerable from a security perspective in spite of its NATO membership. Staffers will gain further insight into Lithuania's assessment of the NATO summit and its immediate security needs.

7:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

[Delegation walks to Amatininkų Užeiga](#)

7:45 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

[Evening coffee, tea, dessert with Jonas Öhman, head of Blue/Yellow for Ukraine](#)

Location: Amatininkai Užeiga, Didžioji g. 19, 01128 Vilnius, Lithuania

Topic: Lithuanian non-governmental organizations roles in supporting Ukraine's armed forces, the status of the war in Ukraine.

Relevance: Staffers will hear from a key civil NGO working to aid Ukrainians and learn about Russia's war against Ukraine from their perspective. Blue/Yellow for Ukraine works with Ukrainian and Lithuanian governments and armed forces providing defense and medical equipment aid. As the organization has close contact with frontline forces in Ukraine and Öhman has traveled to Ukraine throughout the war, he will provide an update on urgent needs and the status of collaboration and assistance between Lithuania, Ukraine, and the US.

## Wednesday, August 31

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

[Breakfast with RFE/RL's Vilnius bureau](#)

Location: Hotel Vilnia

Topics: RFE/RL's engagement with audiences in Russia and Belarus through the newly opened bureau in Lithuania, the impact of Russia's war against Ukraine upon free media

Relevance: Staffers will learn about the role RFE/RL plays in the region and their needs in light of Russia's war on Ukraine, which has increased the appetite for credible, uncensored alternatives to Kremlin media to cover the full scope of the conflict. RFE/RL has been labeled an extremist organization by the Belarusian government and was forced to suspend their operations in Russia. The Vilnius news bureau hosts displaced RFE/RL Belarus Service journalists forced to flee Belarus after the fraudulent 2020 elections. The Vilnius bureau journalists will share their views on the challenges facing media, how US assistance helps media, and the threat of Kremlin disinformation.

8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.

[Delegation travels to Free Russia Foundation offices](#)

Pickup Location: Hotel Vilnia

8:50 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

[Meeting with Russian opposition politician Vladimir Milov and Chief of Staff for Alexei Navalny Leonid Volkov](#)

Location: Free Russia Foundation Office, Vilnius

Topics: The state of opposition to the Russian government

Relevance: Staffers will learn about how the Russian opposition movement was systematically targeted by the Kremlin ahead of the February invasion of Ukraine, how opposition figures continue their activities in exile, and what is happening to leaders like Alexei Navalny and Vladimir Kara-Murza who have been jailed by the Kremlin to prevent them from organizing against the war.

9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

[Discussion with Mediazona and Russian regional magazine 77](#)

Location: Free Russia Foundation Office, Vilnius

Topics: Russian media freedom

Relevance: Staffers will learn about the state of Russia's media environment following new laws in Russia that led to the closure or exile of all leading independent news media, as well as how journalists continue to try to inform the Russian public and what the barriers to getting accurate information to Russians are.

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

[Delegation travels from Free Russia Foundation to the Presidential Palace](#)

11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.

[Meeting with former President of Lithuania Dalia Grybauskaitė](#)

Location: Presidential Palace, S. Daukanto a. 3, Vilnius 01122, Lithuania. Enter from the Chancellery side, Universiteto st.

Topic: How Lithuania's policy towards Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus have evolved over time

Relevance: Staffers will learn from a top former Lithuanian official about how the country's response to the same issues being faced today were addressed under their government in prior years, with particular attention towards Russian aggression, global authoritarianism, and Belarus.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

[Meeting with Kęstutis Budrys, Chief Adviser to the President of Lithuania](#)

Location: Presidential Palace, S. Daukanto a. 3, Vilnius 01122, Lithuania.

Topic: Lithuania's response to Russia's war on Ukraine and threats to Lithuania's security and independence, Lithuania's relationship with allies

Relevance: Staffers will learn about the Lithuanian president's policies and views regarding Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and Lithuania's relationship with allies.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

[Return to hotel, eat lunch nearby](#)

Location: Café near Hotel Vilnia

2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

[Delegation travels to Parliament of Lithuania](#)

Pickup Location: Hotel Vilnia

2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

[Panel discussion with Members of the Parliament of Lithuania](#)

Location: Parliament of Lithuania, Gedimino, pr. 53

Topic: US-Lithuanian relations, Russia's war in Ukraine, security in Europe

Relevance: Staffers will learn from members of the Lithuanian parliament about common issues before the Lithuanian parliament and the US Congress, such as efforts to ratify NATO membership for Sweden and Finland, continued support for Ukraine, and efforts to safeguard against Russian aggression.

4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

[Meeting with former Lithuanian Foreign Minister Linas Linkevičius](#)

Location: Parliament of Lithuania, Gedimino, pr. 53

Topic: How Lithuania's policy towards Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus have evolved over time

Relevance: Staffers will learn from a top former Lithuanian official about how the country's response to the same issues being faced today were addressed under their government in prior years, with particular attention towards Russian aggression, global authoritarianism, and Belarus.

5:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

[Delegation travels to dinner at Restoranas Grey](#)

Pickup Location: Parliament of Lithuania



5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Dinner with Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Mantas Adomėnas and Minister of Foreign Affairs' adviser Laurynas Jonavičius

Location: Restoranas Grey, Pilies g. 2

Topic: Lithuania's response to Russia's war on Ukraine and threats to Lithuania's security and independence

Relevance: Staffers will learn about areas of partnership between the United States and Lithuania during Russia's war on Ukraine, how new US/NATO support for the Baltic states will impact regional security, and the state of humanitarian aid for refugees from Ukraine and the MENA region after being filtered through Belarus towards Lithuania.

## Thursday, September 1 – depart Vilnius for Warsaw

7:00 a.m. - 7:15 a.m.

Delegation meets in hotel lobby with luggage, hotel checkout (*Breakfast to-go bags available for pick-up at hotel*)

Pickup Location: Hotel Vilnia front entrance

7:15 a.m. - 7:35 a.m.

Delegation transfers to Vilnius Airport via private transportation

7:35 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Check-in, security, boarding

9:00 a.m. - 9:05 a.m.

Delegation flies from Vilnius (VNO) to Warsaw (WAW) on LOT Polish Airlines flight LO 780

9:05 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

Arrival in Warsaw, pick up luggage, meet driver

9:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Delegation transfers to hotel via private transportation

Hotel: Bristol Hotel Warsaw  
Krakowskie Przedmieście 42/44, 00-325 Warsaw

Pickup Location: Warsaw airport arrivals

10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Drop off luggage with hotel concierge

10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Breakfast roundtable briefing with The Hon. Mark Brzezinski, US Ambassador to the Republic of Poland

Location: Bristol Hotel Warsaw

Topics of discussion: US-Polish relations, the view from Poland on Russia's war against Ukraine, Polish security

Relevance: Staffers will hear from the US ambassador to Poland and receive insight into the political and security environment in Poland, the impact Russia's war against Ukraine has on relations with various partners, especially the United States.

11:45 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.

[Hotel check in](#)

12:25 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.

[Delegation walks to Atlantic Council Warsaw office](#)

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

[Roundtable meeting with analysts and think tank representatives, including from The Polish Institute of International Affairs \(PISM\), the Center for Eastern Studies \(OSW\), College of Europe \(Natolin\), and the Polish-American Freedom Foundation](#)

Location: Atlantic Council Warsaw Office  
WeWork - Powierzchnia Biurowa i Coworking  
Krakowskie Przedmieście 13, 05-077 Warszawa, Poland

Topic: Assessing Russia's war on Ukraine

Relevance: Staffers will receive a briefing from several of the top think tanks in Eastern Europe covering Russia's war on Ukraine. Top Ukraine analysts will meet with staffers to discuss the state of play on the ground and their view on scenarios for how the conflict might end.

2:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

[Delegation transfers to lunch](#)

Pickup Location: Atlantic Council Warsaw Office  
WeWork - Powierzchnia Biurowa i Coworking  
Krakowskie Przedmieście 13, 05-077 Warszawa, Poland

2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

[Lunch meeting with representatives of the Office of the Mayor of Warsaw](#)

Location Warsaw City Hall, plac Bankowy 3/5, 00-950 Warszawa, Poland

Topic: Warsaw's response to the war in Ukraine

Relevance: Staffers will learn about Warsaw's humanitarian response to the war in Ukraine and hear about how the city is handling the surge in Ukrainian refugees.

3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

[Delegation transfers to Ministry of Climate and Environment](#)

Pickup Location: Warsaw City Hall, plac Bankowy 3/5, 00-950 Warszawa, Poland

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

[Meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Climate and Environment of Poland](#)

Location: Ministry of Climate and Environment, ul. Wawelska 52/54 00-922 Warszawa, Poland

Topic: Polish energy policy and Russia

Relevance: Staffers will hear how Poland is changing its energy policy to counter the Kremlin's malign energy activities. They will also learn more about the energy situation in Poland as the country prepares for the winter heating season, and how Poland is helping Ukraine transition to the European energy grid.

4:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

[Delegation transfers to hotel via private transportation, break](#)

Hotel: Bristol Hotel Warsaw  
Krakowskie Przedmieście 42/44, 00-325 Warsaw

Pickup Location: ul. Wawelska 52/54 00-922 Warszawa, Poland

5:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

[Delegation transfers to Dinner at Restauracja ukraińska U Sióstr](#)

Location: Restauracja ukraińska U Sióstr  
Złota 63A, 00-819 Warszawa, Poland

Pickup Location: Bristol Hotel Warsaw

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

[Dinner with members of Polish Parliament](#)

Location: Restauracja ukraińska U Sióstr  
Złota 63A, 00-819 Warszawa, Poland

Topic: Inter-parliamentary issues

Relevance: Staffers will learn from members of the Polish Sejm and Senate about common issues before the Polish parliament and the US Congress, such as efforts to ratify NATO membership for Sweden and Finland, military and financial support for Ukraine's war effort, and lessons from Poland's support of Ukrainian refugees that can be applied to the US Uniting for Ukraine program.

## Friday, September 2

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

[Breakfast with Myroslava Gongadze, Eastern Europe Chief of Voice of America News](#)

Location: Bristol Hotel Warsaw breakfast room

Topic: Media coverage of Russia's war in Ukraine, challenges to media in Ukraine, threat of Kremlin disinformation

Relevance: Staffers will learn about the state of Ukraine's vibrant news media ecosystem and how it has adapted to Russia's invasion to keep the Ukrainian people informed. They will also learn about the critical need for global support for Ukrainian media in order to survive the war and continue coverage.

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

[Coffee break and walk to Atlantic Council's Warsaw office](#)

Location: Atlantic Council Warsaw Office  
WeWork - Powierzchnia Biurowa i Coworking  
Krakowskie Przedmieście 13, 05-077 Warszawa, Poland

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

[Meeting with Pavel Latushka, head of the Coordination Council for the Transfer of Power in Belarus](#)

Location: Atlantic Council Warsaw Office  
WeWork - Powierzchnia Biurowa i Coworking  
Krakowskie Przedmieście 13, 05-077 Warszawa, Poland

Topic: Global efforts to support the Belarusian democratic opposition

Relevance: Staffers will build upon their prior Vilnius meetings with the Belarusian democratic opposition and relevant NGOs by learning about how the Coordination for the Transfer of Power in Belarus has strategically partnered with foreign governments, the private sector, and global civil society organizations to maintain support for the Belarusian democratic movement.

10:10 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

[Meeting with representatives of the Chancellery of the Prime Minister of Poland](#)

Location: Atlantic Council Warsaw Office  
WeWork - Powierzchnia Biurowa i Coworking  
Krakowskie Przedmieście 13, 05-077 Warszawa, Poland

Topic: Poland's solidarity with Ukraine

Relevance: Staffers will learn more about Poland's response to Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine and what Poland has done to support their Ukrainian neighbors.

11:00 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.

[Delegation walks to the Presidential Palace](#)



# Atlantic Council

11:10 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.

[Meeting with representatives of the Polish President's Chancellery, National Security Advisers](#)

Location: Presidential Palace, Krakowskie Przedmieście 48/50, 00-071 Warszawa, Poland

Topic: Poland's security priorities

Relevance: Staffers will learn from about the most important security issues facing Poland today, as the war in Ukraine continues and the Kremlin threatens hybrid aggression in the Baltics and in Europe. Staffers will have the opportunity to discuss the role of NATO in Polish security, as well as the role of the United States in the Baltic region.

12:10 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.

[Delegation transfers to lunch at Little Georgia](#)

Pickup Location: Presidential Palace, Krakowskie Przedmieście 48/50, 00-071 Warszawa, Poland

Meeting Location: Nowogrodzka 40, 00-691 Warszawa, Poland

12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

[Lunch with representatives from the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#)

Location: Little Georgia  
Nowogrodzka 40, 00-691 Warszawa, Poland

Topic: Poland's diplomatic priorities

Relevance: Staffers will learn from about Poland's diplomatic objectives and foreign policy, which has taken on even greater importance since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Staffers will hear about how the ministry working with partners to react to the war in Ukraine and discuss Poland's related foreign policy priorities in the EU and UN.

1:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

[Delegation transfers to International Center for Ukrainian Victory](#)

Pickup Location: Little Georgia  
Nowogrodzka 40, 00-691 Warszawa, Poland

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[Meeting with Ukraine's Anticorruption Action Center Board Member Olena Halushka and former Member of the Verkhovna Rada Victoria Voytsitska](#)

Location: International Center for Ukrainian Victory

Topics: Oversight of international support for Ukraine

Relevance: Staffers will learn about how the Ukrainian government and civil society are conducting oversight of Western financial and military support for the Ukrainian war effort to ensure support is utilized properly.

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

[Meeting with Oksana Nechyporenko, head of Ukraine Crisis Coordination Center and Ambassador Vasyl Zvarych, Ambassador of Ukraine to Poland](#)

Location: International Center for Ukrainian Victory

Topic: The humanitarian situation for Ukrainians in Poland, Ukrainian relations with international organizations, plans for Ukraine's reconstruction

Relevance: Staffers will learn about the Ukrainian embassy in Poland's war response efforts, including addressing the humanitarian crisis facing Ukrainian refugees as tens of millions have been displaced due to Russia's war. They will learn about Ukraine's efforts to streamline deliveries of humanitarian aid, how to apply lessons from ongoing refugee support efforts to the Uniting for Ukraine program in the US, and how resettlement can be properly planned for.

4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

[Delegation transfers to Bristol Hotel Warsaw for dinner](#)

Location: Bristol Hotel Warsaw  
Krakowskie Przedmieście 42/44, 00-325 Warszawa, Poland

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

[Dinner with representatives from the Polish Ministry of National Defense](#)

Location: Bristol Hotel Warsaw  
Krakowskie Przedmieście 42/44, 00-325 Warszawa, Poland

Relevance: Staffers will learn about how Russia's full-scale war in Ukraine has changed Polish defense policy. They will hear about US-Poland defense cooperation and NATO-Poland cooperation.

6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

[Delegation transfers to Residence of the US Ambassador to Poland](#)

Pickup Location: Bristol Hotel Warsaw

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

[Reception at The Hon. Mark Brzezinski's residence](#)

Location: Residence of the US Ambassador to the Republic of Poland  
ul. Idzikowskiego 34, Warsaw

Potential participants: US embassy leadership, Atlantic Council representatives in Poland (including Aaron Korewa, Maciej Witucki, and Dariusz Mioduski), Polish business leaders (such as former Council Millennium Leadership Program fellow and Google's director of CEE and transatlantic public policy Marta Poslad, and the Chairman of AmCham Poland Tony Housh), cross-partisan politicians (such as chairman of the Poland 2050 party Michal Kobosko, Mayor of Warsaw Rafal Trzaskowski, Senator Bogdan Klich), and civil society members (such as representatives of the Polish-American Freedom Foundation, Pawel Kowal of the College of Europe (Natolin), and head of the Ukraine Crisis Coordination Center Oksana Nechyporenko)

Topics: US-Polish and transatlantic relations, Poland's response to Russia's war in Ukraine

Relevance: Staffers will have the opportunity to debrief their findings and impressions from the delegation's meetings in Warsaw, discuss key takeaways, and engage with a broad cross section of leaders from Polish society, government, and business. Amb. Brzezinski will start the reception with remarks on the importance of US-Polish relations and how the war in Ukraine has impacted these relations and connections to the participants gathered. Amb. (retired) John Herbst will follow with remarks about the purpose of the delegation, share key takeaways, and ask for reception attendees to share their perspectives on Poland, Ukraine, and Russia with the delegation.

## Saturday, September 3 – depart Warsaw for US

7:15 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.	Delegation meets in hotel lobby with luggage, hotel checkout
7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Delegation transfers to Warsaw Chopin Airport via private transportation <u>Pickup Location:</u> Bristol Hotel lobby
8:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.	Check-in, security, boarding
9:50 a.m. - 11:35 a.m.	Delegation flies from Warsaw (WAW) to Frankfurt (FRA) on Lufthansa flight LH 1347
11:35 a.m. - 1:10 p.m.	Layover, additional US security screening, delegation boards flight to Washington
1:10 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Delegation flies from Frankfurt (FRA) to Washington Dulles (IAD) on United Airlines flight UA 8827