

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, 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: _____
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: _____ Return: _____
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None
4. Departure City: _____ Destination: _____ Return City: _____
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: _____
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: _____

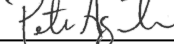
7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box*:
 - a. a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
 - b. the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all** attachments **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: _____

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: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Supervising Member: 

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 in the trip within 10 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 or provided in-kind support for the trip: Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center

2. Travel Destination(s): Vilnius, Lithuania; Warsaw, Poland

3. Date of Departure: August 27, 2023 Date of Return: September 2, 2023

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): See attached list of invitees

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	\$2387.05	\$573.48	\$570.68	\$8.19 Warsaw Uprising Museum tour Private transportation \$8.26 Museum of
Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A Occupation and Freedom Fights tour \$246 Private bus transport

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.

DocuSigned by:
Signature:  Julie Varghese Date: 9/8/2023
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Name: Julie Varghese Title: Chief Operating Officer

Organization: Atlantic Council of the United States Inc.

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

Address: 1030 15th St. NW, Washington, DC 20001, United States of America

Telephone: 202-813-8200 Email: jvarghese@atlanticcouncil.org

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.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed trip sponsor form(s) and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection.

This form and any attachments may be submitted at 1015 Longworth House Office Building or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

Your completed request must be submitted to the Committee no less than 30 days before your proposed departure date. Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 30 days before the trip commences. **You must receive explicit approval from the Committee before you depart on this trip.**

Name of Traveler: _____

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

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

Signature: Victoria R Russ

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): _____

For Staff (name of employing Member or Committee): _____

Office Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email Address of Contact Person: _____

Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet, the purpose of the trip is to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity, *and* these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 30 days before the trip departure date.

NOTE: You must complete all of the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.

KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM. Page 2 (but not this page) must be submitted to the Clerk as part of the post-travel disclosure required by House Rule 25. Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting paperwork for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If there are any questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or via email: travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: _____
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: _____

3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: _____
4. a. Date of Departure: _____ Date of Return: _____
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:

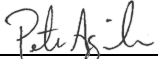
7. Yes No *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitation, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.
NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler 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.**

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:  Date: _____

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's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

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. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:

Atlantic Council of the United States, Inc.'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, services, or in-kind assistance 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 list.

5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?

6. Date of Departure: August 27, 2023 Date of Return: September 2, 2023

7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC, USA

b. Destination(s): Vilnius, Lithuania; 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. _____
-

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 the statement is true by clicking the 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 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 \$116; 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 full-scale 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: \$91
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Location, rate, availability, prior experience with the hotel
- Hotel Name: Hotel Bristol City: Warsaw Cost Per Night: \$151
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Location, rate, availability, and prior experience with the 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.*

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	\$2387.05	\$576	\$572
For each Accompanying Family Member			

	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	\$251 \$15	Private bus transport Educational activity - museum visits
For each Accompanying Family Member		

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:  _____ Date: 7/17/2023

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 USA

Email: jvarghese@atlanticcouncil.org Telephone: 202-813-8200

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania
Ranking Member

David P. Joyce, Ohio
John H. Rutherford, Florida
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Michelle Fischbach, Minnesota

Veronica Escobar, Texas
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland



ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Keelie Broom
Counsel to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
Telephone: (202) 225-7103
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

August 22, 2023

Ms. Victoria Rivas
Democratic Caucus
1420 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Rivas:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Lithuania and Poland,¹ scheduled for August 27 to September 2, 2023, sponsored by Atlantic Council of the United States, Inc.

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 \$480 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 \$480] 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.

¹ 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. 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Guest". The first letter "M" is large and loops around the start of the name.

Michael Guest
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Wild". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Susan Wild
Ranking Member

MG/SW:rp

Agenda: Lithuania and Poland Study Trip, 2023

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

(All times listed are local)

Sunday, August 27 – depart US for Vilnius

6:10 p.m. – 8:05 a.m. +1 Delegation flies from Washington Dulles (IAD) to Frankfurt (FRA) on United Airlines flight LH 419

Monday, August 28

8:05 a.m. - 10:05 a.m. Layover, delegation connects in airport, boards flight to Vilnius

10:05 a.m. - 1:05 p.m. Delegation flies from Frankfurt (FRA) to Vilnius (VNO) on Lufthansa flight LH 886

1:05 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. – 4:00 p.m. Check in to Hotel Vilnia, break

Optional post check-in: meet for snack/lunch at Strangelove café
Location: Barboros Radvilaitės g. 6B, 01143 Vilnius, Lithuania (*directly across from hotel*)

4:00 p.m. - 4:10 p.m. Delegation meets in hotel lobby for check-in with Ambassador Herbst, Shelby Magid, and Andrew D'Anieri

4:10 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

[Delegation transfers to Blue/Yellow for Ukraine headquarters](#)

Pickup location: Hotel Vilnia

4:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

[Meeting with Jonas Öhman, head of Blue/Yellow for Ukraine, and Blue/Yellow aid workers](#)

Location: Blue/Yellow for Ukraine headquarters

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

Relevance: Staffers will hear from and receive a presentation by a key 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 and his team have traveled to Ukraine throughout the war, they will provide an update on urgent needs and the status of collaboration and assistance between Lithuania, Ukraine, and the US. Staffers will hear from US military veterans who have been volunteering in Ukraine. They may also hear from Ukrainian soldiers Blue/Yellow collaborates with to provide aid near the frontlines (note this depends on soldiers' availability and the status of the war). This will provide valuable insight on critical needs within Ukraine.

5:45 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

[Delegation transfers from Blue/Yellow for Ukraine headquarters to dinner](#)

Pickup location: Blue/Yellow for Ukraine headquarters

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

[Dinner with Blue/Yellow for Ukraine and Ukrainian soldiers](#)

Location: La Boheme, Sv. Ignoto g. 4-3, Vilnius 01144 Lithuania

Topic: The status of the war in Ukraine, needs along the frontlines, and cooperation with the US on security support.

Relevance: Staffers will hear personal stories and insight about conditions seen along the frontlines in Ukraine, gaining further perspective into the reality of the war, the impact of US and allied support, and what soldiers', veterans', civilians' and aid workers' experiences are like with Russian aggression.

8:00 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.

[Delegation walks from dinner to Hotel Vilnia](#)

Tuesday, August 29

Until 8:10 a.m.

Breakfast available for delegation at Hotel Vilnia

Breakfast is optional for all guests and is available starting from 7:00 a.m. in the hotel breakfast room. Delegation will be able to eat breakfast at their leisure but should be ready to depart the hotel by 8:10 a.m.

8:10 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Delegation walks to the Presidential Palace of Lithuania

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

Meeting with former President of Lithuania Dalia Grybauskaitė

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

Topic: How Lithuania's policies 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 the threat from the regime in neighboring Belarus.

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

Delegation transfers to the Parliament of Lithuania

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

10:00 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.

Meeting with Chair of Foreign Affairs Committee of the Parliament of Lithuania, Amb. Žygimantas Pavilionis

Location: Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Seimas Palace, Gedimino pr. 53, Vilnius 01109, 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 recent NATO Summit in Vilnius, its foreign policy priorities, and its immediate security needs.

10:40 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Delegation transfers to Ministry of National Defence



Atlantic Council

Pickup location: Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Seimas Palace, Gedimino pr. 53, Vilnius 01109, Lithuania

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

Meeting with Ministry of National Defence of Lithuania

Location: Lithuanian Ministry of National Defence, Totorių str. 25, Vilnius

Topic: Lithuania's response to Russia's war on Ukraine and threats to Lithuania's security and independence, the threats from 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 Vilnius impact Baltic security. Representatives from the Ministry of Defence will also cover the destabilizing role that Belarus has played in Lithuania's security.

12:00 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Delegation transfers to meet with the US Ambassador to the Republic of Lithuania

Pickup location: Totorių g. 25, Vilnius 01121

12:45 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Security and entry into the Ambassador's residence

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Lunch meeting with The Hon. Robert S. Gilchrist, US Ambassador to the Republic of Lithuania

Location: Ambassador's residence

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

Additional participants: Representatives of the US Belarus Affairs unit.

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.

2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Delegation travels to the Office of the Prime Minister of Lithuania

Pickup location: Ambassador's residence

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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



Atlantic Council

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

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.

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

[Delegation travels to the Office of Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya](#)

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

4:30 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

[Meeting with Belarusian democratic opposition leader Sviatlana and chief advisers.](#)

Location: Office of Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya

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, recent developments between the Lukashenka regime and Putin regarding the Wagner Group, and her relationship with the US.

5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

[Delegation travels to Restaurant Lokys](#)

Pickup location: Office of Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya

6:00 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.

[Dinner with Russian opposition politician Vladimir Milov, vice president for international advocacy at the Free Russia Foundation](#)

Location: Restaurant Lokys, Stikliu str. 8, Vilnius

Topics: The state of opposition to the Russian government, Russian civil society in exile.

Relevance: Staffers will learn about how the Russian opposition movement was systematically targeted by the Kremlin before and after the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, how opposition figures and activists 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.

7:45 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

[Walk to Trinity Restaurant and Cocktail House](#)

8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

[Dessert and tea with Atlas Global Aid founder Jack Frye and special program manager Rima Ziuraitis](#)

Location: Trinity Restaurant and Cocktail House, Vilniaus g. 30, Vilnius

Topics: Joint US-Lithuanian disaster relief efforts in Ukraine

Relevance: Staffers will learn about disaster relief efforts in Ukraine and how US-registered organizations are assisting in the procurement and delivery of aid to frontline communities in Ukraine, including those impacted by active fighting and the environmental destruction related to the Kakhovka dam collapse.

9:00 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.

[Walk back to Hotel Vilnia](#)

Wednesday, August 30

Until 8:30 a.m.

[Breakfast available for delegation at Hotel Vilnia](#)

Breakfast is optional for all guests and is available starting from 7:00 a.m. in the hotel breakfast room. The delegation will be able to eat breakfast at their leisure, but should be ready to depart the hotel by 8:30 a.m.

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

[Delegation transfers to the Parliament of Lithuania](#)

Pickup location: Hotel Vilnia

9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

[Meeting with Chair of National Security and Defence Committee of the Parliament of Lithuania, Dr. Laurynas Kasčiūnas](#)

Location: Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Seimas Palace, Gedimino pr. 53, Vilnius 01109, Lithuania

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

Relevance: Lithuania is a key supporter of Ukraine, the democratic movement in Belarus, and Taiwan. As a result, Lithuania has faced major pressure from both Russia and China. Staffers will learn more about how Lithuania has developed its national security and defense policies to support democracies and confront authoritarian threats.

9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

[Delegation transfers to the Museum of Occupation and Freedom Fights](#)



Atlantic Council

Pickup location: Seimas

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Guided tour of the Museum of Occupation and Freedom Fights

Location: Aukų str. 2A Vilnius, Lithuania

Topic: Soviet occupation of Lithuania, Lithuanians' fight for freedom, Lithuanian history and cultural

Relevance: Staffers will learn about the Soviet era in Lithuania, including the repressions of Lithuanians under the rule of the Soviet Union and the deportations to Siberian gulags. The museum is housed in what used to be the Lithuanian headquarters of the KGB. Through the visit and guided tour, staffers will gain critical insight into fundamental aspects of the Lithuanian national memory, their spirit of resistance, and their relation to the Russian Federation.

11:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Delegation transfers to lunch

Pickup location: Aukų str. 2A Vilnius, Lithuania

11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Lunch

Location: Etno Dvaras, Pilies g. 16, Vilnius 01124, Lithuania

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

Delegation walks to the Presidential Palace of Lithuania

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

Meeting with advisors 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. – 1:30 p.m.

Delegation travels from Presidential Palace to Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Meet with Ministry of Foreign Affairs representatives

Location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, J.Tumo-Vaižganto 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 in the wake of the recent NATO Summit in Vilnius, and the state of humanitarian aid for refugees from Ukraine and the MENA region after being filtered through Belarus towards Lithuania. Lithuania's deepened relationship with Taiwan will also be discussed and framed in relevance to Lithuania's push back against global authoritarianism and support for Ukraine.

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

[Delegation travels to the Embassy of Ukraine in Lithuania](#)

Pickup location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, J.Tumo-Vaižganto g. 2

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

[Meeting with Ambassador Petro Beshta, Ambassador of Ukraine to the Republic of Lithuania](#)

Location: Embassy of Ukraine in Lithuania, Teatro gatve 4

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.

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

[Delegation travels to the Reform Space](#)

Pickup location: Embassy of Ukraine in Lithuania, Teatro gatve 4

4:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

[Panel discussion with Reform Space project managers and Russian dissident journalists and political activists](#)

Location: Reform Space

Topic: Russian emigration to and/or through Lithuania, Russian dissident networks projects for discussing desired changes in Russian society, reform, and anti-war efforts.

Relevance: The Reform project serves as a network and space for Russian emigrants with political asylum to engage in discussions and anti-war efforts. Staffers will learn from the project leaders and key participants about the state of Russian emigration, the Russian anti-war efforts abroad, and the Russian media environment following laws in Russia that led to



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the closure or exile of all leading independent news media, as well as how journalists and activists continue to try to inform the Russian public, and what the barriers to getting accurate information to Russians are.

5:45 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.

Delegation travels to dinner at Restoranas Grey

Pickup location: Reforum Space

6:15 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Dinner with RFE/RL's Vilnius bureau and Hanna Liubakova, Belarusian journalist and nonresident fellow, Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center

Location: Restoranas Grey, Pilies g. 2

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 in Russia and Belarus.

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 and independent Belarusian journalist Hanna Liubakova will share their views on the challenges facing media, how US assistance helps media, and the threat of Kremlin disinformation.

8:00 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.

Delegation walks to Hotel Vilnia

Thursday, August 31 – depart Vilnius for Warsaw

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

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

Pickup location: Hotel Vilnia

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

Note: One-hour time zone change



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- 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: Hotel Bristol Warsaw
Krakowskie Przedmieście 42/44, 00-325 Warsaw
- Pickup location: Warsaw airport arrivals
- 10:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. [Drop off luggage with hotel concierge](#)
- 10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. [Delegation walks to Atlantic Council Warsaw office](#)
- 10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. [Breakfast roundtable meeting with representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development](#)
- Location: Atlantic Council Warsaw Office, WeWork - Powierzchnia Biurowa i Coworking, Krakowskie Przedmieście 13, 05-077 Warszawa
- Topics: Import and transit of Ukrainian food products, Ukrainian-Polish trade relations, and the impact of food product transit impact on global food security.
- Relevance: Staffers will hear from representatives of the Polish agriculture ministry about the sensitive, but important issue of transit of Ukrainian food products through Poland. This will provide insight into how the massive inflow of grain from Ukraine has affected Poland, other EU member states, and global food security.
- 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. [Delegation transfers to Embassy of Ukraine in Poland](#)
- Location: Embassy of Ukraine to Poland, Aleja J. Ch. Szucha 7, 00-580 Warszawa
- Pickup location: Atlantic Council Warsaw Office, WeWork - Powierzchnia Biurowa i Coworking, Krakowskie Przedmieście 13, 05-077 Warszawa
- 12:15 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. [Security and entrance to Embassy of Ukraine in Poland](#)
- 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. [Meeting with Ambassador of Ukraine to Poland, Ambassador Vasyl Zvarych](#)
- Location: Embassy of Ukraine to Poland, Aleja J. Ch. Szucha 7, 00-580 Warszawa
- Topic: Ukrainian-Polish relations amidst Russia's war on Ukraine, the humanitarian situation for Ukrainians in Poland.

Relevance: Staffers will hear from Ukraine's ambassador to Poland about the view on Russia's war from Poland, the status of Ukrainians in Poland, and views on US policy toward the region. Staffers will also hear about the Ukrainian embassy in Poland's war response efforts, including addressing the humanitarian crisis facing Ukrainian refugees remaining in Poland.

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

Delegation transfers to lunch at Zapiecek

Pickup location: Embassy of Ukraine to Poland, Aleja J. Ch. Szucha 7, 00-580 Warszawa

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

Lunch at Zapiecek, briefing from Aaron Korewa, Director of the Warsaw Office, Atlantic Council

Location: Zapiecek, al. Jerozolimskie 28, 02-024 Warszawa

Topic: US-Polish relations and cooperation in responding to the war in Ukraine, Polish governmental relations.

Relevance: Staffers will be briefed by the director of the Atlantic Council's Warsaw office to understand Poland's political and security environment and how the government navigates the response to the war in Ukraine both internally and in coordination with the US.

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

Delegation transfers to the Chancellery of the Prime Minister

Pickup location: Zapiecek
al. Jerozolimskie 28, 02-024 Warszawa

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

Meeting with representatives of the Chancellery of the Prime Minister

Location: Chancellery of the Prime Minister of Poland
Al. Ujazdowskie 1/3

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.

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

Delegation transfers to hotel

Pickup location: Chancellery of the Prime Minister of Poland
Al. Ujazdowskie 1/3

4:15 p.m. - 4:35 p.m.

Check in at hotel

Hotel: Hotel Bristol



Atlantic Council

Krakowskie Przedmieście 42/44, 00-325 Warsaw

4:35 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

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

4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

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

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

Topic: Polish energy policy and Russia

Relevance: Staffers will hear how Poland is evolving its energy policy to counter the Kremlin's malign energy activities.

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

[Delegation transfers to dinner](#)

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

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

[Dinner with Ukrainian civil society leaders and activists](#)

Location: Krakowskie Przedmieście 64, 00-322 Warszawa, Poland

Topics: The humanitarian situation for Ukrainians in Poland, Ukrainian government and civil society relations with international organizations, plans for Ukraine's reconstruction, oversight of international support for Ukraine, and collaboration between Poland-Ukraine on the transformation of Ukraine during and post-war.

Relevance: Staffers will learn from Ukrainian diaspora and activist leaders about the Ukrainian community and aid networks centered in Warsaw and Ukrainian-Polish relations.

8:00 – 8:15 p.m.

[Delegation walks back to the Hotel Bristol](#)

Friday, September 1

Until 8:00 a.m.

[Breakfast available for delegation at Hotel Bristol](#)

Breakfast is optional for all guests and is available starting from 6:30 a.m. in the hotel breakfast room. Delegation will be able to eat breakfast at their leisure, but should be ready to depart the hotel by 8:00 a.m.

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

[Delegation transfers to the Ministry of Defence](#)

Pickup Location: Hotel Bristol

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

Meeting with the Ministry of National Defence

Location: Ministry of Defence venue

Topic: Polish defense and security concerns and cooperation.

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.

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

Delegation transfers to meeting with Pavel Latushka

Pickup location: Ministry of Defence venue

9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Meeting with Pavel Latushka, deputy head of the United Transitional Cabinet of Belarus

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

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 activists by learning about the Belarusian opposition in Warsaw's role, the position of the United Transitional Cabinet for Belarus, and how the Belarusian democratic forces strategically partner with foreign governments, the private sector, and global civil society organizations to maintain support for the Belarusian democratic movement and security.

10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Delegation transfers to lunch

Pickup location: Warsaw Uprising Museum, Grzybowska 79, 00-844 Warszawa

11:00 a.m. - 11:55 a.m.

Lunch

Location: Otto Pompieri, plac Bankowy 1, 00-139 Warszawa

11:55 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Delegation walks to Warsaw City Hall

12:00 p.m. - 12:50 p.m.

Meeting with Mayor of Warsaw Rafał Trzaskowski

Location: Warsaw City Hall, Plac Bankowy 3/5, Warsaw, conference room no. 141



Atlantic Council

Topic: Warsaw and humanitarian aid for Ukrainian refugees

Relevance: Staffers will learn more about the key role Warsaw has played in supporting Ukrainian refugees fleeing Russia's war.

12:50 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Delegation transfers to National Security Bureau

Pickup Location: Warsaw City Hall, Plac Bankowy 3/5, Warsaw

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

Meeting with representatives of the National Security Bureau

Location: Karowa 10, 00-315 Warszawa

Topic: Poland's security and foreign policy 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.

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

Delegation transfers to the residence of the US ambassador to Poland, goes through security

Location: Residence of the US Ambassador to the Republic of Poland

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

Coffee with The Hon. Mark Brzezinski

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

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

Relevance: Staffers will have the opportunity to debrief their initial findings and impressions from the delegation's meetings in Warsaw, discuss key questions and takeaways, and hear from Amb. Brzezinski on the importance of US-Polish relations and how the war in Ukraine has impacted these relations.

3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Delegation transfers to Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Pickup location: Karowa 10, 00-315 Warszawa

3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Meeting with members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Al. Jana Christiana Szucha 23

Topic: Poland's diplomatic priorities

Relevance: Staffers will learn from Ministry of Foreign Affairs representatives 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 also hear about how the ministry is working with partners to respond to the war in Ukraine and discuss Poland's related foreign policy priorities in the EU and UN.

4:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

[Delegation transfers to Warsaw Uprising Museum](#)

Pickup location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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

[Visit Warsaw Uprising Museum](#)

Location: Grzybowska 79, 00-844 Warszawa

Topic: Polish resistance to Soviet invasion

Relevance: Staffers will learn about the Warsaw Uprising, a seminal moment in 20th century Polish history that continues to have significance in the national consciousness and in Warsaw. As Warsaw faces the possibility of further Russian aggression, the Warsaw Uprising continues to be relevant to Polish national memory.

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

[Delegation walks to dinner at Czerwony Wieprz restaurant](#)

5:45 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.

[Dinner discussion with Amb. John Herbst recapping the main takeaways of the trip](#)

Location: Rusiko Restaurant, Wierzbowa 11, 00-094 Warszawa, Poland

Topic: Takeaways and remaining questions from the trip

Relevance: Following all meetings in Vilnius and Warsaw, staffers will hear Amb. John Herbst's main takeaways and discuss their insights from the trip.

7:45 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

[Delegation transfers to Hotel Bristol via private transport](#)

8:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.

Optional: [Guided walk to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and Royal Castle area, with history explained by Aaron Korewa director of the Atlantic Council's Warsaw office](#)

Topic: History of the national monument Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Royal Castle and surrounding area in Warsaw

Relevance: Staffers will hear about the history of important Polish national monuments and learn about their destruction, reconstruction, and place in modern Polish culture and memory.

8:45 p.m.

[Delegation walks back to Hotel Bristol](#)

Saturday, September 2 – 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> Hotel Bristol
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. – 3:55 p.m.	Delegation flies from Frankfurt (FRA) to Washington Dulles (IAD) on LH 418

US House of Representatives

Committee on Ethics

Primary Trip Sponsor Form supplemental documentation

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House employees invited:

1. **Monique Bolsajian**
 - a. *Legislative Assistant*, Office of Congressman Ted Lieu
 - 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. **Alec Daman**
 - a. *Legislative Assistant*, Office of Congressman Bill Huizenga
 - 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. **Kevin Diamond**
 - a. *Deputy Chief of Staff*, Office of Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester
 - 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. **Jordan Dickinson**
 - a. *Legislative Director*, Office of Congressman Dan Kildee
 - 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. **Jim Dolbow**
 - a. *Military Legislative Assistant*, Office of Congressman Austin Scott
 - 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.
6. **Roland Hernandez**
 - a. *Professional Staff Member*, House Committee on Homeland Security
 - 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.

7. **Danielle Lindholm**

- a. *Director of National Security Policy*, House Committee on Financial Services
- 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.

8. **John Lynch**

- a. *Legislative Director*, Office of Congressman 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.

9. **Chris Ringer**

- a. *Legislative Assistant*, Office of Congressman Jeff Duncan
- 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.

10. **Victoria Rivas**

- a. *Policy Director*, Office of Congressman Pete Aguilar
- 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.

11. **Leslie Shedd**

- a. *Communications Director*, 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.

Agenda: Lithuania and Poland Study Trip, 2023

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

(All times listed are local)

Sunday, August 27 – depart US for Vilnius

6:00 p.m. – 6:20 a.m. +1 **Leslie Shedd:** Fly from Washington Dulles (IAD) to London Heathrow (LHR) on British Airways flight BA 216

6:10 p.m. – 8:05 a.m. +1 Delegation flies from Washington Dulles (IAD) to Frankfurt (FRA) on United Airlines flight LH 419

Monday, August 28

6:20 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. **Leslie Shedd:** Layover, connects in airport, board flight to Helsinki

8:05 a.m. – 10:05 a.m. Layover, delegation connects in airport, boards flight to Vilnius

10:05 a.m. – 1:05 p.m. Delegation flies from Frankfurt (FRA) to Vilnius (VNO) on Lufthansa flight LH 886

10:20 a.m. – 3:15 p.m. **Leslie Shedd:** Fly from London Heathrow (LHR) to Helsinki (HEL) on Finnair/British Airways flight Finnair/BA 6032

1:05 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



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2:10 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Check in to Hotel Vilnia, break

Optional post check-in: Meet for snack/lunch at Strangelove café

Location: Barboros Radvilaitės g. 6B, 01143 Vilnius, Lithuania (*directly across from hotel*)

3:15 p.m. - 4:20 p.m.

Leslie Shedd: Layover, connects in airport, board flight to Vilnius

4:00 p.m. – 4:10 p.m.

Delegation meets in hotel lobby for check-in with Ambassador Herbst, Shelby Magid, and Andrew D’Anieri

4:10 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Delegation transfers to Blue/Yellow for Ukraine headquarters

Pickup location: Hotel Vilnia

4:20 p.m. - 6:05 p.m.

Leslie Shedd: Fly from Helsinki (HEL) to Vilnius (VNO) on Finnair/British Airways flight Finnair/BA 6063

4:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Meeting with Jonas Öhman, head of Blue/Yellow for Ukraine, and Blue/Yellow aid workers

Location: Blue/Yellow for Ukraine headquarters

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

Relevance: Staffers will hear from and receive a presentation by a key NGO working to aid Ukrainians and learn about Russia’s war against Ukraine from their perspective. Blue/Yellow for Ukraine works with the 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 and his team have traveled to Ukraine throughout the war, they will provide an update on urgent needs and the status of collaboration and assistance between Lithuania, Ukraine, and the US. Staffers will hear from US military veterans who have been volunteering in Ukraine. They may also hear from Ukrainian soldiers that Blue/Yellow collaborates with to provide aid near the frontlines (note this depends on soldiers’ availability and the status of the war). This will provide valuable insight on critical needs within Ukraine.

5:45 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Delegation transfers from Blue/Yellow for Ukraine headquarters to dinner

Pickup location: Blue/Yellow for Ukraine headquarters



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6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Dinner with Blue/Yellow for Ukraine and Ukrainian soldiers

Location: La Boheme, Sv. Ignoto g. 4-3, Vilnius 01144 Lithuania

Topic: The status of the war in Ukraine, needs along the frontlines, and cooperation with the US on security support.

Relevance: Staffers will hear personal stories and insight about conditions seen along the frontlines in Ukraine, gaining further perspective into the reality of the war, the impact of US and allied support, and what soldiers', veterans', civilians' and aid workers' experiences are like with Russian aggression.

6:05 p.m. – 6:50 p.m.

Leslie Shedd: Arrival in Vilnius, pick up luggage, meet driver

6:50 p.m. – 7:10 p.m.

Leslie Shedd: Transfer to hotel via private transportation

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

Pickup location: Arrivals

7:10 p.m. – 7:20 p.m.

Leslie Shedd: Check-in to Hotel Vilnia

7:20 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Leslie Shedd: Transfer from Hotel Vilnia to dinner

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

8:00 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.

Delegation walks from dinner to Hotel Vilnia

Tuesday, August 29

Until 8:10 a.m.

Breakfast available for delegation at Hotel Vilnia

Breakfast is optional for all guests and is available starting from 7:00 a.m. in the hotel breakfast room. Delegation will be able to eat breakfast at their leisure but should be ready to depart the hotel by 8:10 a.m.

8:10 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Delegation walks to the Presidential Palace of Lithuania

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Meeting with former President of Lithuania Dalia Grybauskaitė

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



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Topic: How Lithuania's policies 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 the threat from the regime in neighboring Belarus.

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Delegation transfers to the Parliament of Lithuania

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

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Meeting with Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Parliament of Lithuania Mr. Žygimantas Pavilionis and Chair of the National Security and Defence Committee of the Parliament of Lithuania Dr. Laurynas Kasčiūnas

Location: Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Seimas Palace, Gedimino pr. 53, Vilnius 01109, Lithuania

Topic: Lithuania's foreign policy and national security and defense policy

Relevance: Lithuania is a key supporter of Ukraine, the democratic movement in Belarus, and Taiwan. Moscow and Beijing have both 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 recent NATO Summit in Vilnius, its foreign policy priorities, its immediate security needs, and how it has developed its national security and defense policies to support democracies and confront authoritarian threats.

11:00 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.

Delegation transfers to Ministry of National Defence

Pickup location: Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Seimas Palace, Gedimino pr. 53, Vilnius 01109, Lithuania

11:20 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Meeting with Ministry of National Defence of Lithuania

Location: Lithuanian Ministry of National Defence, Totorių str. 25, Vilnius

Topic: Lithuania's response to Russia's war on Ukraine and threats to Lithuania's security and independence, and the threats from 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 Vilnius impact Baltic security. Representatives from the Ministry

of Defence will also cover the destabilizing role that Belarus has played in Lithuania's security.

12:00 p.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Delegation transfers to meet with the US Ambassador to the Republic of Lithuania

Pickup location: Totorių g. 25, Vilnius 01121

12:15 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Security and entry into the Ambassador's residence

12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Lunch meeting with The Hon. Robert S. Gilchrist, US Ambassador to the Republic of Lithuania

Location: Ambassador's residence

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

Additional participants: Representatives of the US Belarus Affairs unit.

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.

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Delegation travels to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Pickup location: Ambassador's residence

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Meeting with Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Vice Minister Jonas Survila

Location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, J.Tumo-Vaižganto 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 in the wake of the recent NATO Summit in Vilnius, and the state of humanitarian aid for refugees from Ukraine and the MENA region after being filtered through Belarus towards Lithuania. Lithuania's deepened relationship with Taiwan will also be discussed and framed in relevance to Lithuania's push back against global authoritarianism and support for Ukraine.



Atlantic Council

4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Delegation travels to Hotel Vilnia

Pickup location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, J.Tumo-Vaižganto g. 2

4:30 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Meeting with Viasna team

Location: Hotel Vilnia

Topic: The state of the Belarusian democratic movement and human rights in Belarus.

Relevance: Staffers will meet with Viasna team members to learn about the state of human rights and oppression in Belarus, the Belarusian democratic movement, how foreign support has aided democracy in Belarus, the involvement of Belarusian ruler Alyaksandr Lukashenka in the war on Ukraine, and recent developments regarding Wagner Group activities in Belarus.

5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Delegation travels to Restaurant Lokys

Pickup location: Hotel Vilnia

6:00 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.

Dinner with Russian opposition politician Vladimir Milov, vice president for international advocacy at the Free Russia Foundation, and Russian opposition politician Leonid Volkov

Location: Restaurant Lokys, Stikliu str. 8, Vilnius

Topics: The state of opposition to the Russian government, Russian civil society in exile.

Relevance: Staffers will learn about how the Russian opposition movement was systematically targeted by the Kremlin before and after the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, how opposition figures and activists 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.

7:45 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Walk to Trinity Restaurant and Cocktail House

8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Dessert and tea with Atlas Global Aid founder Jack Frye and special program manager Rima Ziuraitis

Location: Trinity Restaurant and Cocktail House, Vilniaus g. 30, Vilnius

Topics: Joint US-Lithuanian disaster relief efforts in Ukraine



Atlantic Council

Relevance: Staffers will learn about disaster relief efforts in Ukraine and how US-registered organizations are assisting in the procurement and delivery of aid to frontline communities in Ukraine, including those impacted by active fighting and the environmental destruction related to the Kakhovka dam collapse.

9:00 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.

[Walk back to Hotel Vilnia](#)

Wednesday, August 30

Until 8:30 a.m.

[Breakfast available for delegation at Hotel Vilnia](#)

Breakfast is optional for all guests and is available starting from 7:00 a.m. in the hotel breakfast room. The delegation will be able to eat breakfast at their leisure, but should be ready to depart the hotel by 8:30 a.m.

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

[Delegation travels to the Office of the Prime Minister of Lithuania](#)

Pickup location: Hotel Vilnia

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.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

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.

9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

[Delegation transfers to the Museum of Occupation and Freedom Fights](#)

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

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

[Guided tour of the Museum of Occupation and Freedom Fights](#)

Location: Aukų str. 2A Vilnius, Lithuania

Topic: Soviet occupation of Lithuania, Lithuanians' fight for freedom, Lithuanian history and culture

Relevance: Staffers will learn about the Soviet era in Lithuania, including the repression of Lithuanians under the rule of the Soviet Union and deportations to Siberian gulags. The museum is housed in what used to be the Lithuanian headquarters of the KGB. Through the visit and guided

tour, staffers will gain critical insight into fundamental aspects of Lithuanian national memory, their spirit of resistance, and their relation to the Russian Federation.

11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Delegation transfers to lunch

Pickup location: Aukų str. 2A Vilnius, Lithuania

11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Lunch

Location: Etno Dvaras, Pilies g. 16, Vilnius 01124, Lithuania

12:00 p.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Delegation walks to the Presidential Palace of Lithuania

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Meeting with advisors 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.

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Delegation travels from Presidential Palace to Ministry of Defense

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

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Meet with Vice Minister of Defense Žilvinas Tomkus

Location: Ministry of Defense, Totoriu g. 25, 01121 Vilnius, Lithuania

Topic: Lithuania's defense policy, response to Russia's war on Ukraine, and threats to Lithuania's security and independence.

Relevance: Staffers will learn about Lithuania's crucial support for Ukraine during Russia's invasion, what threats Lithuania faces from Russia and other defense threats, and how the security of the Baltic space will be impacted by the recent announcements at the NATO Summit. Staffers will also learn about the destabilizing threat that Belarus poses to Lithuania.

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Delegation travels to the Embassy of Ukraine in Lithuania

Pickup location: Ministry of Defense, Totoriu g. 25, 01121

3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

[Meeting with Ambassador Petro Beshta, Ambassador of Ukraine to the Republic of Lithuania](#)

Location: Embassy of Ukraine in Lithuania, Teatro gatve 4

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 of Russia's war from Lithuania, the status of Ukrainians in Lithuania, and views on US policy toward the region.

4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

[Delegation travels to the Reform Space](#)

Pickup location: Embassy of Ukraine in Lithuania, Teatro gatve 4

4:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

[Panel discussion with Reform Space project managers and Russian dissident journalists and political activists](#)

Location: Reform Space

Topic: Russian emigration to and/or through Lithuania, Russian dissident networks projects for discussing desired changes in Russian society, reform, and anti-war efforts.

Relevance: The Reform project serves as a network and space for Russian emigrants with political asylum to engage in discussions and anti-war efforts. Staffers will learn from the project leaders and key participants about the state of Russian emigration, Russian anti-war efforts abroad, the Russian media environment following laws in Russia that led to the closure or exile of all leading independent news media, as well as how journalists and activists continue to try to inform the Russian public and what barriers exist to getting accurate information to Russians.

5:45 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.

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

Pickup location: Reform Space

6:15 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

[Dinner with Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty \(RFE/RL\) and Hanna Liubakova, Belarusian journalist and nonresident fellow, Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center](#)

Location: Restoranas Grey, Pilies g. 2

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 in Russia and Belarus.



Atlantic Council

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 and independent Belarusian journalist Hanna Liubakova will share their views on the challenges facing media, how US assistance helps media, and the threat of Kremlin disinformation.

8:00 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. [Delegation walks to Hotel Vilnia](#)

Thursday, August 31 – depart Vilnius for Warsaw

7:00 a.m. – 7:15 a.m. [Delegation meets in hotel lobby with luggage, hotel checkout \(*Breakfast snack to-go bags available for pick-up at hotel front desk*\)](#)

Pickup location: Hotel Vilnia

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](#)

Note: One-hour time zone change

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: Hotel Bristol 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. – 11:00 a.m. [Delegation transfers to Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development](#)



Atlantic Council

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Meeting with Mrs. Anna Gembicka, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

Location: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, 30 Wspólna st., Warsaw).

Topics: Import and transit of Ukrainian food products, Ukrainian-Polish trade relations, and the impact of food product transit on global food security.

Relevance: Staffers will hear from a representative of the Polish Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development about the sensitive but important issue of the transit of Ukrainian food products through Poland. This will provide insight into how the massive inflow of grain from Ukraine has affected Poland, other EU member states, and global food security.

12:00 p.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Delegation transfers to Embassy of Ukraine in Poland

Location: Embassy of Ukraine to Poland, Aleja J. Ch. Szucha 7, 00-580 Warszawa

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

12:15 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Security and entrance to Embassy of Ukraine in Poland

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Meeting with Ambassador of Ukraine to Poland, Ambassador Vasyl Zvarych

Location: Embassy of Ukraine to Poland, Aleja J. Ch. Szucha 7, 00-580 Warszawa

Topic: Ukrainian-Polish relations amidst Russia's war on Ukraine, the humanitarian situation for Ukrainians in Poland.

Relevance: Staffers will hear from Ukraine's ambassador to Poland about the view on Russia's war from Poland, the status of Ukrainians in Poland, and views on US policy toward the region. Staffers will also hear about the Ukrainian embassy in Poland's war response efforts, including addressing the humanitarian crisis facing Ukrainian refugees remaining in Poland.

1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Delegation transfers to lunch at Zapiecek

Pickup location: Embassy of Ukraine to Poland, Aleja J. Ch. Szucha 7, 00-580 Warszawa

1:45 p.m. – 2:40 p.m.

Lunch at Zapiecek, briefing from Aaron Korewa, Director of the Warsaw Office, Atlantic Council



Atlantic Council

Location: Zapiecek, al. Jerozolimskie 28, 02-024 Warszawa

Topic: US-Polish relations and cooperation in responding to the war in Ukraine, Polish governmental relations.

Relevance: Staffers will be briefed by the director of the Atlantic Council's Warsaw office to understand Poland's political and security environment and how the government navigates the response to the war in Ukraine both internally and in coordination with the US.

2:40 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Delegation transfers to the Chancellery of the Prime Minister

Pickup location: Zapiecek
al. Jerozolimskie 28, 02-024 Warszawa

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Meeting with representatives of the Chancellery of the Prime Minister

Location: Chancellery of the Prime Minister of Poland
Al. Ujazdowskie 1/3

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.

4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Delegation transfers to hotel

Pickup location: Chancellery of the Prime Minister of Poland
Al. Ujazdowskie 1/3

4:15 p.m. – 4:35 p.m.

Check in at hotel

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

4:35 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Delegation walks to Atlantic Council Warsaw office

4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Climate and Environment

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

Topic: Polish energy policy and Russia

Relevance: Staffers will hear how Poland is evolving its energy policy to counter the Kremlin's malign energy activities.



Atlantic Council

5:45 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Delegation transfers to dinner

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

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Dinner at Czerwony Wieprz with Ukrainian civil society leaders and activists and Minister Jadwiga Emilewicz, Secretary of State and Government Plenipotentiary for Polish – Ukrainian Development Coordination, and Ambassador Beata Daszynska-Muzycka, Special Representative of the President of the Republic of Poland for the Three Seas Initiative

Location: Żelazna 68, 00-866 Warszawa, Poland

Topics: The humanitarian situation for Ukrainians in Poland and Polish support, Ukrainian government and civil society relations with international organizations, plans for Ukraine's reconstruction, collaboration between Poland-Ukraine on the transformation of Ukraine during and post-war, and Polish development with the Three Seas Initiative.

Relevance: Staffers will learn from Ukrainians about their needs in Poland, as well as from key government officials handling Ukrainian-Polish relations about Poland's support for Ukraine and Ukrainian reconstruction. In addition, staffers will learn about Polish economic imperatives surrounding the Three Seas Initiative and Poland's strategic role in the European community.

8:00 – 8:15 p.m.

Delegation walks back to the Hotel Bristol

Friday, September 1

Until 8:00 a.m.

Breakfast available for delegation at Hotel Bristol

Breakfast is optional for all guests and is available starting from 6:30 a.m. in the hotel breakfast room. Delegation will be able to eat breakfast at their leisure, but should be ready to depart the hotel by 8:00 a.m.

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Delegation transfers to the Ministry of Defence

Pickup Location: Hotel Bristol

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Meeting with the Ministry of National Defence

Location: Ministry of Defence venue

Topic: Polish defense and security concerns and cooperation.



Atlantic Council

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.

9:10 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

Kevin Diamond: Fly from Warsaw (WAW) to Munich (MUC) on Lufthansa flight LH 1611

Airport transfer pre-arranged

9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

Delegation transfers to meeting with Pavel Latushka

Pickup location: Ministry of Defence venue

9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Meeting with Pavel Latushka, deputy head of the United Transitional Cabinet of Belarus

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

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 activists by learning about the Belarusian opposition in Warsaw's role, the position of the United Transitional Cabinet for Belarus, and how the Belarusian democratic forces strategically partner with foreign governments, the private sector, and global civil society organizations to maintain support for the Belarusian democratic movement and security.

10:40 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.

Kevin Diamond: Layover, additional US security screening, board flight to US

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Delegation transfers to lunch

Pickup location: Warsaw Uprising Museum, Grzybowska 79, 00-844 Warszawa

11:00 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.

Lunch

Location: Otto Pompieri, plac Bankowy 1, 00-139 Warszawa

11:55 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Delegation walks to Atlantic Council Warsaw Office

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Meeting with Members of Civic Coalition

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



Atlantic Council

Topic: Polish–EU relations and Poland’s response to Russia’s war in Ukraine from a parliamentary perspective

Relevance: Staffers will learn about the key role Poland has played in supporting Ukraine in Russia’s war and its role as a crucially located ally for both the Ukrainian people and the European and transatlantic community. Staffers will hear about the Polish opposition party’s joint efforts with the ruling party in responding to the war in Ukraine.

12:10 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Kevin Diamond: Fly from Munich (MUC) to John F Kennedy International (JFK) on LH 410

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Delegation transfers to the residence of the US ambassador to Poland, goes through security

Location: Residence of the US Ambassador to the Republic of Poland

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Coffee with The Hon. Mark Brzezinski

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

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

Relevance: Staffers will have the opportunity to debrief their initial findings and impressions from the delegation’s meetings in Warsaw, discuss key questions and takeaways, and hear from Amb. Brzezinski on the importance of US-Polish relations and how the war in Ukraine has impacted these relations.

3:00 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.

Delegation transfers to Warsaw Uprising Museum

Pickup location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

3:20 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.

Visit Warsaw Uprising Museum

Location: Grzybowska 79, 00-844 Warszawa

Topic: Polish resistance to Nazi occupation

Relevance: Staffers will learn about the Warsaw Uprising, a seminal moment in 20th century Polish history that continues to have significance in the national consciousness and in Warsaw. As Poland faces the possibility of further Russian aggression, the Warsaw Uprising continues to be relevant to Polish national memory.

4:20 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Delegation transfers to Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Pickup location: Grzybowska 79, 00-844 Warszawa

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Meeting with members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Al. Jana Christiana Szucha 23

Topic: Poland's diplomatic priorities

Relevance: Staffers will learn from Ministry of Foreign Affairs representatives 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 also hear about how the ministry is working with partners to respond to the war in Ukraine and discuss Poland's related foreign policy priorities in the EU and UN.

5:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Delegation walks to dinner at Rusiko restaurant

5:40 p.m. – 12:10 a.m.

Leslie Shedd: Fly from Warsaw (WAW) to Hamad International Airport (DOH) on Qatar Airways QR 260

Airport transfer pre-arranged

5:45 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.

Dinner discussion with Amb. John Herbst recapping the main takeaways of the trip

Location: Rusiko Restaurant, Wierzbowa 11, 00-094 Warszawa, Poland

Topic: Takeaways and remaining questions from the trip

Relevance: Following all meetings in Vilnius and Warsaw, staffers will hear Amb. John Herbst's main takeaways and discuss their insights from the trip.

7:45 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Delegation transfers to Hotel Bristol via private transport

8:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.

Optional: Guided walk to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and Royal Castle area, with history explained by Aaron Korewa director of the Atlantic Council's Warsaw office

Topic: History of the national monument Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Royal Castle and surrounding area in Warsaw

Relevance: Staffers will hear about the history of important Polish national monuments and learn about their destruction, reconstruction, and place in modern Polish culture and memory.

8:45 p.m.

Delegation walks back to Hotel Bristol



Atlantic Council

Saturday, September 2 – depart Warsaw for US

12:10 a.m. – 2:05 a.m.	Leslie Shedd: Layover at Hamad International Airport (DOH), board flight to Cape Town
2:05 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.	Leslie Shedd: Fly from Hamad International Airport (DOH) to Cape Town International Airport (CPT) on Qatar Airways QR 1369
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> Hotel Bristol
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. – 3:55 p.m.	Delegation flies from Frankfurt (FRA) to Washington Dulles (IAD) on LH 418



Atlantic Council

Victoria Rivas
Policy Director
Office of Congressman Pete Aguilar

July 10, 2023

Dear Victoria,

On behalf of the Atlantic Council, it is my pleasure to invite you to join a staff delegation to Lithuania and Poland led by the Council's Eurasia Center. The trip will take place from **August 27 to September 2, 2023**.

Since its founding, the Center has become a go-to resource on issues pertaining to Eurasia at a time of tremendous importance and change. Russia's war in Ukraine has had a profound impact on the security and stability of Europe and fundamentally changed the way the United States and its allies engage with Russia. At this crucial moment, the United States must continue to support freedom and prosperity in Europe. This staff delegation will take congressional staffers to Vilnius and Warsaw, where they will meet with senior representatives from the Lithuanian and Polish governments, civil society, and private sector. In addition, staffers will have the opportunity to meet with Ukrainian civil society members and officials currently abroad as well as exiled Belarusian democratic leaders and civil society members.

We hope that you can join this timely trip. Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me, or my colleague Shelby Magid (smagid@atlanticcouncil.org).

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Herbst".

Ambassador John Herbst
Senior Director, Eurasia Center
Atlantic Council