

Sixty-Fourth Series of Meetings of WIPO Assemblies
General Statement
delivered by HE Mr. Darius STANIULIS
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of the
Republic of Lithuania to the United Nations Office and other international
organizations in Geneva

6 July 2023 Geneva

Madam Chair, Director General,
Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

Lithuania aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the European Union and its Member States and the Group of Central European and Baltic States.

We welcome WIPO's report on the assessment of the impact of Russia's war of aggression on Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector and ecosystem, which proves a significant loss, caused by this aggression.

We note with satisfaction WIPO's commitment to ensure its ongoing support in mitigating the adverse effects of the Russia's war of aggression, in addressing the immediate, medium- and long-term impacts. We look forward to further annual reporting on this issue.

Lithuania condemns in the strongest possible terms Russia's unprovoked and unjustified military aggression against Ukraine, which grossly violates international law. Moreover, Russia exploits this aggression to legitimize intellectual property violations domestically. In this regard, we raise serious concerns on further enjoyment of WIPO benefits by Russia, for example, allocation of WIPO financing for the external office in the Russian Federation and performance of this unit.

Promotion of innovations and protection of intellectual property has always been a priority for the Lithuanian Government.

A few years ago, the Government adopted the IP Development Program, which aims at boosting the use of IP, preventing IP violations, and raising public awareness.

Lithuanian delegation notes with satisfaction close cooperation with WIPO in development of projects dedicated for SMEs, youth, women, synergy of business and science. The most successful accomplishment of international and regional cooperation is the Baltic States Technology Transfer Centers Network, launched last year.

I conclude by thanking the leadership of the Organization and the Team of TDC Division for their frank and collaborative approach. Lithuania restates its commitment to continuing successful cooperation with WIPO and we look forward to a productive session of the General Assembly.

I thank you, Madam Chair.