

Opening Statement by the Delegation of Lithuania

WIPO General Assemblies 2026

Chair,
Director General,
Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the Lithuanian delegation, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Chair, the Director General, and the Secretariat for their excellent work in preparing and organizing these Assemblies.

Allow me also to warmly congratulate Mr. Daren Tang on his reappointment as Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization and to wish him every success in leading the Organization through its next mandate.

Lithuania aligns itself with the statements delivered by Ireland on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, as well as by Albania on behalf of the Central European and Baltic States Group (CEBS).

Lithuania remains firmly committed to fostering innovation, creativity and sustainable economic growth through a strong, balanced, and effective intellectual property system. In Lithuania, small and medium-sized enterprises play a pivotal role in transforming innovation into commercially successful products and services. Therefore, strengthening intellectual property awareness and strategic IP management among SMEs remains one of our key priorities.

In this regard, we highly value our close and productive cooperation with WIPO. Over recent years, this partnership has delivered tangible results through the organization of IP Clinics for Lithuanian startups, dedicated workshops on the Madrid System, and outreach activities promoting the effective use of international trademark and design protection systems. These initiatives have significantly contributed to increasing awareness of intellectual property as a strategic business asset.

We are particularly pleased that Lithuania joined the WIPO Intellectual Property Management Clinic (IPMC) programme this year. The launch event, organized just a few weeks ago, attracted considerable interest from Lithuanian startups and SMEs. This strong engagement demonstrates the growing demand for practical guidance on integrating intellectual property into business strategies, commercialization activities, and international expansion plans. We greatly appreciate the dedication and expertise of WIPO specialists supporting the implementation of this important initiative.

Lithuania also highly values the Baltic Technology Transfer Office Network, established under WIPO leadership nearly five years ago. The network has become an important platform for strengthening cooperation among Baltic universities and innovation ecosystems, facilitating knowledge exchange and promoting effective technology transfer practices. We stand ready to continue supporting this successful initiative and are pleased that our universities have now reached a level of maturity that enables them to contribute actively and share best practices with technology transfer offices beyond our region.

Another important milestone was the establishment of the Lithuanian IP Academy within the State Patent

Bureau. We are grateful for the opportunity to incorporate WIPO educational materials into our training programmes, allowing Lithuanian professionals, entrepreneurs, students, and innovators to benefit from world-class expertise and international best practices.

In this context, I would also like to express our appreciation for the opportunity to host the WIPO Youth Camp for students from Baltic universities last summer. The programme provided intensive practical training in intellectual property, innovation management, and technology transfer, while fostering valuable international networking opportunities among future innovators. The overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants clearly demonstrated the programme's impact, and we would welcome the possibility of seeing similar initiatives return to our region in the future.

These achievements illustrate the strength and effectiveness of the partnership between WIPO and Lithuanian institutions. We remain fully committed to further deepening this cooperation and contributing actively to WIPO's mission of promoting innovation and creativity worldwide.

Finally, Lithuania reiterates its unwavering support for Ukraine. We sincerely thank WIPO for its continued efforts and the updated report on assistance to Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector. Sustained international support, including support for Ukraine's intellectual property ecosystem, remains essential while the country continues to face the consequences of Russia's ongoing war of aggression.

In closing, the Lithuanian delegation stands ready to contribute constructively to the work of these Assemblies, and we look forward to productive discussions and meaningful outcomes.

Thank you.