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# LITHUANIAN CITIZENSHIP



VIDAUS REIKALŲ  
MINISTERIJA

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Being a citizen of a country creates a certain bond that is strong no matter where you live. For us, this is especially important, since Lithuanians are spread out around the world. Here you will find the basic information about reinstatement or restoration of Lithuanian citizenship, as well as the option of dual citizenship for both children and adults.

**Photo taken by ALEKSEJ SARIFULIN**

*Photos and font used in the leaflet were designed by creative Lithuanian artists to celebrate our country's beautiful simplicity and natural charm.*



**Contacts**

Free helpline:

8 800 22 922 (in Lithuania)  
+370 5 251 4352 (from abroad)

mic@iom.lt  
[www.renkuosilietuva.lt](http://www.renkuosilietuva.lt)  
[Facebook.com/RenkuosiLietuva](https://www.facebook.com/RenkuosiLietuva)

# DUAL CITIZENSHIP

**In Lithuania, dual citizenship is permitted for people who:**

- #1 are citizens of Lithuania and another country by birth;
- #2 are a person who was deported from the bite Republic of Lithuania before 11 March 1990;
- #3 left Lithuania prior to March 11, 1990 ;
- #4 are children or grandchildren of a person who was exiled from or left occupied Lithuania prior to March 11, 1990;
- #5 married a citizen of another country and became a citizen of that country ipso facto;
- #6 became a citizen of Lithuania by way of exception while remaining a citizen of another country;
- #7 became a citizen of Lithuania while holding refugee status in the Republic of Lithuania.

If you meet any one of these conditions, then you can apply for dual citizenship at a Lithuanian Embassy or migration service *(if you are legally in Lithuania)*. The list of required documents and further steps can be found at: [migracija.lt](http://migracija.lt) -> "Citizenship".

## DUAL CITIZENSHIP FOR CHILDREN

Children born to a Lithuanian citizen are entitled to Lithuanian citizenship by birth, regardless of whether they are born in Lithuania or abroad. In order to receive dual citizenship, the child must be registered in Lithuania and apply for a Lithuanian passport *(through a Lithuanian Embassy or local migration service in Lithuania)*.



## ONLINE REGISTRATION

If one of the child's parents has access to the E-Government Gateway, he or she can register the birth of the child online through the registrar services information system (epaslaugos.lt).

## REGISTRATION IN LITHUANIA

Either parent can register the child by going to a civil registry office in Lithuania with the child's ID and birth certificate *(legalized or certified with an Apostille and translated into Lithuanian)*.

## REGISTRATION ABROAD

Parents can also register a child who was born abroad at a Lithuanian Embassy, but they will need to present IDs for the child and the parents, as well as the child's birth certificate. The birth certificate will have to be legalized or certified with an Apostille and translated into Lithuanian. Embassies may also require a marriage certificate *(if the marriage is not registered in Lithuania)*. For more information, visit the website of the Lithuanian Embassy near you.

If you want to learn more about the documents you will need as well as their legalization and submission, visit [renkuosilietuva.lt/eng](http://renkuosilietuva.lt/eng) or contact our consultants.



## RESTORATION OF CITIZENSHIP

- #1 A person who has lost Lithuanian citizenship may have it restored by filing an application at the migration service and renouncing his or her current citizenship;
- #2 A person who has lost Lithuanian citizenship may only have it restored once;
- #3 A person who has been granted Lithuanian citizenship by means of exception can only be granted citizenship once *(i.e. if it is lost, it cannot be restored)*.

## LOSING CITIZENSHIP

**Citizenship of Lithuania can be lost when a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania:**

- #1 renounces Lithuanian citizenship;
- #2 acquires citizenship of another country (*except in cases where dual citizenship is allowed*);
- #3 is in the service of another country without authorization from the Government of the Republic of Lithuania;
- #4 acquired citizenship by presenting forged documents or by any other fraudulent means;
- #5 other.



*You can find information about becoming a naturalized Lithuanian citizen in our Living in Lithuania as a Foreigner leaflet.*

## REINSTATEMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND SIMPLIFIED CITIZENSHIP

People of Lithuanian descent who have never been citizens of Lithuania may be entitled to acquire citizenship under a simplified procedure, regardless of their current permanent residence. You can prove Lithuanian descent by submitting documents which establish that one of your parents or grandparents is/was a Lithuanian. You will also need to provide documents which confirm that you can hold dual citizenship. If you do not meet the requirements for dual citizenship, you will have to renounce your current citizenship.

**You can find more information at:**  
[migracija.lt](http://migracija.lt) → "Citizenship".

People who were citizens of Lithuania prior to June 15, 1940 and their children and grandchildren who were never citizens of Lithuania have an open-ended right to reinstate citizenship of Lithuania, regardless of their current permanent residence. You can prove your right to reinstate citizenship by submitting documents which confirm that you were a citizen prior to June 15, 1940 and that you left Lithuania prior to March 11, 1990 (*or documents proving that you are a descendant of a person with this right*). With certain exceptions (*see below*), people who reinstate citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania are required to renounce citizenship of any other country.

If you are not sure if you should take advantage of the right to reinstate Lithuanian citizenship, you might consider applying for a certificate of Lithuanian descent or a certificate confirming the right to reinstate Lithuanian citizenship (*at a local migration office in Lithuania or at a Lithuanian Embassy abroad*). These certificates will facilitate the reinstatement or grant of citizenship. These documents will also make it easier to obtain a permanent or temporary residence permit.

**You can find more information at:**  
[migracija.lt](http://migracija.lt) → "Citizenship".