TERMINOLOGY MANAGEMENT IN LITHUANIA: the Term Bank of the Republic of Lithuania

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Terminology work in Lithuania

Research Institute of the organizations Term Lithuanian (universities, dictionar Language institutes) ies Digital Language Recourses State Commission of the Lithuanian Language **EU** institutions (Terminology Sub-Commission) Term **National** IATE Database Term Bank **State institutions** Lithuanian (Terminology **Standards Board** commissions)

Legal term management after joining the European Union: the Term Bank of the Republic of Lithuania

- Lithuania's accession to the European Union in 2004 was a significant moment in the development of legal terminology.
- On December 23, 2003, the Law on the Term Bank of the Republic of Lithuania was adopted.
- Establishing of the Term Bank of the Republic of Lithuania in 2004.

REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA LAW ON TERM BANK

23 December 2003 No. IX-1950 Vilnius

CHAPTER ONE GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Purpose of the Law

This Law concerns:

- 1) the creation, management, use and funding of the Term Bank of the Republic of Lithuania;
- 2) the duties, rights and responsibilities of legal and natural persons who manage the Term Bank of the Republic of Lithuania, submit data thereto and use such data.

Article 2. Definitions

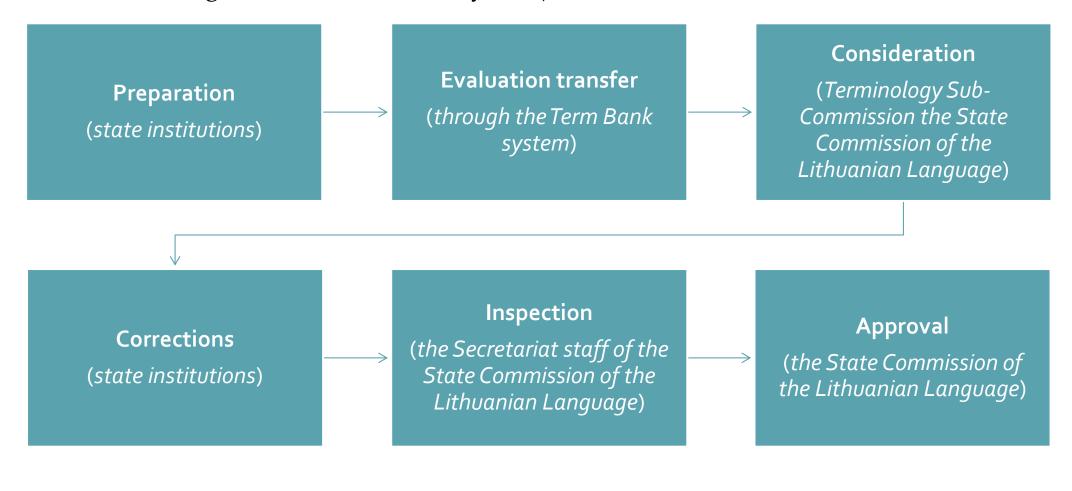
- 1. "Approved term" means any term approved by the State Commission of the Lithuanian Language, used or presented for use in the legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania.
- 2. "Expert" means a person included in the list of experts approved by the State Commission of the Lithuanian Language having the competence of a terminologist to evaluate the quality of terms and term entries in a term bank.
- 3. "Expertise" means the examination of the quality of terms and term entries in a term bank by virtue of possessing the competence of a terminologist. The results of an expertise shall be recorded in the act of expertise.
- 4. "Term Bank of the Republic of Lithuania" (hereinafter referred to as the "Term Bank") means a state-run information system comprising the aggregate of entries of Lithuanian language terms, approved, acceptable or unacceptable, which are processed and presented on the Internet in accordance with the established procedure.

The Term Bank of the Republic of Lithuania

- Centralized system designed to engage various state institutions and other entities in the management of terminology.
- Its primary objective is to oversee the terms used in legal acts.
- It aims to include terms from dictionaries, standards, and other sources.
- The system comprises two components: an internal system (registered users), and a public system.
- State institutions are empowered by legal provisions to establish terminology commissions and to supply terms to the Term Bank.

Inclusion of sets of legal term entries in the Term Bank

(The State Commission of the Lithuanian Language is the manager of the Term Bank system)



The Law on the Term Bank establishes the following final term statuses

- *Approved term* any term approved by the State Commission of the Lithuanian Language, used or presented for use in the <u>legal acts</u> of the Republic of Lithuania.
- *Acceptable term* a word or a combination of words that corresponds to the basic principles of terminology and correct usage requirements of the Lithuanian language.
- *Deprecated term* a word or a combination of words that do not correspond to the basic principles of terminology and correct usage requirements of the Lithuanian language and must be replaced by a correct (approved or acceptable) term.

The Term Bank of the Republic of Lithuania

- The focus is on national legislation, although often intertwined with European Union legislation.
- In the Term Bank, creators of legal term entries have the discretion to include equivalents in other languages, but it is not mandatory.
- While the IATE database primarily serves translation purposes, the Term Bank of the Republic of Lithuania focuses on organizing Lithuanian terms and their definitions to meet language and terminology requirements.
- Since 2010, the organizational systems of the Term Bank also plays role of the one-stop shop for terminology requests from translators and terminologists working in EU institutions.

Variety of terms in the Term Bank http://terminai.vlkk.lt

- A total of about 293,000 term entries
- Over 20,000 term entries from legislation (approved)
- Around 235,000 entries from 55 term dictionaries
- Around 12,000 entries from more than 70 term standards
- Around 25,000 entries from the recommendations of the Language Commission (biological and zoological nomenclature)
- Around 1400 entries from 14 higher education textbooks

The most active institutions in 2015-2025

Ministry of Agriculture

Ministry of Environment

Ministry of Health Protection

Ministry of Finance

Ministry of Economy and Innovation

Ministry of Energy

Ministry of Transport

Office of the Seimas

Ministry of Social Security and Labor

Other (22 institutions)

The number of legal term entries approved by year between 2004-2025

| 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 26 | 845 | 1232 | 829 | 1251 | 1003 | 1122 | 1448 | 1033 | 896 | 1289 |

| 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1287 | 1090 | 841 | 1062 | 911 | 954 | 723 | 853 | 838 | 950 | ~700 |

http://terminai.vlkk.lt

(The user interface is available only in Lithuanian)



• Over the past two decades, the organization of legal terminology in Lithuania through the Term Bank's information system has influenced the language used in legal acts, leading to improvements in their terminological quality.

• The Term Bank in Lithuania stands out as the most renowned and dependable source of Lithuanian terms, serving as an indispensable resource for legal drafters, language editors, and anyone with terminological queries.

Thank you for your attention!

Lietuvos Respublikos TERMINŲ BANKAS



