

Press Release

Directorate of Communication

Ref: 542a09

Tel. +33 3 88 41 25 60

Fax +33 3 88 41 39 11

Internet: www.coe.int

e-mail: pressunit@coe.int



47 member States

Albania
Andorra
Armenia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Italy
Latvia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Moldova
Monaco
Montenegro
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Russia
San Marino
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
"The former Yugoslav
Republic of
Macedonia"
Turkey
Ukraine
United Kingdom

Council of Europe Secretary General welcomes decision by President of Lithuania

Strasbourg, 02.07.2009 - I am delighted by the news that the President of Lithuania has refused to sign a new law which would have discriminated against the gays and lesbians in Lithuania. His decision should be welcomed by everyone who believes in a modern, open and tolerant Lithuania which is determined to defend and extend the values of democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

To receive our press releases by e-mail, contact: Council.of.Europe.Press@coe.int

A political organisation set up in 1949, the Council of Europe works to promote democracy and human rights continent-wide. It also develops common responses to social, cultural and legal challenges in its 47 member states.