



6 September 1991

Mr Vytautas Landsbergis,
President,
Supreme Council of Lithuania

Dear President,

On this historic occasion I welcome the opportunity to convey to you and the people of Lithuania greetings from my Government and the people of Australia.

For the first time since 1940 the peoples of Lithuania, and the other Baltic States of Estonia and Latvia, can enjoy full sovereignty and freely participate in the affairs of Europe and the international community. This is a tribute to the strength and resilience of the Lithuania people and closes a dark and unhappy chapter in your history.

I am proud that Australia was one of the first nations to establish full diplomatic relations with Lithuania and I know that this answers the hope you expressed to me in your letter of 24 August 1991.

We look forward to strengthening the ties of family, friendship and cooperation between our two countries and wish you, and the people of Lithuania, well in the tasks ahead of you.

Yours sincerely

R.J.L. Hawke
Prime Minister of Australia