



## **Lithuania: Implementation of the Representative Actions Directive**

### **Law No XIV-1472 amending the Law on the Protection of Consumer Rights (No I-657) and Law No XIV-1473 amending the Law Implementing European Union and International Legislation Governing Civil Procedure (No X-1809)**

Lithuania transposed the Representative Actions Directive through two amending statutes adopted on 16 November 2022, both in force from 25 June 2023. One established the procedural framework for representative actions by inserting a new section into the civil procedure implementation law, while the other determined which bodies hold standing to bring such actions by amending the consumer protection statute. Supporting Ministerial Orders issued by the Minister of Justice dealt with the practical infrastructure of the regime, including the list of authorised consumer associations, contact point designation, and the catalogue of EU provisions whose infringement may harm collective consumer interests. The Ministry of Justice and the State Consumer Rights Protection Service act as competent authorities.

Rather than creating an entirely new mechanism, Lithuania enhanced its existing injunctive procedure under the consumer protection statute, broadening its scope to encompass the redress measures now required by the Directive. Alongside this, Lithuania retained its pre-existing class action under the Code of Civil Procedure and the collective redress mechanism applicable to unfair competition matters.

Injunctive actions may be brought by the State Consumer Rights Protection Service, authorised consumer associations, and designated public entities from other Member States. The list of those entitled to bring redress actions is narrower, extending only to authorised consumer associations and foreign qualified entities appearing on the Commission's published list. In either case, the court may refuse an application where the objectives of the bringing entity are not compatible with the particular action brought. The material scope of the mechanism follows Annex I of the Directive closely, as set out in Ministerial Order No 1R-369.

For redress actions, Lithuania operates an opt-in model: consumers must provide declarations of consent before proceedings commence, and the court is required to publish notice on a dedicated website affording a joinder window of between 30 and 90 days. Injunctive actions have no equivalent consent requirement and are exempt from stamp duty. There is no formal certification stage, although a court may decline to proceed with a claim found to be manifestly unfounded before a hearing date is set. Costs liability falls on the qualified entity rather than on individual consumers, save in exceptional circumstances involving improper conduct in the proceedings. Third-party funding is available subject

*Un regard comparatiste et pluridisciplinaire*

Founder: Maria José Azar-Baud

<https://observatoireactionsdegroupe.com/>



OBSERVATOIRE DES ACTIONS DE GROUPE  
et autres Actions Collectives

to transparency requirements and a prohibition on funding by competitors or parties connected to the defendant.

Key official texts:

Law No XIV-1473: <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/55078000657411edbc04912defe897d1>; Law No XIV-1472: <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/158b5d20657411edbc04912defe897d1>

Amy Adams

Maria José Azar-Baud

*Un regard comparatiste et pluridisciplinaire*

Founder: Maria José Azar-Baud

<https://observatoireactionsdegroupe.com/>