The Interior Minister Vladislav Kondratović visited the Western Balkans region this week, where he met with colleagues from Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Kosovo, and Montenegro.

The purpose of the working visit is to sign protocols implementing international agreements on the return and readmission of illegally residing persons, and to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the field of the region's European integration.

"This visit is an important step in expanding partnerships, based on trust, respect and common aspirations. The Western Balkan countries are striving for EU membership, and Lithuania has considerable experience that it can share in implementing significant reforms in the field of internal affairs. Although Lithuania does not directly face migration challenges from these countries, as a responsible EU member, we actively participate in shaping a common policy and strengthening practical cooperation. Cooperation and sharing of experience between law enforcement institutions are practical actions that create a safer Europe," emphasized Minister V. Kondratovič.

Lithuania consistently supports the European integration aspirations of the Western Balkan countries. By sharing their reform experience, Lithuanian officials and experts help build strong institutions, transparent public administration, and a secure legal environment.

According to the Minister of the Interior, Lithuania's proposed reform experience in the European integration process of the Western Balkans is not a formality - it is a purposeful and consistent part of Lithuania's foreign policy, based on the belief that a strong and democratic Europe cannot be complete without the Western Balkan countries. That is why investments are being made in joint projects, bilateral agreements and expert assistance, which help ensure the desired progress.

Source(s)

- Ministry of Interior | Lietuvos Respublikos vidaus reikalų ministerija (3 July, 2025), Lietuva ir Vakarų Balkanų šalys stiprina partnerystę: pasirašyti readmisijos protokolai ir aptartos eurointegracijos perspektyvos [Lithuania and the Western Balkan countries strengthen their partnership: readmission protocols signed and prospects for European integration discussed], https://vrm.lrv.lt/lt/naujienos/lietuva-ir-vakaru-balkanu-salys-stiprina-partneryste-pasirasyti-readmisijos-protokolai-ir-aptartos-eurointegracijos-perspektyvos/

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