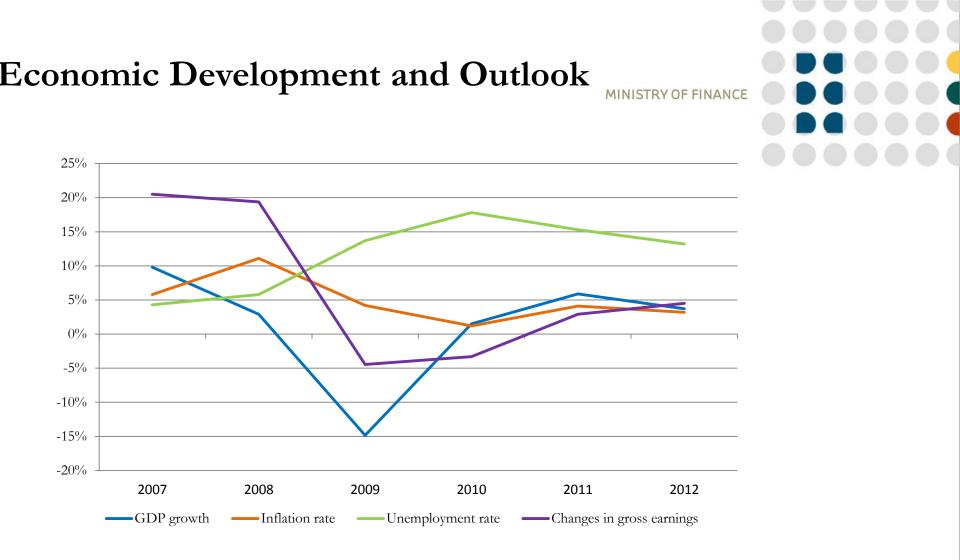


## FISCAL DISCIPLINE IN LITHUANIA

Riga, June 2013

### Outline

- Economic Development and Outlook
- General Government Deficit and Debt
- Possible Risks
- The Law on Fiscal Discipline (since 2007)
- The Law on Budget Structure Implemented Provisions of the Directive 2011/85/EU(since 2012)

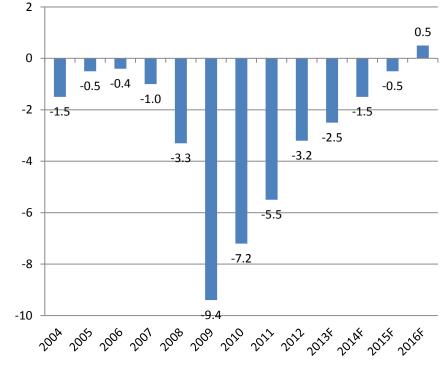


# General Government Deficit and Debt

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

#### Central scenario for 2013-2016 (CP2013):

- General Government finances will be consolidated further;
- Nominal General Government balance in 2016: surplus of 0.5% of GDP;
- General Government gross debt level will decrease from 40.7% of GDP in 2012 to 34.5% of GDP in 2016.



General Goverment Deficit, ESA'95 (% of GDP)

# **Possible Risks**

#### Risks related to macroeconomic environment:

less dynamic economic growth than expected in central scenario;
more favourable external environment particularly in trading partners (positive risk);
an increase in market interest rates;

•less successful implementation of structural reforms.

#### Fiscal risks:

decommissioning of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant;
measures to enhance the financial stability of the banking system;
deposit insurance.

# The Law on Fiscal Discipline (since 2007)

# MINISTRY OF FINANCE

#### **Purposes:**

- provide long term sustainability for General Government;
- promote fiscal discipline culture.

#### Numerical rules:

- debt below 60 percent;
- Medium Term Objective in surplus or close to balance.

#### **Procedural rules:**

- the draft Budget Law must comply with the latest effective recommendations and the opinion of the Council of the Ministers of the EU on Lithuania's medium-term economic strategy;
- the windfall revenue of the state budget shall be automatically saved for the reduction of the state budget deficit.

#### Effects:

• facilitate to reach political agreement on expenditure cap.

# The Law on Budget Structure Implemented Provisions of the Directive MINISTRY OF FINANCE 2011/85/EU (since 2012)

#### Measures approved:

- clear fiscal targets for medium term;
- moral sanctions;
- credible expenditure caps;
- control of fiscal risks;
- objective criteria to test unbiased economic scenario and revenue prognosis;
- many other technical improvements that have policy implications.

## Further steps



- Consolidation shift from the expenditure side and focus on higher collection of revenues;
- Preparation the constitutional law on sustainability of general government sector finances;
- Further implementation of the structural reforms;
- State investment program should focus on projects which give fast economic and social return;
- Improvement of access for SME's to financing.



# Lithuania's EU Presidency 2013

Riga, June 2013



# Priorities for ECOFIN Council



- Strengthening of the Economic and Monetary Union;
- Economic Governance and Fiscal Surveillance;
- Banking Union and Financial Services;
- Taxation;
- The EU budget for 2014.



# **ECOFIN** Council schedule

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

- 9<sup>th</sup> July, Brussels;
- 25<sup>th</sup> July, Brussels (Budget) (Possible);
- 13-14 September, Vilnius Informal ECOFIN Council;
- 15<sup>th</sup> October, Luxembourg;
- 11<sup>th</sup> November, Brussels (Budget);
- 15<sup>th</sup> November, Brussels;
- 10<sup>th</sup> December, Brussels.





# **THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

