

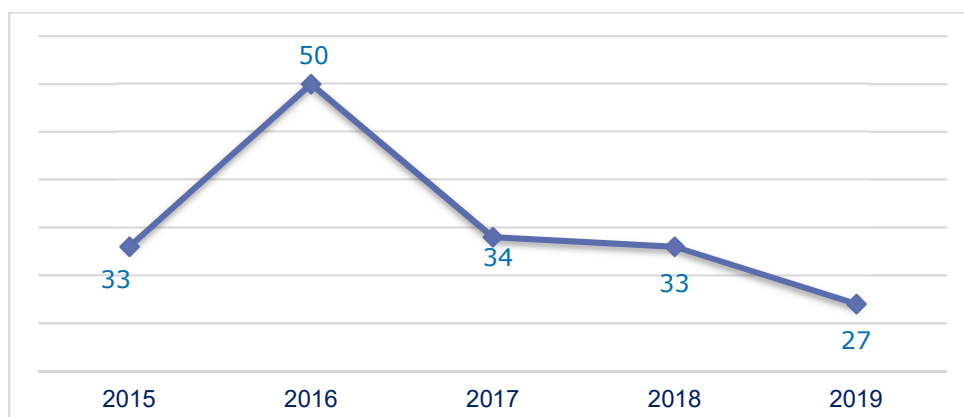
LITHUANIA

Monitoring the Application of EUROPEAN UNION LAW

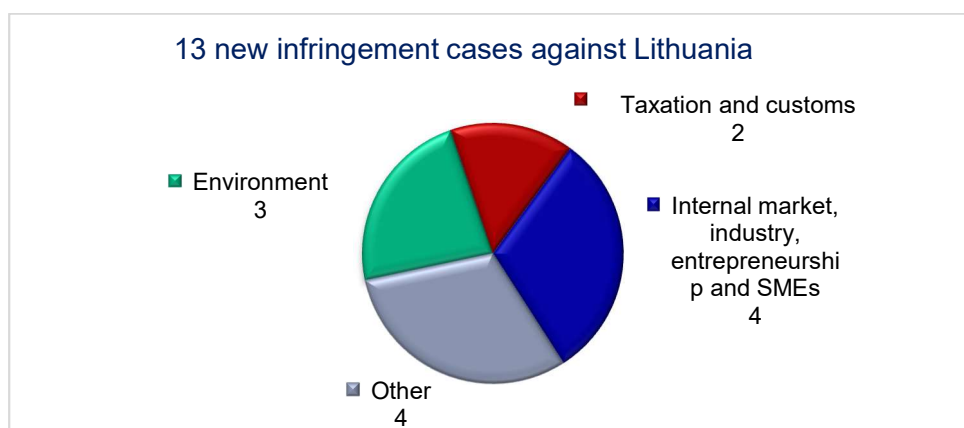
2019 Annual Report

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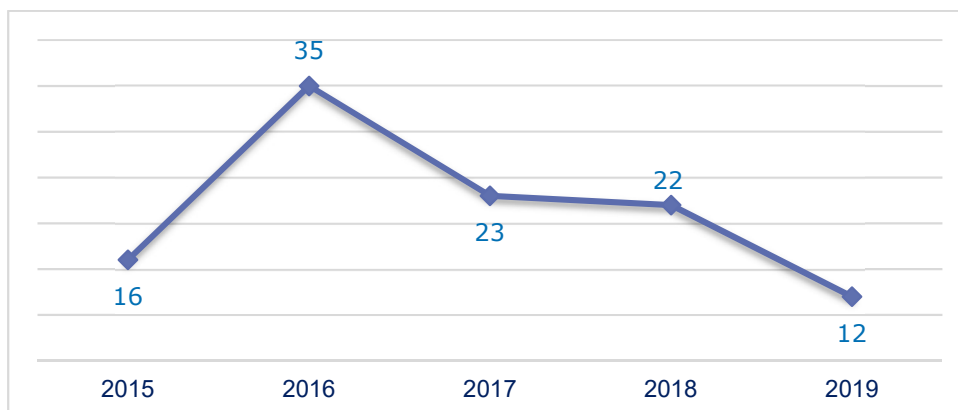
Infringement cases against Lithuania open on 31 December (2015-2019)



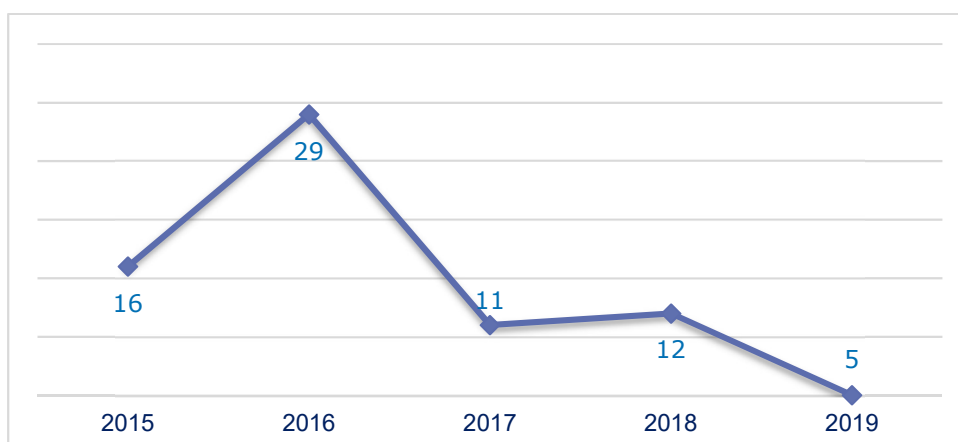
New infringement cases opened in 2019: main policy areas



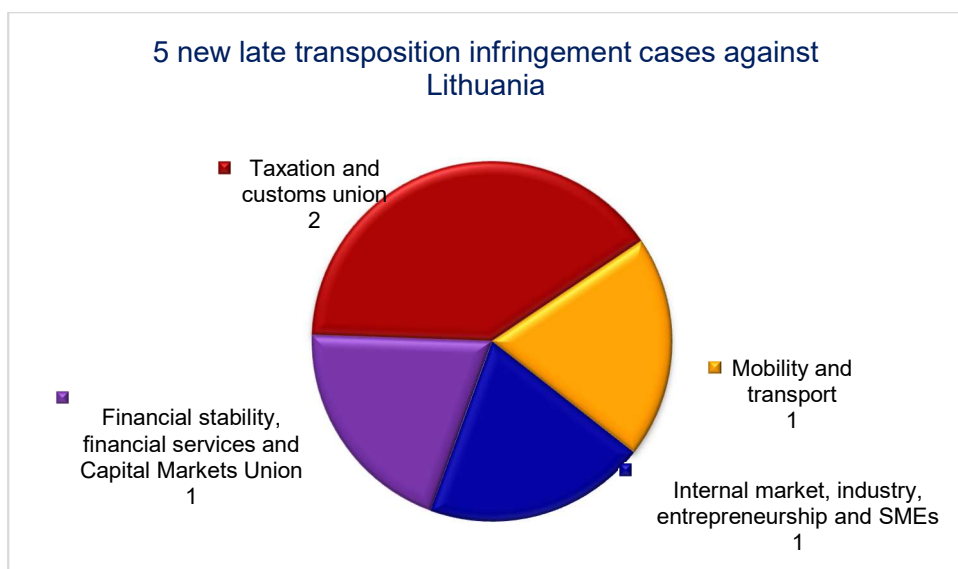
Late transposition infringement cases against Lithuania open on 31 December (2015-2019)



New late transposition infringement cases against Lithuania (2015-2019)



New late transposition infringement cases opened in 2019: main policy areas



IMPORTANT JUDGMENTS

Court rulings¹

There were no major Court rulings in 2019.

Preliminary rulings

The Court addressed the following preliminary rulings to the Lithuanian judiciary:

- The Court clarified the conditions upon which *in-house* transactions concluded by public authorities are compatible with EU public procurement legislation².
- A Member State may, on grounds of public policy such as in the specific circumstances combating the incitement to hatred of the Baltic States based on nationality, impose a requirement to temporarily distribute or retransmit a television channel from another Member State only in pay-to-view packages³.
- Telecommunications companies are required to transmit location information for free to the 112 emergency call authorities, even if the call is received from a mobile phone which is not equipped with a SIM card. When determining accuracy and reliability criteria, Member States need to ensure that the location information is useful for emergency services to intervene⁴.
- National legislation to combat unfair commercial practices may prohibit buyers of raw milk to pay a different purchase price to producers who, on the basis of the daily quantity of raw milk sold that is of identical composition and quality and delivered via the same method, must be regarded as belonging to the same group⁵.
- Member States should tax as cigars or cigarillos tobacco products with an outer wrapper of natural tobacco partially covered, at the filter, by an additional paper layer, which may make them visually similar to cigarettes⁶.
- The exemption from excise duty applies to denatured ethyl alcohol contained in cosmetics or mouthwashes which are nevertheless consumed as alcoholic beverages, although not intended for human consumption, even if the importer of products from another Member State labelled them with a view to increasing the sales⁷.

¹ These rulings are almost exclusively handed down in infringement procedures.

² *Irgita*, Case [C-285/18](#).

³ *Baltic Media Alliance*, case [C-622/17](#).

⁴ *AW and Others*, case [C-417/18](#).

⁵ *Lietuvos Respublikos Seimo narių grupė*, [C-2/18](#).

⁶ *Skonis ir kvapas*, [C-638/17](#).

⁷ *Bene Factum*, [C-567/17](#).