



The Consulate General of the State of Israel presents its compliments to the Official Representation of Republic of Latvia. Below please find the statement of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel Mr. David Levy on the declaration of independence by the Baltic States, dated September 4th, 1991:

"As a result of requests made by the governments of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, and after conferring with the Prime Minister this morning, we have decided to announce that the Government of Israel recognizes of their independence. They have moved a long way towards freedom and ultimately achieved independence.

We shall decide in the future on the manner in which we shall establish diplomatic relations between them and Israel however, we must remember what occurred during the period of the Holocaust. These countries must learn the lessons from the past in particular, the young generation must come to understand that this was a crime which opened a festering sore that will never heal. Our only consolation will come from their learning the lesson of the cruel treatment meted out to our people, a lesson that will serve as an example for the future.

We congratulate the republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia on their independence. This is a development that was expected to take place, and indeed it was realized.

Mr. David Levy
Deputy Prime Minister
and Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the State of Israel "

The Consulate General of the State of Israel avails itself of this opportunity to express assurances of its highest consideration.

September 5th, 1991