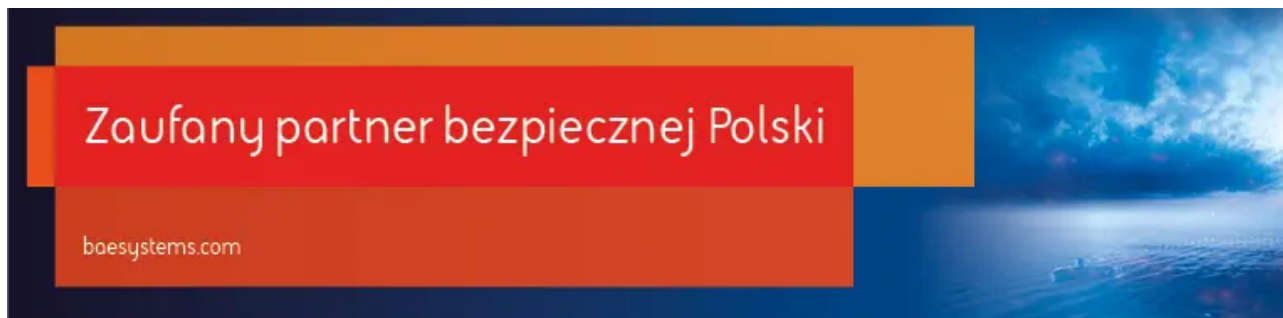


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28 November 2007

G36 for Lithuania

On November 22, the Lithuanian Ministry of Defence signed an agreement with the German company Heckler & Koch regarding the purchase of 5.56-mm automatic rifles G36V and G36KV and 40-mm suspended AG36 grenade launchers for the country's 5.8-thousand-strong soldiers.

Soldiers of the Lithuanian special unit SOJ armed with H&K G36 rifles / Photo: MON Lithuania

It is very rare to see Polish weapons in the hands of soldiers of other countries, the more interesting are the photos of operators from the SOJ special unit armed with 5.56-mm rifles wz.96 Beryl (pictured, during winter exercises in the country) / Photo: SOJ.lt

The most widespread weapons of Lithuanians so far were Swedish 7.62-mm automatic rifles Ak 4 / Photo: Ministry of Defense of Lithuania

In Lithuania, the G36 is to replace the mosaic of the shooting structures used so far, including the 7.62-mm AKM/AKMS rifles remaining after the Red Army, the 5.56-mm M16A1 rifles and the 7.62-mm M14 rifles being an American donation, as well as the most widespread 7.62-mm Ak 4 rifles donated by Sweden. A similar decision was made in July 2005 by neighboring Latvia.

Commandos of the SOJ in Afghanistan. On the right, a Polish wz.96 Beryl rifle (equipped with an old type of mounting rail), which until 2002-2003 is the basic weapon of this unit / Photo: MON Lithuania

The G36 is not an unknown structure for Lithuanians, it was previously used by the SOJ special unit, in which it displaced from the armament... Polish 5.56-mm rifles wz.96 Beryl, from the party donated to the Lithuanian army as a donation in 2000. At that time, 80 Beryls were in the hands of the Lithuanians (ten of which were equipped with 40-mm suspended grenade launchers wz.1974 Pallad, and another ten had optical sights produced by PCO) and 10

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maintenance kits, as well as courses for gunsmiths and users is to pay 44.5 million litas (12.88 million euros).



Soldiers of the
Lithuanian special
unit SOJ armed
with H&K G36
rifles / Photo:
MON Lithuania

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Ak 4 / Photo:
Ministry of
Defense of
Lithuania

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commandos
from SOJ from
kbk G36K) /
Photo: MON
Lithuania

Lithuania for two types of rifles, suspended grenade launchers, spare parts sets and weapons cleaning and maintenance kits, as well as courses for gunsmiths and users is to pay 44.5 million litas (12.88 million euros).

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