

## “Lithuanian Sign Language [lls] (A language of Lithuania)

- **Alternate Names:** LGK, Lietuviu gestu kalba, LtSL
- **Population:** 8,000 (2014 EUD). 14,500 (2014 IMB).
- **Location:** Scattered.
- **Language Status:** 5 (Developing). Recognized language (1995, No. 630, native language of the deaf).
- **Dialects:** None known. Many variants, with attempts at standardization (Kupčinskis 1999). Affected by Russian Sign Language [rsl] from 1945 until 1990.
- **Typology:** One-handed fingerspelling.
- **Language Use:** Deaf schools. Deaf associations.
- **Language Development:** Theater. Films. TV. Dictionary. Grammar.
- **Other Comments:** Fingerspelling system similar to French Sign Language [fsl]. Video remote interpreting service launched 2012. 100 sign language interpreters (2014 EUD). Christian (Roman Catholic).”

Lewis, M. Paul, Gary F. Simons, and Charles D. Fennig (eds.)  
2015. Ethnologue: Languages of the World, Eighteenth edition. Dallas, Texas: SIL  
International. Online version: <http://www.ethnologue.com>.

### **Related Readings**

Kupcinskis, Dainora  
1999 Issues in Standardizing Lithuanian Sign Language. *Lituanus: Lithuanian Quarterly Journal* 45(1): 17.

Last Updated: April 13, 2015