

Lithuanian Government Approves Country's Participation in the European Spallation Source

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ESS and Lithuania. The Lithuanian government approved the country's participation in ESS last week, allowing for formal negotiations with ESS Host Countries to be initiated.

VILNIUS — Following a visit to the European Spallation Source (ESS) construction site on May 7, the Lithuanian Minister for Education and Science, Prof. Dainius Pavalkis, reported that the Lithuanian government gave a green light to ESS, creating a path for the Baltic state to become an ESS Member Country and join the ESS ERIC.

'We were honoured by Minister Pavalkis's visit and are excited to see these positive developments,' says James Yeck, Director General and CEO of ESS. 'We are now actively exploring opportunities for Lithuania to engage in ESS.'



Members of the Lithuanian delegation listening to a presentation by ESS Director General and CEO Jim Yeck at the ESS construction site office during their May 7 visit. PHOTO: ESS

Minister Pavalkis issued a formal endorsement by the Ministry for a Lithuanian commitment to full membership in ESS. The Lithuanian government approved the



document last Wednesday, May 13. These steps allow for talks to begin between Lithuania and ESS Host Countries, Sweden and Denmark, concerning the country's exact contribution to ESS. Initial discussions indicate a contribution of at least 0.45% of the €1.843 billion project, with up to 70% of that in the form of in-kind activities.



Minister Pavalkis. PHOTO: Lithuanian Ministry of Education and Science

The large delegation that visited ESS on May 7 also included scientists from the Lithuanian University of Health Science, Kaunas University of Technology and Vilnius University, as well as the Lithuanian Ambassador to Sweden, Eitvydas Bajarūnas. The academic contingent was also in Lund for meetings at Lund University concerning their joint Horizon 2020 project, HEALTHTECH, an EU-funded initiative led by Kaunas University of Technology.

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