

# Tomas Lamanuskas

Lithuania

Elected ITU Deputy Secretary-General

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Tomas Lamanuskas received 105 votes, with 179 Member States present and voting and with a required majority of 89.

## Tomas Lamanuskas – building on ITU’s legacy

During a video interview at the recent Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-22), Tomas Lamanuskas of Lithuania discusses his plans to build on ITU’s legacy in his new role as the next Deputy Secretary-General of ITU.

As Deputy Secretary-General, he will assist newly elected Secretary-General Doreen Bogdan-Martin and carry out specific tasks and management functions as the organization moves forward in the digital age.

“I’m here to support Doreen, I’m here to support the elected directors, and I’m here to build on what’s already been achieved,” says Lamanuskas.

While bringing fresh ideas as ITU’s youngest-ever Deputy Secretary-General, Lamanuskas values experience within the organization and aims to put that to good use.

“We have a 157-year legacy. We have a lot of people both in ITU – and also delegates. They have a lot of knowledge, a lot of experience, and they have a world of valuable insights as well,” he says. “We need to harness that insight, harness that experience, and then put it to use – to refresh it together.”



For more insights, watch the full [video](#) interview.



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Lamanauskas stresses the importance of the secretariat, which he describes as “the engine” of ITU. “We talk about policy, regulation and space, and different other topics, but it’s the secretariat that supports the membership – and that secretariat needs to run as well as a well-oiled machine,” he says. “For me, that’s really the first priority.”

Lamanauskas also highlights the terms “intersectoral” and “One ITU”, pointing towards the importance of building a unified spirit and maintaining close collaboration across ITU’s radiocommunication, standardization, and development activities. ITU’s five elected officials need to “always work as one team,” he says.

Lamanauskas intends to continue campaigning and bringing a voice for what ITU stands for, such as raising ambitions on tackling climate change, connecting everyone, and making sure that all countries have a say and decision-making power. “The biggest power that we as the ITU have is the attention, credibility, and the mandate of the countries,” he added.

Today’s digital age brings clear opportunities, but also challenges for the organization, which was first established to regulate international telegraphy in 1865 and became a United Nations specialized agency in 1947. “We need to define what digital is for us, and what is our core strength and capabilities to contribute,” he says. “We need to really clarify our role in the digital world.”

As a UN specialized agency with unique public-private reach, ITU is well positioned to align industry priorities with inclusive global sustainable development.

Lamanauskas, who previously headed ITU’s Corporate Strategy Division, will return from private-sector consultancy work to join the new ITU leadership team, whose mandate begins on 1 January 2023.

“We need to engage with the industry and be relevant with them,” he says, underscoring the need to keep up with the rapid evolution of digital services and technologies. “We can find out by listening to them on where the world is going and how we can contribute.”

Lamanauskas stresses the importance of strengthening links with the UN and its activities, including through collaboration with the recently established office of the UN Tech Envoy. “We need to build a very strong relationship with those agencies, and to make sure that we support each other – that we support them – and they support us,” he says.

## Career path | Tomas Lamanauskas

*With more than 20 years’ experience in telecommunications and broader information and communication technology (ICT) strategy, public policy and regulation, Tomas Lamanauskas has led teams through major transformations in highly multicultural environments.*

*Along with international executive and board-level leadership experience, Lamanauskas has served as Head, Deputy Head, and a Board Member with several national regulatory authorities in Europe, the Middle East and the Caribbean, and as a Senior Government Advisor in the Pacific region.*

*He has led corporate strategy at ITU as well as public policy for VEON, a multinational technology and communications company.*

*He has contributed to reports and studies by the ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development, the World Economic Forum, and other international organizations and research groups.*