



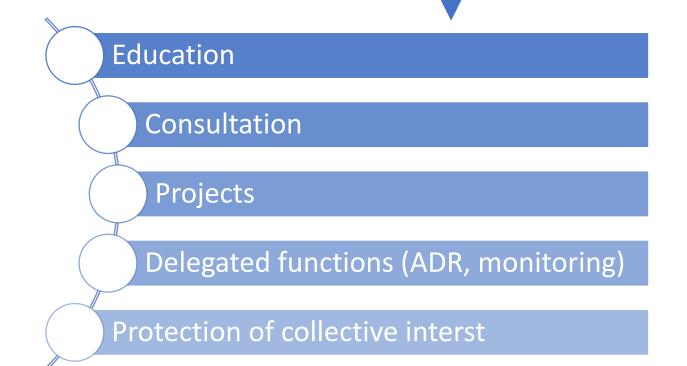
#### CONSUMER PROTECTION SYSTEM IN LITHUANIA

STATE CONSUMER RIGHTS PROTECTION AUTHORITY Dalia Malinauskiene

#### Consumer rights protection in Lithuania is ensured by:

- State and Municipality Institutions
- Consumer Associations

Article 9 of the Law on Consumer Protection



### Policy development

• Ministries

#### Enforcement and ADR

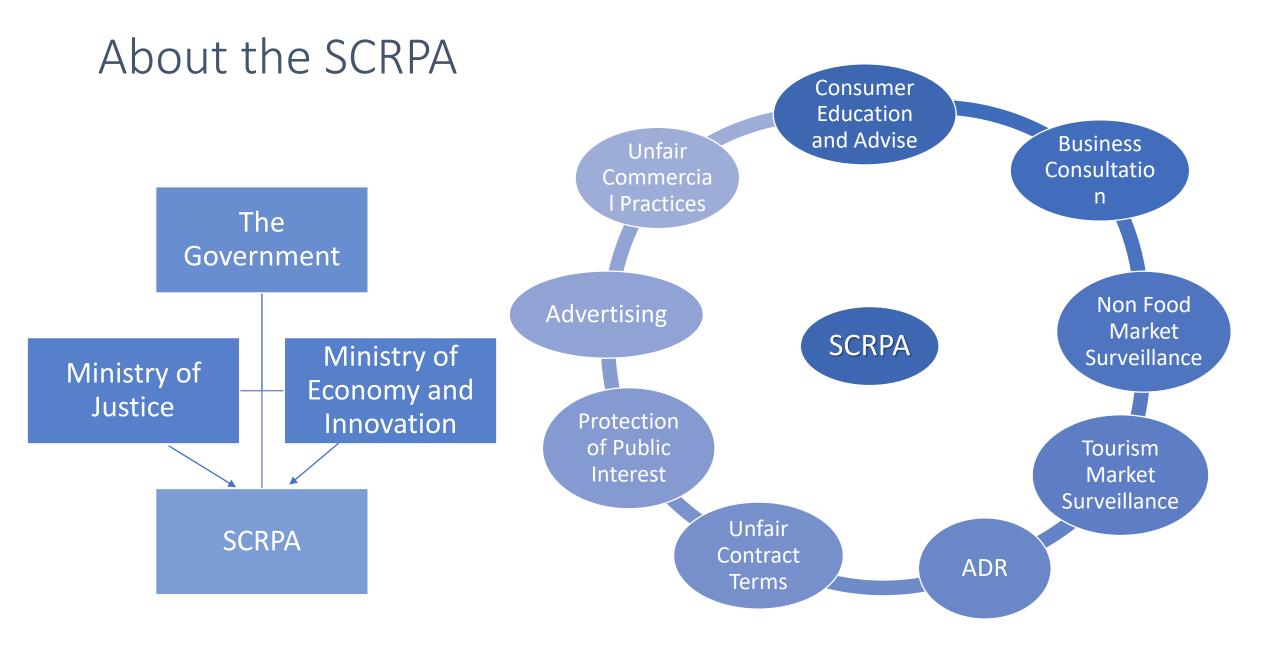
• SCRPA and sectorial institutions

#### State Guaranteed Legal Advice

• Municipalities

# **Consumer Protection Legal Base**

- State Consumer Protection Development Program for 2019-2027
- EU law on consumer protection
- Civil Code
- Law on Consumer Protection
- Law on Prohibition of Unfair Business-to-Consumer Commercial Practice
- Law on Product Safety
- Law on Advertising
- Other legal acts



# Priorities of SCRPA in 2021



1. Improvement of ADR

- Raising consumer knowledge about ADR
- ADR process optimization
- Involvement of authorized consumer associations
- Modernization of IT tool



2. Coordination of Consumer Education

- Interinstitutional consumer education plan
- Raising consumer information in order to decrease a number of unjustified consumer complaints
- Improvement of consumer consultation
- ECC campaign "Smart Consumer in Europe"



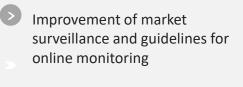
3. Strengthening of Consumer Protection Online

Monitoring of E-traders

- Joint EU actions in the field of UCP and Advertising
- Consumer and business consultation and training
- Monitoring of prices' discounts indication



4. Organization of Business Surveillance on the Digital Market



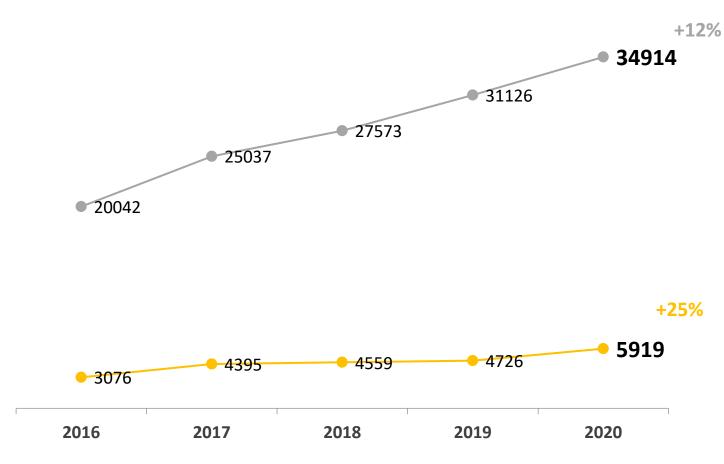
Active participation in ICSMS

> CASP CORONA2020

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Search of unsafe products by using modern tools

### Consumer applications and disputes at SCRPA



#### **Received consumer applications**

In 2020 almost 35000 consumer applications received (**12 proc more than in** 2019).

#### **Resolved disputes via ADR procedure**

Almost 6000 disputes resolved (**25 proc more** than in 2019 m).

More than usually applications from consumers received regarding cancelled travels, sport, cultural events, etc

# Coordination Role of the SCRPA

• Coordination of institutional activities in the field of consumer protection: collection of information, analysis, planning, implementation



 Organization of consumer education: Annual Consumer Education Plan involving activities from all related institutions and NGOs.



## The rights of authorised NGOs according to the Law

> to protect the public interest of consumers;

- >to be the representative of the group in the consumer group's action cases;
- ➤to perform the actions of the out-of-court settlement procedure of consumer disputes, except for the adoption of decisions on the substance of the dispute, decisions to refuse a consumer dispute, suspend or terminate the hearing of a consumer dispute.

# Financial State Support for Consumer NGOs

- State budget is allocated according to procedure approved by the Oder of the Minister of Justice
- Authorized consumer NGOs can apply for funding for:
- Costs for the protection of public consumer interests
- Costs for the representing consumers in group action cases
- ADR actions
- Projects (market monitoring)
- The applications for funding are evaluated according to approved priorities by the commission composed by the Order of the Minister of Justice.



# Thank you for your attention!