



Presidium of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, left to right: Rimvydas Petrauskas, Leonas Valkūnas, Limas Kupčinskas, Vice-President Zenonas Dabkevičius, President Jūras Banys, Raimundas Šiaučiūnas, Gintautas Dzemyda, Vidmantas Stanys, and Vytautas Nekrošius



Bureau of the Young Academy of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, left to right, Vice-Chair Viktorija Vaštakaitė-Kairienė, Monika Toleikienė, Paulina Želvienė, Mindaugas Gedvilas, Chair Vaidas Palinauskas, Aldona Balčiūnaitė, and Petras Prakas. *Photos Virginija Valuckienė*

WRÓBLEWSKI LIBRARY

The library was founded by Tadeusz Stanisław Wróblewski (1858–1925), a well-known lawyer, cultural activist, and bibliophile from Vilnius. In 1912, his personal library amounted to around 65,000 books, 1000 maps, and about 5000 manuscripts and autographs. Its most valuable part consisted of historical documents of Vilnius and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania.



Album of the Wróblewski family

Currently, the repositories of the Department of Rare Publications of the Wróblewski Library of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences store over 450,000 publications: 63 incunabula, over 600 post-incunabula, about 160,000 newspapers and journals, and a unique collection of cuneiform tablets. This department acquires, catalogues, and keeps all books published

before 1800, bibliographic and printing rarities, books in Lithuanian published before 1918 (before 1945, if published abroad), valuable Lithuania-related publications in foreign languages published from 1800 to 1944, nineteenth-twentieth-century Lithuanian and Lithuanian-studies-related periodical literature (before 1945), rare periodical literature unrelated to Lithuanian studies (before 1800), Lithuanian émigré periodicals, art books, engravings, postcards, photographs, small documents, and cartographic publications. Since the collections of the written heritage were shaped by historical circumstances, the library is one of the main institutions of research into the documentary heritage of the history of science and culture.

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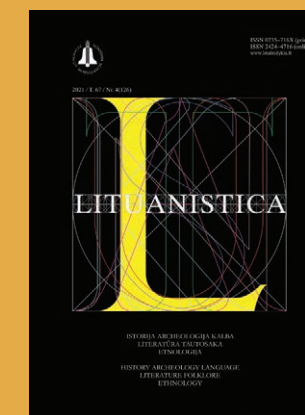
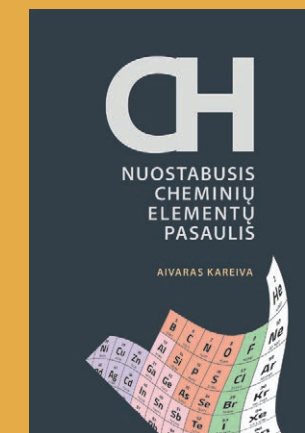
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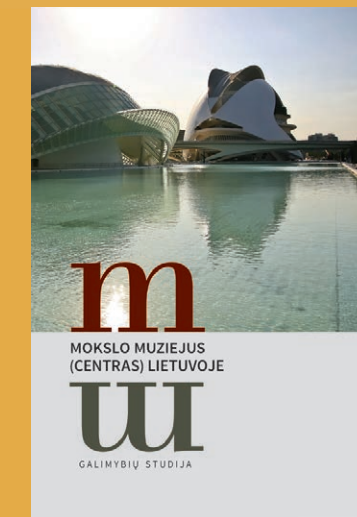
For the Progress of the Country and Society



A book by the academician Prof. Aivaras Kareiva published by the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences

The obverse of the commemorative medal of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, established in 2019

A scientific journal published by the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences



Presidential chain of office of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences. 1993. *Photo Virginija Valuckienė*

Badge of a member of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences. *Photo Vytautas Abramauskas*

Badge of a member of the Young Academy

A feasibility study published by the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences

The obverse of the Adolfas Jucys Medal, established in 2004



HISTORY

The Lithuanian Academy of Sciences is an institution that brings together the most prominent Lithuanian scientists and foreign researchers whose work connects them to Lithuania. Its structure and activities are based on the key standards of European academies.

Guided by a Western European tradition, professors of Vilnius University drafted a programme for the establishment of Vilnius Academy of Sciences late in the eighteenth century, but its implementation was prevented by the collapse of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth as a state at the end of the same century. The vision of an academy of sciences was also nurtured by outstanding Lithuanian intellectuals who founded the Lithuanian Scientific Society in 1907. The Lithuanian Academy of Sciences was established on 16 January 1941 and initially it was dominated by the humanities. After the Second World War, the Academy opened a number of research institutes and expanded its scientific potential. This was a time of rapid advances in physics, mathematics, and the natural sciences.

When the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Research and Higher Education was adopted in 1991, the Academy was reorganised into an academy of personalities.

ACADEMICIANS

Members of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, or academicians, are full members, members emeriti, and foreign members. Each academician is at the same time a member of one of the five scientific divisions of the Academy: (1) Humanities and the Social Sciences, (2) Mathematics, Physics, and Chemistry, (3) Biology, Medical, and Geosciences, (4) Agriculture and Forestry, or (5) Technical Sciences.

According to the Statute, the Academy may have 120 full members who are elected by way of an open competition. The most authoritative representatives of science and the arts are elected as full members. At the age of 75, they become members emeriti. Outstanding foreign scientists, whose research activities are connected with Lithuania, are nominated and elected as foreign members of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences.

MISSION

Together with its members and partners, the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences promotes critical thinking among the general public and a scientific approach to the processes in the country and in society. An important function of the Academy is provision of expertise. The Academy forms and implements a policy of science promotion and dissemination, publication of state-funded research periodicals, and coordinates projects and activities in these fields.

The ever renewing Academy and the community of the academicians are fully capable of undertaking initiatives and projects, stimulating increasingly advanced scientific research that would enhance the country’s prosperity, contribute to scientific, economic, social, and cultural progress, and representing Lithuania in the international arena.

ACTIVITIES

With the aim of spreading information about the achievements of Lithuanian scientists and strategic objectives in different regions of the country, the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences has signed cooperation agreements with eleven municipalities. In order to realise its expertise

potential, it has concluded agreements with ministries, nine state research institutes, the Lithuanian Olympic Academy, the INFOBALT association, the Lithuanian Laser Association, and various business organisations.

The Lithuanian Academy of Sciences is an independent expert and advisor for the Seimas, the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, and its subordinate institutions on research and higher education, culture, social development, economy, environment protection, health care, technologies, and in other areas. On behalf of the Government, Academy organises the work of the Commission for Lithuanian Science



Memorial plaque commemorating the founding of the Sgjidis, the Lithuanian Reform Movement, on the facade of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences was unveiled on 3 June 2003



Interior of the office of the president of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, mid-20th century. Designed by Jonas Prapuolenis, the furniture of the office is cultural heritage property. Photos Virginija Valuckienė

Prizes; it also coordinates such science popularisation events as the national science festival ‘Spaceship Earth’.

Every year, the Academy awards ten prizes to young scientists and doctoral students and fifteen prizes to the students in higher education engaged in research. It has established fifteen scholarships for young scientists. With the aim to evaluate the achievements of scientific research conducted in various fields in Lithuania and to stimulate scientists’ creative activity, the Academy periodically announces competitions for nineteen prizes named after outstanding Lithuanian scientists and scholars.

The Academy represents Lithuania at international organisations uniting academies of sciences and other research institutions: the European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA), the International Council for Science (ISC), the European Academies Science Advisory Council (EASAC), the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP), and others. At present, research collaboration agreements have been signed with 28 foreign national academies of sciences and foundations.

PUBLISHING

The Lithuanian Academy of Sciences prepares and publishes monographs, popular science books, nine scientific research periodicals, reports on the Academy’s activities, conference proceedings, the informative publication *LMA žinios* (News of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences), etc. The journals publish original research by Lithuanian and foreign scientists in the fields of biology, ecology, chemistry, physics, energy, philosophy, sociology, medicine, Lithuanian studies, history, art history, agricultural sciences, etc., in printed and electronic forms. The books in the series ‘Science for All’ reveal, in an attractive and comprehensive way, the links between the different fields of science and explore the trends in modern science and technology.

All books and scientific articles published by the Academy are peer-reviewed. Publishing work is organised in accordance with the ethical norms established by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), the Law on Copyright and Related Rights, and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania.

THE FUTURE OF THE ACADEMY

The Young Academy of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences was established late in 2018. This subdivision of the Academy represents the interests of young Lithuanian scientists, promotes their creative, scientific, and expert activities, and provides opinions on the issues of Lithuanian research policy. The Young Academy mobilises young people for activities consistent with the mission of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, helps them to pursue scientific careers, and to communicate with young academies in other countries. It raises the prestige of science and the accessibility of science-based knowledge in society and activates mentoring work of the academicians.

The Young Academy members are promising young scientists with outstanding scientific achievements, who have obtained their PhD not more than ten years ago and are not older than 40 years. In four years of its existence, the number of the members of the Young Academy has grown to forty. The first Young Academy Bureau was elected in 2022. It consists of five members, each representing a separate field of science. At the end of their four-year term, the previous members will become the alumni of the Young Academy of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences and will be replaced by their younger colleagues.