

# BALTIC READINGS

REGIONAL BALTIC SOCIOLOGY CONFERENCE'2026

15 MAY 2026

Lithuanian Academy of Sciences  
Gedimino Ave. 3, Vilnius, Lithuania

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

### Conference Organizers:

Lithuanian Sociological Association  
Institute of Sociology at the Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences  
Lithuanian Academy of Sciences

### Sponsored by:

International Sociological Association



### 8.30-9.00 REGISTRATION

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### 9.00-9.30 OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

*Moderator: Inga Gaižauskaitė*

Aušra Maslauskaitė (Lithuanian Academy of Sciences)  
Andrius Marcinkevičius (Institute of Sociology at the Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences)  
Kaja Gadowska (European Sociological Association)  
Elina Oinas (International Sociological Association)  
Diana Janušauskienė (Lithuanian Sociological Association)

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### 9.30-10.30 KEYNOTE SPEECH

*Moderator: Inga Gaižauskaitė*

Kaja Gadowska, President of the European Sociological Association and Professor at the Jagiellonian University (Kraków, Poland)  
**Academic Freedom in Europe**

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### 10.30-11.00 COFFEE BREAK

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11.00-12.30

**PANEL I**

**Sociology in the Baltic Region: Histories, Pressures, and Pathways**

*Moderator: Diana Janušauskienė*

Arvydas Virgilijus Matulionis (Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences, Lithuania)

**Remembering the Baltic Readings Conferences**

Liutauras Kraniauskas (Klaipėda University, Lithuania)

**Lithuanian Sociology and the Production of Contested Knowledge**

Jānis Daugavietis (University of Latvia, Latvia)

**Political Attacks on Science in Latvia: Examples from the Humanities and Social Sciences in Recent Years**

Pille Petersoo (Tallinn University, Estonia)

**Teaching sociology in Estonia - Resilience or Survival?**

Klara Öberg (Halmstad University, Sweden)

**And What About the Job? From Sociology Degree to the Labour Market: Geographical and Political Contexts**

Agota Vaitkienė (Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences, Lithuania)

**Sociology in the Baltics: Locality vs. Internationality**

Merili Jürgenson (University of Tartu, Estonia)

**Students' Perspective: Building a Sociology Student Community Through SÜLEM**

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12.30-13.00

**LUNCH**

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13.00-14.30

**PANEL II**

**Sociological Research in the Baltics: Agendas, Challenges, and Directions**

*Moderator: Agnieška Avin-Ileri*

Oksana Žabko (Foundation "Baltic Institute of Social Sciences" and University of Latvia, Latvia)

**Does the Common Agenda Exist in the Baltic Sociology? Research Topics and Networks**

Zenonas Norkus (Vilnius University, Lithuania)

**Baltic Countries as a Laboratory for the Theory of Modern Social Restorations**

Eve-Liis Roosma (Tallinn University, Estonia)

**Situating Estonian Sociology in the Baltics: The Evolution of Education and Labour Market Studies**

Andrius Marcinkevičius (Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences, Lithuania)

**Sociological Research on Ethnicity in Lithuania: Current Trends and Future Perspectives**

Aistė Balžekienė (Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania)

**Sociological Research on Risk, Environment and Resilience in Lithuania**

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**14.30-14.45 SHORT BREAK**

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**14.45-16.15 ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION**  
**Development of Social Sciences Research Infrastructures in Lithuania: Building Resilient and Collaborative Ecosystems**  
*Moderator: Inga Gaižauskaitė*

**Discussants:**

**Aurelija Stelmokienė**, Vytautas Magnus University | European Social Survey  
**Antanas Kairys**, Vilnius University | Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe

**Aušra Maslauskaitė**, Vytautas Magnus University and Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences | Generations and Gender Program

**Rūta Žiliukaitė**, Vilnius University and Vytautas Magnus University, and **Ainė Ramonaitė**, Vilnius University | Lithuanian Longitudinal Social Survey

**Audronė Telešienė**, Kaunas University of Technology | Lithuanian Data Archive for Social Sciences and Humanities

**Eglė Vileikienė**, Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania | Longitudinal Sociological Research in the Ministry of the Interior

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**16.15-16.30 SHORT BREAK**

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**16.30-18.00 ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION**  
**Sociology in the Baltics: Strategies for Collaboration**  
*Moderator: Audronė Telešienė*

**Discussants:**

**Annu Masso**, President of the Estonian Sociological Association

**Diana Janušauskienė**, President of the Lithuanian Sociological Association

**Elna Oinas**, Vice President of the International Sociological Association

**Kaja Gadowska**, President of the European Sociological Association

**Mai Beilmann**, Former President of the Estonian Sociological Association

**Renārs Felcis**, President of the Latvian Sociological Association

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**18.00-18.10 CLOSING REMARKS**

*Diana Janušauskienė (Lithuanian Sociological Association)*

**18.10-19.30 RECEPTION AND NETWORKING**

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