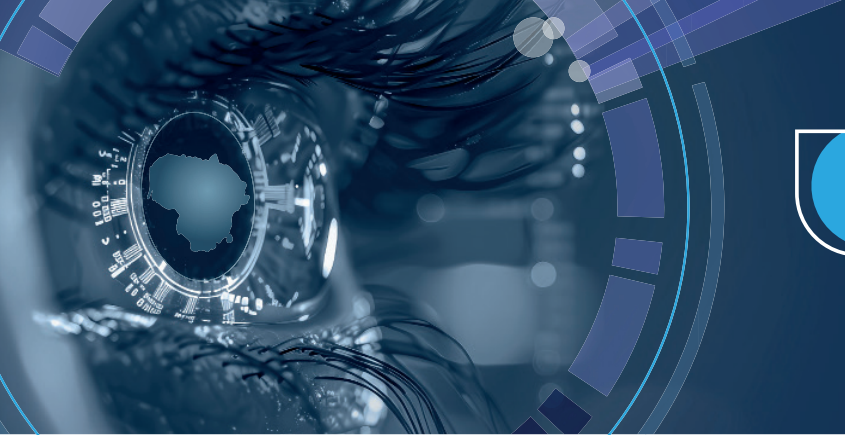

Science Week in Lithuania
(re) SEARCH 2026
KEEP THINKING!

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Migration: A Benefit or a Burden?

Friday, 23 October 2026, 9.30 a.m.
Small Conference Hall,
Lithuanian Academy of Sciences
3 Gedimino Ave, Vilnius

Adobe Express illustr.

LCSS Institute of Sociology

CONFERENCE ORGANISERS:
Lithuanian Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Sociology of the Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences

In recent years, Lithuania has been undergoing a transformation in terms of international migration. We are shifting from being a migrant sending country to migrant receiving country. Changing migration flows are altering the social fabric of society and prompting a re-examination of the foundations of belonging to the social and civic community. Migration is also shaping a new agenda for politics, policy and governance: from the management of migration flows and the safeguarding of human rights to the development of systems for the adaptation and integration of migrants and ensuring the effectiveness of those systems.

In the public sphere and the political arena, discussions on migration range from migration as an opportunity and a benefit to migration as a burden, from migration as a demographic and economic inevitability to migration as an existential threat to collective coexistence. Yet the present and future of migration in Lithuania cannot be defined by these dichotomies. Both society and politicians need a multi-layered understanding of migration processes, the factors that cause them, and their consequences.

The aim of the conference is to examine the shifts in international migration processes in Lithuania and Europe, to discuss their causes and potential demographic and social consequences, experiences and challenges in migration policy, as well as new opportunities for monitoring and researching migration processes. Particular attention will be paid to the experience of Germany and Lithuania, the experiences of Ukrainian war refugees, and strategies for the long-term stay and return of migrants from Belarus.

LANGUAGES OF THE CONFERENCE: ENGLISH AND LITHUANIAN.

THE PROGRAMME IS ON THE NEXT PAGE

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Migration: A Benefit or a Burden?

PROGRAMME

Chaired by Prof. Dr Aušra Maslauskaitė, *chair of the Division of the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Arts of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences*

9.30–9.45 **WELCOME ADDRESS**

Prof. Dr habil. Vytautas Nekrošius, *president of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences*

Dr Andrius Marcinkevičius, *deputy director of the Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences, head of the Institute of Sociology*

PLENARY PRESENTATION

9.45–10.30 **Migration and Migration Policy in Germany.**
Prof. Dr Sebastian Klüsener, Dr Nikola Sander,
Federal Institute for Demographic Research (Germany)

PRESENTATIONS

10.30–11.00 **Demography of Lithuania: International Migration and Future Scenarios.**
Prof. Dr Domantas Jasilionis, *Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (Germany), Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences*

11.00–11.30 **Measuring Non-EU Immigration to Lithuania through Administrative and Search Data.**
Dr Vytenis Juozas Deimantas, *Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences,*
Ebru Şanlıtürk, *Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (Germany)*

11.30–12.00 **Between Compassion and Bureaucratic Requirements: The System for Assisting War Refugees from Ukraine as Seen through the Eyes of Those Involved in Lithuania and Latvia.**
Dr Monika Frėjutė-Rakauskienė, Dr Dmytro Mamaiev, Dr Vilana Pilinkaitė Sotirovič,
Dr Kristina Šliavait, *Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences*

12.00–12.30 **Living in Uncertainty: Strategies for the Continued Stay and Return of Migrants from Belarus in Lithuania.**
Dr Monika Frėjutė-Rakauskienė, *Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences.*

12.30–13.00 **DISCUSSION**