



Faculty of  
Philology

the 11<sup>th</sup> Baltic Student Conference

# BRIDGES IN THE BALTICS

4-5 OCTOBER 2024

VILNIUS UNIVERSITY (LITHUANIA)

## ABSTRACTS



ŠVIETIMO,  
MOKSLO IR SPORTO  
MINISTERIJA



Latviešu valodas  
aģentūra



ESTIJOS AMBASADA  
VILNIUS



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
AND RESEARCH

“Bridges in the Baltics” is an annual student conference organized by University of Tartu together with other universities in the Baltic Sea region. The aim of the conference is to bring together students whose studies and research focus on the languages or culture of the three Baltic States, to give them the possibility to meet their peers from other countries and universities, to present their academic work and interests, learn from each other and make new contacts. The conference welcomes everyone who is currently pursuing a Bachelor’s, Master’s or PhD degree at any university in the Baltic States or elsewhere.

The first conference was held 2013 at the University of Tartu (Estonia). This year the Department of Baltic Studies at Vilnius University is organizing the 11th conference and it will be held on October 4–5, 2024.

Homepage: <https://sisu.ut.ee/balticbridge>

Social media: [www.facebook.com/balticbridge](http://www.facebook.com/balticbridge)



## Table of Contents

Sindija Anča.....	6
Anna Auzāne .....	6
Rasa Balsevičienė.....	7
Vaiva Marija Barzdaitienė .....	7
Julius Barzdaitis.....	8
Una Bērente.....	8
Deimantė Blusevičiūtė .....	9
Gabrielė Brazaitytė.....	9
Illia Burakov.....	10
Anita Butāne .....	10
Agnietė Čepėnaitė.....	11
Lote Katrīna Cērpa.....	12
Wei-Chun Chiu .....	12
Rafał Darasz .....	13
Linas Daugėla .....	14
Marta Dieviņa .....	14
Greta Drūkteinytė .....	15
Justīne Fišere .....	15
Dovilė Gavelytė .....	16
Elīza Paula Graudiņa.....	17
Laura Grizickaitė .....	17
Gytis Gudas.....	18
Lingita Lina Henritiusa .....	18
Milan Hoplíček.....	19
Diāna Hristenko.....	19
Maksym Hudym.....	20
Vilius Jakubčionis.....	20
Ilze Jaunzeme.....	21
Fiona Jõesuu.....	21

Žygimantė Vakarė Jovaišaitė .....	22
Lina Kalnaitytė .....	22
Monika Kazabuckaitė .....	23
Anastasiia Kholodna .....	23
Aretas Kisielius .....	24
Julia A. Korsakaitė.....	24
Mykyta Kovalenko .....	25
Kamilė Laučytė.....	25
Sandra Lukšaitė .....	26
Mann Loper .....	27
Marilyn Mägi .....	28
Ana Marić .....	28
Aurelija Meškerevičiūtė.....	29
Rozālija Muižniece.....	29
Indrė Nugaraitė.....	30
Žygimantas Pekūnas.....	30
Konradas Pukinskas.....	31
Līga Puriņa.....	31
Raimonda Rauluševičienė .....	32
Laura Sakalauskaitė .....	32
Anna Sedláčková .....	34
Staņislavs Šeiko .....	34
Paula Sekača.....	35
Aistė Šiaulytė .....	35
Ieva Šileikaitė .....	36
Márk Sima .....	36
Adelīna Skerškāne .....	37
Anastasija Smirnova .....	38
Gabriela Socha.....	38
Ingvilda Strautmane .....	39
Viltė Stukaitė.....	39

Attila Tokai .....	40
Aušrinė Tverskytė .....	40
Arnita Agrita Umalas .....	41
Maxim Uszakow.....	42
Edita Yuhas.....	42
Joris Žiburkus .....	43
Ugnė Žemaitytė.....	43

**Sindija Anča**

*University of Latvia, BA*

### **The nomenclature of swastika type ornaments in Latvia and Lithuania**

In Latvian swastikas are usually called by a local denomination – *ugunskrusts* ('firecross'). It helps to avoid associations with the ideology of Nazism that unavoidably accompany *svastika*. Although the use of the sign is still controversial, it often appears in the public space in ethnographic and mythological context, and bears many other names as well. The domain of the other living Baltic language – Lithuanian – appears to be very different – *svastika* is the main denomination used and society views the ornament more negatively. This research examines the various names of the swastika used in Latvian and Lithuanian languages and the impact these names have had on the public use and opinion. The differences are analysed using descriptive, comparative, semiotic and corpus analysis methods, and also questionnaires. It concludes that the different historical experiences and research practices of both countries have directly influenced the naming and perception of the ornament in society.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

**Anna Auzāne**

*University of Latvia, PhD student*

### **The Soviet hippies in the prose of Latvian writer Miervaldis Birze**

It may seem like a controversial concept, but hippies did exist in the Soviet Union, although understandably quite differently from their Western counterparts. In the essay, I would like to focus on how their distinctive fashion choices, communal living practices, and customs are reflected in the works of the Latvian writer and physician Miervaldis Birze, as well as their relationship with the state apparatus, parents, and "ordinary" citizens. Lately, there has been a growing range of literature that focuses specifically on Eastern European hippies rather than those in the West, so the essay will allow exploration of Soviet hippies throughout the entire Baltic region as well.

[Language of presentation: Latvian]

**Rasa Balsevičienė**

*Klaipėda university, PhD student*

### **The influence of beliefs related to human appearance on the perception of female beauty**

The object of this research is beliefs related to human appearance. The study aims to analyze beliefs related to human appearance and their influence on women's perception of beauty in today's society. The study analyzes the superstition of concepts, belief in concepts, their meaning, differences and similarities.

The results of the study revealed that in the beginning of 20th century, beliefs related to the appearance of a person were widespread throughout Lithuania. There were two types of beliefs: prohibitions, warnings, conjectures and fragments of customs, and statements reflecting the mythical concept. The study revealed that objects with mystical powers, mentioned in beliefs related to the appearance of a woman, can be divided into five groups: natural phenomena, objects related to God, the world of the dead, animals, other natural objects. In the middle of the 20th century, beliefs gradually began to disappear from people's everyday life with the rapid development of science, the emergence of preparations created by medicine that help preserve beauty, correct appearance. The study revealed that as social and cultural circumstances changed, people's worldviews also changed, as a result of which most of the beliefs remained in the inscriptions of ethnographers. Keywords: beauty, appearance, beliefs, superstitions, worldview of a woman.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

---

**Vaiva Marija Barzdaitienė**

*Vilnius University, BA*

### **Poetry as photography in Artis Ostups' book "Gestures"**

The topic of this paper is the photographic nature of poetry in A. Ostups' book "Žesti" (2016, Lithuanian 2023). In this book, special attention is paid to visuality – it is important for the author to avoid excessive lyricism, metaphysical abstractions and images that are not limited to the physical world (Ostups, 2016). His poems, the contents of which are seemingly concentrated in the eye, allow us to delve into the characteristics of their "fixation", the relationship of the lyrical subject with the surrounding world, to study the choice of images and their linguistic expression. Examining these aspects, the paper develops a parallel between photography and A. Ostups' poetry, presents and argues the interpretation of poems as photographs. The parallels between A. Ostups' poetry and photography are often mentioned in the cultural press, the visuality and photographic nature of this book are frequently emphasized in reviews of "Žesti", yet it seems that this connection has so far

escaped attention in the academic field. In this paper, the parallels between poetry and photography are argued for with the help of A. Šliogeris' photosophy, V. Flusser's phenomenology of gesture, and W. J. T. Mitchell's and V. P. Pelizzon's concepts of ekphrasis and luciphrasis.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

---

### **Julius Barzdaitis**

*Vilnius University, BA*

#### **Maceina's Answer: Uniting Subject and Object**

In this paper I argue for an interpretation of Antanas Maceina's seminal work "The Origin and Meaning of Philosophy" which shows it to supply an answer to one of philosophy's oldest and, since the advent of the modern age, most controversial questions – namely, the problem of the relationship between subject and object. After presenting the problem in some detail, I sketch out the way in which Maceina's concepts of interpretation, creature and Creator lead to a satisfactory solution – one in which both subjectivity and objectivity are united and harmonized in such a way as to avoid the pitfalls and shortcomings of a philosophy centered around only one of them.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

---

### **Una Bērente**

*University of Latvia, PhD student*

#### **Decoration types of ethnographic sleighs from the 19th century to the beginning of the 20th century**

Runner based vehicles - sledges and sledges - played a decisive role in the mobility of farmers during the snowy period of the year during the 18th and 20th centuries. Sledges were a means of everyday work, but sleighs were used only for ceremonial outings. The sleigh decorations are carved, chopped and turned ornaments on the wooden exterior of vehicles, colored drawings, painting, metal forgings and castings, and the interior upholstery. The purpose of the report is to analyze the material and written sources, to study the historical development, typology, production and chronology of use of sled transport. Initially, the sled was made of two parts. Since the mid-19th century sleighs began to be made as a continuous construction. To emphasize the luxury of the sleigh, it was initially decorated with various wood carving ornaments on the sides and the backrest. In the second half of the 19th century, sleighs were made by woodworkers specializing in making vehicles. Elements of urban sleigh design were introduced into the style of decorations: leather and fabric upholstery, brass castings.

[Language of presentation: English]



**Deimantė Blusevičiūtė**

*Vilnius University, MA student*

### **Relationship between Lithuanian historiography and historical fiction in 1883-1904/05**

Although through the 19th century historiography adopted critical method and became perceived as science in major countries, in Lithuanian lands history writing still maintained a lot of features, attributed to fiction, such as imagination, emotions, intuition, expressive style. Illegal newspaper “Aušra”, which appeared in 1883, causing the activation of Lithuanian national movement, promoted reading and writing of nation’s history, stating that it would let Lithuanians to „know themselves better”, (re)gain their lost identity. As a result, there was an increase in writing of Lithuanian history, in any form or genre. Historical poetry, prose, plays, as well as „historiographical researches” participated in creating the same myth about nation’s past, its glory and bad times, its best qualities and supposed influence on others, as well as formed the vision of its future, expressed the importance of „relicts” of the past by treating them as primary sources. But the relation between historiography and fiction was even more intricate. We find poetic verses in historiography, as well as criticism of ancient chronicles in historical novel. Even in “Aušra” a supposed Lithuanian epic tale was promoted as real knowledge about the nation’s oldest past...

Meanwhile, more freedom gained in 1904/05 meant more differentiation in culture.”

[Language of presentation: English]

---

**Gabrielė Brazaitytė**

*Vilnius university, MA student*

### **Lexical blending as a way of creating connotative meaning: A study of words containing “Seimas” in the Lithuanian neologism database through the lens of conceptual blending theory**

In Lithuanian neology, lexical blends could be one of the ways of forming connotative meaning in the Lithuanian language. By applying the principles of conceptual blending theory, this study investigates how elements from different source domains are integrated to form new expressions that convey specific connotative meanings. This study explores the negative connotations of specific lexical blends involving the Lithuanian word “Seimas.” Based on the theory of conceptual blending and contextual analysis, four lexical blends – “Seimbiozė,” “Seimokratūra,” “Seimonautas,” and “Šeimūnas” – were analyzed to examine their formation and connotative dimensions. Each of these terms, formed by combining “Seimas” with other morphemes, carries a distinctly negative connotation, often linked to unfavorable concepts. Qualitative research revealed that these blends consistently incorporate a second element that either carries a negative connotation by itself or develops it in a blend through the emergence of negative factors in the input space. The findings

indicate that the cognitive perception of lexical blends (and their attribution to the formation of connotative meaning) would help to integrate these novel formations into general Lithuanian morphology, thereby expanding the perception of the concept of word formation.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

### **Illia Burakov**

*National Taras Shevchenko University of Kyiv, BA student*

#### **The role of the Samogitian dialect in the language diversity of Lithuania**

The Samogitian dialect, a regional variant of Lithuanian, occupies a distinctive place within Lithuania's linguistic landscape. Its historical development and contemporary status reflect broader trends in regional identity and language preservation.

Samogitian, characterized by its unique phonological and lexical features, has traditionally coexisted alongside standard Lithuanian. However, its usage has declined in modern times, posing challenges for its continuity and cultural significance. Efforts to maintain and promote the Samogitian dialect are crucial for preserving Lithuania's linguistic diversity.

This study explores the current status and perceptions of the Samogitian dialect within Lithuania. It investigates its usage patterns, educational support, and cultural significance through qualitative and quantitative analyses. Additionally, the research examines community attitudes towards the dialect and recent initiatives aimed at its revitalization.

Understanding the role of the Samogitian dialect informs discussions on regional language policies, cultural heritage, and linguistic diversity in Lithuania. By highlighting the challenges and opportunities associated with preserving this unique linguistic heritage, this study contributes to broader debates on language revitalization and identity formation in multicultural societies.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

### **Anita Butāne**

*University of Latvia, PhD student*

#### **Loanblends in Latvian**

Based on Werner Betz's and Einar Haugen's classification of borrowings, the paper will analyze loan translations or calques as a type of borrowings. More specifically, loanblends or semi-calques that existed earlier in Latvian or are present today (for example: Latvian

'hipersaite' "hyperlink" < English 'hyper' + Latvian 'saite' "link", cf. English 'hyperlink'). As regards loanblends, both ways of borrowing occur: in one part of a word the foreign material is borrowed, in the other – the foreign pattern ('fremdes Material' and 'fremdes Muster' as neogrammarian Hermann Paul specified in German), accordingly, it can be stated that these are concurrently MAT-borrowings and PAT-borrowings.

Calques testify of contact languages dominating the relevant time; from those current concepts and word-formation models have been taken over in the recipient (replica) language. Loanblends formed in Latvian reveal the role of various contact languages – German, Russian and English – over time, however, quite often the origin of patterns/morphemes can be traced even further – in Greek and Latin (cf. the loanword 'hloroplasts' "chloroplast" < Greek 'chlōros' "greenish" + Greek 'plastos' "formed" and loanblend 'zaļplasts' "chloroplast" < Latvian 'zaļš' "green" + Greek 'plastos').

[Language of presentation: Latvian]

---

### **Agnietė Čepėnaitė**

*Vilnius University, MA student*

### **Connections between the Pericopes of Jonas Jaknavičius' "Ewangelie polskie y litewskie" and Mikalojus Daukša's "Postilla Catholicka"**

This paper analyzes ten pericopes of Jonas Jaknavičius' 1647 "Ewangelie polskie y litewskie" (JE) and Mikalojus Daukša's "Postilla catholicka" (DP) and seeks to identify as well as evaluate their connections. Similarities and differences are searched for in pericopes which are revealed by similarities and differences of the morphology, lexis and syntax of the texts, as well as a comparison with translation sources (Jakub Wujek's "Postilla Catholiczna Mnieyfza" and "Ewangelie i epistoły"). Although a number of changes were made in Jaknavičius' pericopes (systematic ones, which arose due to different language variants and time difference, then additions, omissions and substitutions that are determined by translation sources and finally non-systematic subjective changes) the similarities of the pericopes found (deviations from the translation source, synonyms provided by Jaknavičius when one of them is in DP, deviations from JE language, and one adaptation mistake) allow us to identify Jaknavičius' reliance on the pericopes translated by Daukša. On the other hand, their small amount also shows that Jaknavičius had a good understanding of the DP text and knew how to adapt it to his language variant.

[Language of presentation: English]

## **Lote Katrīna Cērpa**

*Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies of Latvian Academy of Culture, MA*

### **The Heartbeat of Baltinava's Identity: Cultural Heritage and Landscape**

In the contemporary era, globalization and rapid urbanization have introduced concepts like “non-places” and “placelessness,” which describe the loss of unique place-specific identity. Cultural heritage and distinctive landscape elements play a crucial role in developing a place-based identity, especially among the residents of a given area.

The identity process model, which can be used to study residents' place identity, proposes four core elements of identity. Three of these elements – distinctiveness, self-esteem, and continuity – can be linked to the cultural heritage specific to a place. Researchers in the field of cultural heritage suggest a fourth element that contributes to place identity: familiarity.

This presentation will explore how the cultural heritage and landscape of Baltinava, a town bordering Russia, contribute to shaping the place identity of its residents, drawing upon the four key elements of identity previously discussed.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

## **Wei-Chun Chiu**

*University of the National Education Commission, Cracow, PhD student*

### **Comparing Lithuania's and Taiwan's Ethnic News: TVP Wilno and PTS News**

One of media's key social functions is cultural transmission, including protecting cultural heritage, building group identity, raising collective awareness etc. Such function can facilitate empowerment of social groups; it is thus important for minority groups to adapt themselves to the mainstream society.

This study focuses on ethnic media which serve ethnic minorities abroad based on the cases of Lithuania's TVP Wilno and Taiwan public media's news program for Southeastern Asian migrants. This study compares their backgrounds, ethnic missions and news contents. It aims to examine how communication rights of ethnic minorities are protected and to evaluate whether the rights are well protected using methodological approaches of desk research and discourse analysis.

[Language of presentation: English]

**Rafał Darasz**

*University of Warsaw, PhD student*

## **Numeral Incorporation in Sign Languages: A Comparative Analysis of Lithuanian SL (LGK) & Polish SL (PJM)**

A modality-specific property of sign languages is the specific kind of numeral incorporation found with pronouns, temporal expressions and some nouns. It has been documented for various sign languages, such as ASL (Liddell, 1996), VGT (Heyerick et al., 2009), DGS (Perniss, 2001), PJM (Siepkowska, 2008) and others.

This study aims to compare incorporated numeral systems in two sign languages: PJM (Polish SL, polski język migowy) and LGK (Lithuanian SL, lietuvių gestų kalba), which are not directly related to each other. The comparison is made in terms of handshape incorporation constraints, movement and localization of signs.

Example: LGK sign for TWO-DAYS is made by incorporating the handshape for the numeral 2 into the structure of the sign for DAY (one of the variants), leaving the movement and localization unchanged. However, the PJM sign for TWO-DAYS does not use the sign DAY – the movement most probably refers to the movement of the Sun.

The research material is taken from the PJM Corpus developed at the University of Warsaw and LGK Dictionary developed at the Vilnius University of Applied Sciences, as well as consultations with native signers.

Heyerick, I., Braeckevelt, M. van, Weerdt, D. de, Van der Herreweghe, M., & Vermeerbergen, M. (2009). Plural Formation in Flemish Sign Language. *Current Research in Sign Linguistics (CILS)*, Namur.

Liddell, S. K. (1996). Numeral Incorporating Roots & Non-Incorporating Prefixes in American Sign Language. *Sign Language Studies*, 92, 201–226.  
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/26204754>

Perniss, P. (2001). *Numerus und Quantifikation in der Deutschen Gebärdensprache* [MA Thesis]. University of Cologne.

Siepkowska, A. (2008). Liczebniki i wyrażanie ilości w PJM. In E. Twardowska (Ed.), *Stan badań nad polskim językiem migowym* (pp. 29–52). Polski Związek Głuchych. Oddział w Łodzi.

[Language of presentation: English]

## **Linas Daugėla**

*Vilnius University, BA student*

### **Transformations in the Rules of Expression in Contemporary Lithuanian and Latvian Poetry**

This presentation focuses on contemporary Lithuanian and Latvian poetry, specifically analyzing the works of Lithuanian poets Greta Ambrazaitė and Aistis Žekevičius, as well as Latvian poets Arvis Viguls and Artis Ostups. The study examines the use of metaphors and other stylistic devices in their poetry, highlighting the characteristics and differences between Lithuanian and Latvian poetic expression.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

---

## **Marta Dieviņa**

*Latvian Academy of Culture, BA student*

### **“From Sea to Street”: Addressing Sustainability Challenges through Street Art in Latvia and beyond**

The world's oceans and seas are under growing threat, from climate change and biodiversity loss to overfishing and pollution. To address these challenges, innovative and interdisciplinary solutions are essential. “From Sea to Street”, a citizen science initiative is aiming to better understand and strengthen people's relationship with the ocean and the seas through the transformative lens of street art. Collaborating with muralists, city guides and art enthusiasts, an interdisciplinary team of young scientists carried out an international collection of ocean/sea-themed murals across several European countries - including Spain, Latvia and the Netherlands. Over a period of six months in 2023, each of the collaborating countries made efforts to engage the public by organizing street art tours or interactive workshops, participating in street art festivals, publishing on social media, or integrating the project approach into a university course. The presentation will explore the potential role of street art as an element for strengthening viewers' connection with the sea and for raising public dialogue regarding oceans/seas. We are looking for an exchange on this topic with the conference participants in order to strengthen the cooperation between the Baltic states.

[Language of presentation: English]

**Greta Drūkteinytė**

*Vilnius University, MA student*

### **Word-colour associations among Lithuanians**

The present small-scale project was a psycholinguistic study based on similar research conducted in other languages, specifically an experiment by Chen et al. (2019), which researched word-colour relationships among the British and the Chinese.

The mental lexicon is the dictionary of the brain; while its structure is still being researched, it presumably functions as a large network between words with their concepts and other incoming sensory information, e.g., the relationships between words and colours.

The aim of this experimental study was to explore similar word-colour relationships among Lithuanians. A total of 10 university students or graduates were given thirty target Lithuanian words; each word had to be assigned one of the twenty given colours. The target words were based on the ones in the original experiment by Chen et al. (2019). A short background questionnaire also followed.

Results showed that many words did in fact have similar colour associations (e.g., “pavojinga(s)” was predominantly red) as in English or Chinese. However, some words were much more diverse (e.g., “kultūra” and “mielas” had a greater variety of associated colours). While this was a small-scale project, topics like this are underexplored in Lithuania and, thus, worth further research and discussion.

Reference:

Chen, Y., Yang, J., Pan, Q., Vazirian, M., & Westland, S. (2019). A method for exploring word-colour associations. *Color Research & Application*, 45(1), 85–94.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/col.22434>

[Language of presentation: English]

---

**Justīne Fišere**

*University of Latvia, Museum of the History of Riga and Navigation, PhD student*

### **Analysis of the Emblems of the Riga Baker Craft: an Example of Seal Imprints**

The craft of bakers is one of the oldest crafts in Riga. The first statutes of the craft of bakers in Riga have been known since 1392, although evidence of this craft has been preserved since the 13th century.

Like other crafts, bakers also had their craft emblems, which is an old craft tradition since the Middle Ages, when craftsmen began to organize themselves into guilds. Emblems were

used as craft identification signs, and in the form of signboards, they allowed better orientated in the city - both for locals and visitors, for example Journeymen.

The first known emblems of the baker's craft have been preserved in Europe since the 14th century, while in Riga since the 17th century. Bakers are mainly characterized by descriptive signs – craft tools and manufactured products. The signs can be supplemented with other elements characterizing the craft - a picture of the crafts saint guardian, political symbols, etc.

Seals and their imprints are one of the groups of objects in which emblems of craft has been depicted. In research has been collected the seal imprints of the Riga bakers, which were systematized according to the elements of the craft emblems. Analyzing the emblems, analogous signs were sought elsewhere in the German cultural space, comparisons were made and local features were examined, along with the influence of other cultures.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

## **Dovilė Gavelytė**

*Vilnius University, MA student*

### **Lithuanian Manipulative and Causative Constructions in the 1727 Translation of the New Testament**

The usage of manipulative constructions in the Baltic languages has changed historically. This presentation discusses the periphrastic manipulative and causative constructions in the Lithuanian translation of the New Testament published in 1727. The aim of this research is to analyze and compare the usage of these syntactic constructions in both texts. The analysis was done by collecting all examples of manipulative and causative constructions with the Lithuanian verbs *liepti*, *įsakyti*, *uždrausti*, *prašyti*, and *leisti*, *versti*, *duoti*. The constructions were grouped by the above-mentioned verbs and were analyzed and compared by their functions and argument structure.

The analysis of the Lithuanian 1727 translation showed that the most common manipulative constructions are formed with the verb *liepti* (39 times), and the most common periphrastic causatives are formed with the verb *duoti* (20 times). The complementation of manipulative verbs in both texts is influenced by German.

[Language of presentation: English]



**Elīza Paula Graudiņa**

*University of Vilnius, The Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University of Latvia, MA student*

### **Translations of Lithuanian Literature in Contemporary Latvian Periodicals**

Continuing the research initiated in the bachelor's thesis, which focused on translations of contemporary Lithuanian literature in books, this paper will aim to explore translations published in Latvian periodicals and culture-related websites since 2008. This time frame has been chosen based on previous studies on the subject. The paper will conduct a comprehensive quantitative analysis of contemporary Lithuanian literature translations in periodicals, including the print magazine *Domuzīme* and the online journals *Satori* and *Punctum*. By analyzing these sources, the paper will aim to identify trends and patterns in the translation of contemporary Lithuanian literature, shedding light on the efforts of translators and the reception of Lithuanian works in Latvia. This study will seek to deepen the understanding of the cross-cultural literary relationship between Lithuania and Latvia, highlighting the role of translation in making contemporary Lithuanian literature accessible and appreciated in the Latvian cultural space.

[Language of presentation: Latvian]

---

**Laura Grizickaitė**

*Vilnius University, BA student*

### **The Correlation of Collocational Competence with Exam Scores in the National Examination of English in Lithuania**

This corpus-based study examines the correlation between the range of different noun-verb collocations within an essay and that essay's evaluation score in the two sub corpora of highest and lowest score exam essays on the topic of "The importance of volunteering for young people". The sub corpora were compiled from the primary National Examination Centre (NEC) corpus of scholars Juknevičienė and Šeškauskienė (Juknevičienė & Šeškauskienė 2014:89). In addition, the study looks at the collocation's accuracy, its node's volunteering sentence position, syntactic role and the most frequent lexical context in which the collocation phrase occurs. The results demonstrate that though the correlation between the noun-verb collocation range within an essay and that essay's evaluation is weak, the sub corpus with essays of highest scores was one that still stuck out, since it contained a greater percentage of correctly used collocations than compared to the sub corpus sample of the lowest-score essays. The findings highlight the need for more effective and systematic implementation of collocation teaching methods and a re-evaluation of the current existent learner materials helping one to gradually obtain a greater competence in usage of collocations and therefore a greater proficiency in the English language.

[Language of presentation: English]

## **Gytis Gudas**

*Vilnius University, BA student*

### **Digital humanities project: analysis of the movie “Dune”**

The film Dune was chosen as a digital humanities project because of the many positive reviews I have read from critics praising the cinematographic work of Denis Villeneuve. In this film, the action takes place on four planets, Arrakis, Caladan, Giedi Prime and Salusa Secundus, and I decided to carry out a colour analysis and of these different planets to see how the characteristics of the colours relate to the characteristics of the planets and the races that live on them, and to compare these results with the script of the film.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

---

## **Lingita Lina Henritiusa**

*University of Latvia, PhD student*

### **Christian Identity in Contemporary Latvian Anecdotes**

This paper examines contemporary anecdotes about Christians in the press editions of “Ir” and “Sestdiena” from 2022 to 2023. Religious identity, values, and role are widely discussed, starting from the media, press releases, ending with TV discussion programs, as well as in the parliamentary sessions. The author focuses on anecdotes due to their ephemeral nature; they are swiftly forgotten once their topicality fades, or they transform in their depiction of events, phenomena, or personalities. Anecdotes are continuously generated in response to current phenomena, providing a fresh and witty perspective. Traditionally, folklore anecdotes have been regarded with reverence, offering insights into societal norms and values. By examining these anecdotes, we can discern what elicits laughter in Latvian society and why sometimes the humor is self-reflective. Anecdotes are important right now, when in today's society political correctness does not allow one to express one's thoughts, and opinions about a person's religious beliefs, so it is precisely in anecdotes that the true attitude of the narrator, a message towards an important, current issue, is included. In the 2023 edition of “Sestdiena” there are a total of 1426 anecdotes, of which are about Christians are 35. In the 2022 edition of “Sestdiena” there are a total of 1478 anecdotes, of which about Christians – 19. In the 2023 edition of “Ir” there are 899 anecdotes, of which about Christians - 11. But in the 2022 edition of “Ir,” there are 924 anecdotes, of which about Christians – 1.

[Language of presentation: Latvian]

**Milan Hoplíček**

*University of Latvia, BA student*

### **Correlation between the Latvian verb prefix ie- and corresponding verb prefixes in Czech**

The paper is my bachelor thesis, which was successfully defended at the Masaryk University - Department of Linguistics and Baltic Languages. The aim of this bachelor thesis is to compare the Latvian verb prefix ie- with Czech verb prefixes and to determine corresponding verb prefixes. In the first part meanings of the mentioned Latvian prefix ie- are described individually. The Czech prefixes with similar or identical meanings are listed in the next part. The practical part of this thesis is focused on the corpus analysis done in the parallel corpus InterCorp, specifically in version 13ud. This analysis shows the frequency in which particular prefixes are used in translations of 228 verbs. These verbs were also chosen according to their usage frequency in the corpus. The corpus analysis serves both as an illustration and argumentative basis for the research of the correlation between Czech verb prefixes and the Latvian prefix ie-.

[Language of presentation: Latvian]

---

**Diāna Hristenko**

*University of Latvia, PhD student*

### **Religious Education in USSR: Example of Lutheran Churches in the Baltics 1944-1953**

In the 1920s, the Soviet Union introduced compulsory universal, militantly secular, public primary education as part of a larger Marxist-Leninist project to create a new civilization and a new type of man, the “new Soviet man” – *homo sovieticus*. In 1929, a new law on religious associations was adopted, which remained in force for the next six decades, severely limited freedom of conscience and imposed strict state control over religious life. During the occupation period of 1940-1941, there was a shift towards religious education, especially children's religious education. However, lasting changes occurred after the Second World War and during the long occupation—atheistic education for children and religious education for adults. Through the education theories of theologians Ninian Smart and Laima Geikina, the author intends to reveal religious education and its relationship with the Soviet State, comparing each Baltic State - Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, finding common problems and nuances. The author concludes that during this time, religious education was perceived as a “weapon” by the Soviet state. The educational resources of the Lutheran church are firmly based on the education of the interwar period. During this period, the methods used most commonly were “Learning about religion, learning from religion, and teaching religion”. In 1944 “religious illiteracy” was purposely started, the lack of religious competence after a generation around the 60s, which continued until the collapse of the USSR.

[Language of presentation: English]

## **Maksym Hudym**

*Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv (Ukraine), BA student*

### **The problem of the Balto-Slavic ethnolinguistic unity: main theories and hypotheses**

The paper examines the main theories and hypotheses about the Balto-Slavic ethnolinguistic unity. A major role in the ethnolinguistic genesis of the Balts was played by historical contacts with other ethnolinguistic groups, in particular with the Slavs. The issue of the Balto-Slavic ethnolinguistic unity is the subject of extensive research in anthropological, archaeological, historical and linguistic studies. To this day, there is no general consensus among linguists on the existence of the Balto-Slavic ethnolinguistic unity at different stages of development of the Baltic and Slavic linguistic cultures. A well-known and proven fact in the genealogical classification of languages is that the Baltic and Slavic language groups belong to the Indo-European language family. Indo-Europeanists (A. Schleicher, etc.), in particular Balticists (P. U. Dini, etc.) and Slavicists (A. Nepokupnyi, etc.), have discovered through thorough research that both language groups share numerous features at all levels of the linguistic system – phonetic, morphological, lexical, syntactic – that are absent in other language groups of the Indo-European family. According to some researchers, the relevant empirical material may indicate a common period of development of the Baltic and Slavic cultures, which makes the existence of the Balto-Slavic ethnolinguistic unity possible. However, there is also an opposite opinion among scholars about the parallel development of the Baltic and Slavic cultures with their periodic contact of varying degrees of closeness.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

## **Vilius Jakubčionis**

*Vilnius University, MA student*

### **Animal Portrayal in Literature and Lithuanian Prose Writing**

The appearance of a non-human animal and its encounter with a human being in a literary work often leads to a moment of self-knowledge for the human characters and readers. In analysing instances of animal portrayal, it can be observed that almost without exception, the animal will in some way reflect the categories of human thinking and bring into question the way humans regard other species and themselves. Since the inception of Lithuanian prose writing, the figure of the animal has occupied a distinct role in the formation of the ethical self-image of the individual and the community. It is unsurprising that a significant aspect of Lithuanian prose history is defined by the presence of animals. This is evident in works such as Jonas Biliūnas' "Brisiaus galas" (1906) and Ričardas Gavelis' "Vilniaus pokeris" (1989), where the protagonist ultimately reincarnates as a dog. This paper introduces the theory of animal portrayal in fiction and discusses a short story by the 20th-century Lithuanian author Romualdas Granauskas, in which the ethically formative aspect of the animal as image and as character is most evident.

[Language of presentation: English]

**Ilze Jaunzeme**

*Ventspils University of Applied Sciences, BA student*

### **The meaning of the colour blue in Latvian in various adjective and noun forms**

Colour studies are interdisciplinary and multifaceted; the aspect of colour is studied not only in linguistics, but also in cultural linguistics, including ethnolinguistics, psycholinguistics and semiotics. The subject of colour is closely related to the cultural studies, philosophy of language, prejudice, political and ideological implications, and, in the context of language contacts and intercultural communication, – different perceptions, interpretations and semantic aspects. The study focuses on the meaning of the blue colour in both culture and language, the blue colour as a (cultural) sign and the respective uses in different lexical items, e.g. idioms. Sometimes cultural background and contextual knowledge are important players. The study includes theoretical information on the semantic and semiotic implications of the blue colour, its meaning in communicative situations, in different usages, as well as data on the frequency of use of the analysed word combinations in books and publications in recent years. In general, the study focuses on the use of the blue colour in idiomatic expressions, compounds and their resulting meaning. The 21st century has seen a change in cultural and traditional values and new social phenomena have emerged; respectively, the meaning of certain words, including colours, has been different.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

**Fiona Jõesuu**

*University of Tartu, MA student*

### **Estonian-Ukrainian relations 1993–1996**

After Estonia regained its independence in 1991, the country began building on democratic foundations. Knowledge from Estonia's first period of independence significantly contributed to the country's restoration. In 1993, the Estonian embassy was established in Kyiv, marking the start of new diplomatic relations. Both Estonia and Ukraine have faced similar experiences and challenges.

This presentation addresses issues related to the Black Sea Fleet and provides an overview of the positions and activities of the Estonian Grand Embassy. The main focus of the analysis is on the opinions and descriptions provided by the Estonian Embassy regarding Ukraine's economic issues. Additionally, Western perspectives on Ukraine are highlighted. The presentation also deals with the issue of nuclear weapons and security policies. In the early 1990s, many countries aimed to reduce their nuclear arsenals, but Ukraine saw the presence of nuclear weapons as an opportunity to draw Western attention to its own problems.

[Language of presentation: Estonian]

**Žygimantė Vakarė Jovaišaitė**

*Vilnius University, MA student*

### **Can Lithuanian entries in Eurovision help us improve our national branding?**

As a country, Lithuania positions itself as a brave, creative, and innovative one. There are plenty of ways to construct this image, but one seems to be overlooked: the Eurovision Song Contest. The international phenomenon attracts millions of viewers and contributes to the perception of countries. Yet, instead of using this as a national branding platform, Lithuanians tend to select songs that represent different positioning values.

Through a semiotic analysis of songs with Lithuanian lyrics, I try to see what those values are and how they compare with the national strategy. Provided that these songs are selected, at least partially, by the audience, this analysis and comparison can give us a few insights. First, if our national branding strategy really represents the nation. Second, since the oldest and the most recent entries are thirty years apart, it can provide insight into our country's musical and value development. Finally, the research could work as a starting point for more strategic construction of our musical and national identity.

In this research, I match Greimas' analysis methods with my background in marketing. To my knowledge, this is the first scientific look into our Eurovision entries and their impact on national branding in Lithuania.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

---

**Lina Kalnaitytė**

*Vilnius university, MA student*

### **The motivation of young Argentinians of Lithuanian origin to learn the Lithuanian language: quantitative analysis of motivation's constructs**

The aim of paper is to answer the questions, what is the motivation of young Argentinians of Lithuanian origin to learn the Lithuanian language, what factors might encourage young Argentinians of Lithuanian origin to learn the Lithuanian language. The research analysed the responses of 33 Argentinians of Lithuanian origin living in Lithuania and Argentina to a sociolinguistic form and a motivation questionnaire. It was used descriptive statistics and qualitative analysis methods.

The results of the data analysis allow us to say that the motivation of the research group to learn Lithuanian is quite strong. The participants of research are most strongly motivated to learn Lithuanian by their positive attitudes towards the Lithuanian language, Lithuanians and Lithuania and the weakest by the motivation of the ought-to L2 self. The results show that the scale of motivation of ought-to L2 self is influenced by the location of respondents ( $p=0,013$ ), attitudes scale is influenced by the research participants' age ( $p=0,03$ ), their

period in Lithuania ( $p=0.004$ ). The results of work could be useful for researchers, which analysing the motivation of learning Lithuanian as a foreign language.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

---

## **Monika Kazabuckaitė**

*Vilnius University, BA student*

### **Fiction Editing in the Soviet era: case research**

In the late 1980s and early 1990s (during the Reform Movement of Lithuania and at the beginning of the restored Independence), a frequent reflection on the work of editors in the Soviet era was that editors were often preoccupied only with censoring. On the other hand, there are also references to professional, text-sensitive editors. This paper examines the editorial changes that were made to Ričardas Gavelis's short story cycle "Įsibrovėliai", published in 1982. The paper analyses the edits, which can be explained by ideological considerations, and how they changed the meanings of the text in question. The research uses a textological approach and a qualitative analysis of the editorial changes and the editorial remarks. In the case of proposed or implemented editorial changes, it has been established that the meaning of the text has changed or would have changed not only because of ideological considerations, but also because of personal ethical and aesthetic preferences.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

## **Anastasiia Kholodna**

*Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, BA student*

### **The language of modern Lithuanian advertising**

This work offers an important linguistic contribution to understanding the role and influence of language in the advertising discourse of modern society. Given the importance of language strategy in advertising, the study of the language of contemporary Lithuanian advertising helps to identify the best approaches to creating an effective and culturally adapted advertising language. In today's information-saturated world, it is important to understand how the language of advertising can attract attention and influence consumers.

The effectiveness of modern advertising is determined not only by the quality of the product or service, but also by the skill of the language strategy it uses. Advertising messages should

impress with their originality, creativity and ability to grab the audience's attention in the first seconds. They use a variety of linguistic tools, from vocabulary and grammar to stylistic devices, to create a unique image of a product or brand. In the language of advertising, it is not who speaks, who is spoken to, what is spoken about, but how it is spoken.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

## **Aretas Kisielius**

*Vilnius University, MA student*

### **Printed advertising: What does it expose about interwar Lithuania**

While dealing with the contemporary perception of advertising as an informative text about the latest products and their distinctive qualities, this presentation aims to put advertising in a new light — emphasizing it as a “cultural text”. The analysis focuses on printed images from Lithuania during the interwar, especially the 1938 advertisement for cosmetic soap and perfume producer Berar & Co. Stemming from the examination of the link between advertising and its context (the biography of opera soloist Kipras Petrauskas, the economic issues of Klaipėda region, and the situation of Palanga, a rising resort city), semiotic analysis reconstructs a clear image of the audience of advertising.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

## **Julia A. Korsakaitė**

*Vilnius University, BA student*

### **Movies and movie posters in Lithuania. A comparison and analysis of two prominent movie theatres in Vilnius**

What kind of movies and movie posters are shown to a Lithuanian audience? Are most movies released in the current year? What countries do the movies originate from? What colors dominate the posters? There are two popular and immensely different movie theatres in Lithuania, what exactly makes them different considering movie repertoires and posters?

To answer these questions, extensive data from two prominent movie theatres in Lithuania was manually collected, visualized, compared and analyzed. The first popular movie theatre “Skalvija” is the oldest in Vilnius and aims at a specific audience, whereas the second popular movie theatre “Forum Cinemas Vilnius” is very modern and aims at a general audience. The research project analyzed data of movies and posters shown during the month of May 2024. The aim was to visualize the collected data for comparison in the following criteria: year of



release, countries of origin, and general colour palette of movie posters. Several hypotheses were drawn, yet the research provided surprising findings. Not only the kind of media presented to the Lithuanian audience to be consumed, but also the remarkable difference in how both movie theatres portray their identity through their repertoires and how it affects the audiences they attract.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

### **Mykyta Kovalenko**

*Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, BA student*

#### **Lexical borrowings in Modern Lithuanian language**

The paper is devoted to the definition and analysis of lexical borrowings in the modern Lithuanian language. The relevance of the research topic is determined by the need to understand the etymology and diversity of the lexical composition of the Lithuanian language. Foreign words enrich the language's usages, denoting new realities, objects, subjects and phenomena of everyday life, and provide linguistic dynamics. Lexical borrowings of a particular period also make it possible to establish certain facts of history, development and contact of certain linguistic cultures. Special attention is paid to the adaptation of foreign language borrowings in the Lithuanian language, as well as their correlation with the practices of language purism, which allows to ensure the preservation and comprehensive development of the national language. As a result of the analysis, it was possible to classify lexical borrowings of the modern Lithuanian language by semantics, the degree of assimilation of lexemes and mediation (whether the intermediary language is involved in the process of word borrowing), as well as to reveal the trends of their use and ways of adaptation in the Lithuanian linguistic culture.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

### **Kamilė Laučytė**

*Vilnius University, MA student*

#### **Writers in photography: semiotic analysis of M. Burokas' and A. Ostups' poetry**

In this paper, the poems of two different contemporary writers from the Baltic States: "Trīs fotogrāfijas" (*Three photographs*) by the Latvian poet Artis Ostups and "Rašytojų nuotraukos" (*Photographs – Writers*) from the cycle "Užrašytos fotografijos" (*Annotated photographs*) by the Lithuanian poet Marius Burokas, are compared in between mainly using the

methodology of the semiotics of Algirdas Julius Greimas to see how differently are writers in photography portrayed in them.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

## Sandra Lukšaitė

*Vilnius University, PhD student*

### ***Báltuoti, baľtuoti or baltuoti?* – Accent variation in Lithuanian dialects**

Lithuanian denominative verbs with the suffix *-uoti* are usually accented on the suffix, e.g., *važiuoti, vairuoti* (Stundžia 2014, 169). An exception is a group of verbs with the suffix *-uoti* derived from adjectives denoting colors with acute stems. In older normative works, an accent on the root with circumflex metatony is noted as possible in this type of verbs, e.g., *mėlynuoti||mėlynuoti; pilkúoti||piľkuoti* (DLKŽ 1-2). In later sources, only the suffix-accented variants are provided, e.g., *mėlynuoti, pilkúoti* (DLKŽ 3-8). This report, based on data from the LKŽ and dialect dictionaries, aims to identify all the variants of these verbs recorded in Lithuanian dialects and to define their geographic distribution.

It was found that the suffix-accent (e.g. *baltuoti, raudonuoti*) is more characteristic of the eastern Lithuanian dialect area.

Accent on the derivational base is more common in the western Lithuanian dialect area: in some cases, both the accent position and tone are preserved, while in others, metatony occurs. The accent position and tone of the base word are more consistently preserved in the northern part of the western dialect area, e.g. *raudonuoti* (: *raudonas* 1).

The southern part of the western area is more characterized by a loss of the base word's accent position and tone. In verbs derived from non-suffixal adjectives, metatony occurs, e.g., *baľtuoti* (: *baltas* 1). In verbs derived from suffixal adjectives, both the tone and the accent position may change. The following accent variants have been recorded: a) the circumflex tone in the root of the base stem replaces the suffix accent of the base word, e.g., *raũdonuoti, -uoja, -avo* (: *raudonas, -a* 1); b) the accent is retained on the root but the tone is changed from acute to circumflex, e.g., *mėlynuoti, -uoja, -avo* (: *mėlynas, -à* 1, 3<sup>a</sup>); c) the accent is retained on the base stem suffix but the tone is changed from acute to circumflex, e.g., *geltõnuoti, -uoja, -avo* (*geltõnas, -à* 1, 3); *raudõnuoti, -uoja, -avo* (: *raudõnas, -a* 1).

### **References**

DLKŽ<sup>1</sup> – Jonas Kruopas (red.), *Dabartinės lietuvių kalbos žodynas*, Vilnius: Valstybinė politinės ir mokslinės literatūros leidykla, 1954.

DLKŽ<sup>2</sup> – Jonas Kruopas (red.), *Dabartinės lietuvių kalbos žodynas*. II papildytas leidimas, Vilnius: Mintis, 1972.

DLKŽ<sup>3</sup> – Stasys Keinys (red.), *Dabartinės lietuvių kalbos žodynas*. III pataisytas ir papildytas leidimas, Vilnius: Mokslo ir enciklopedijų leidykla, 1993.

DLKŽ<sup>4</sup> – Stasys Keinys (red.), *Dabartinės lietuvių kalbos žodynas*. IV pataisytas leidimas, Vilnius: Mokslo ir enciklopedijų leidybos institutas, 2000.

DLKŽ<sup>6</sup> - *Dabartinės lietuvių kalbos žodynas*. 6-tas (3 elektroninis) leid. Kompaktinė plokštelė. Vyr. red. S. Keinys. Vilnius: Lietuvių kalbos institutas, 2006 (<http://dz.lki.lt>).

DLKŽ<sup>7</sup> – Stasys Keinys (red.), *Dabartinės lietuvių kalbos žodynas*. VII pataisytas leidimas, Vilnius: Lietuvių kalbos institutas, 2012.

DLKŽ<sup>8</sup> – Stasys Keinys (red.), *Dabartinės lietuvių kalbos žodynas*. VIII pataisytas leidimas, Vilnius: Lietuvių kalbos institutas, 2021.

Stundžia B, *Bendrinės lietuvių kalbos akcentologija*, Vilnius: Eugrimas, 2014.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

---

## **Mann Loper**

*University of Tartu, PhD student*

### **National history education in Estonia and Latvia in the interwar period**

During the interwar period, Estonia and Latvia increasingly emphasized national ideas in history education, especially during the 1930s. This paper will compare the history curricula and textbooks used in Estonian and Latvian public schools (from primary schools to gymnasiums) during this era, highlighting both parallels and differences.

The study will investigate whether textbook narratives really aligned with national history curriculum guidelines, which called for a neutral portrayal of minority nations and respect for other cultures, while also emphasizing the historical role and agency of Estonians and Latvians. It will also investigate how Latvians were portrayed in Estonian history textbooks and vice versa. Additionally, it will consider the League of Nations' initiative to foster international cooperation through history education, despite its limited impact, and contrast it with the ambitions of the authoritarian governments in both countries to promote nationalistic ideas through the education system.

Sources for this study include national curricula for history, didactic guidelines by influential historians (e.g., P. Tarvel, P. Dreimanis), and a selection of history textbooks.

This comparative analysis will provide insights into how national narratives were constructed and disseminated in Estonia and Latvia, contributing to the broader understanding of history education during the interwar period.

[Language of presentation: English]

## **Marilyn Mägi**

*Estonian Literary Museum, PhD student*

### **Descriptions of Domestic Violence and Family Conflicts in the Life Stories of 20th Century Estonian Women**

This presentation focuses on the themes and descriptions of domestic violence and family conflicts within biographical material spanning the 20th century. While the 20th century in Estonia was marked by various often historically traumatic social turbulences (World Wars I and II, gaining independence and loss of it, occupations by foreign powers, etc.), this presentation concentrates on the turbulences and traumas often signified by family violence and disputes at the individual level.

The aim of this presentation is to address whether and to what extent descriptions of conflict and violence are found in life stories, the role these play in the narrative, and the formulations used to convey narratives and emotions associated with violence, drawing on methodologies from the history of memory, emotions and trauma. The presentation focuses on the life stories of 15 women, who are more likely to be the affected parties in cases of domestic violence, primarily written during the 1990s. The relatively small number of life stories examined allows for a qualitative and case-by-case approach to the texts.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

## **Ana Marić**

*University of Tartu, MA student*

### **When two regions collide: Motives of class difference and “nature vs city” in “Siin me oleme” movie**

“Siin me oleme” or “Here we are” is one of the most iconic comedy movie in the history of Estonian cinema. Released in 1978, the movie depicts the relation between the couple from Tallinn who came to the island of Muhu for vacation and the farm family of Muhu in whose house the couple is staying. Filled with humorous situations and comedic dialogues, this movie is a warm recommendation to all the fans of good comedy and to those who want to introduce themselves to Estonian classic movies.

The main aim of this paper is to present and analyse the class differences and hierarchy between the couple from Tallinn who can pay for everything and think they are the great royalty and the farm family and their neighbours who lead a more simple and connected with nature life. Also, my goal is to establish the contrast between the city and the island and how the image of back then Estonian culture and identity is depicted in the movie. My main methods of research will be Greimas's actantial functions and the semiotic square and Juri Lotman's notion of semiosphere.

[Language of presentation: English]

**Aurelija Meškerevičiūtė**

*Vilnius University, PhD student*

### **Linguistic Features of Lithuanian Agrammatic Aphasia : a case study**

In Lithuania, about 15,000 stroke cases are registered annually, and on average, one third of these people have aphasia, i.e., oral and written language disorders that can lead to social isolation, depression, and a decreased quality of life in general. To overcome aphasia more effectively, it is necessary to consider the specific features of the language produced by the individual, which is why many studies have been carried out on aphasia in other languages, but nothing is known about the linguistic features of aphasia in Lithuanian. The gap in the research on Lithuanian aphasic language is beginning to be filled by the study of the features of agrammatism. . The aim of this paper is to discuss the methodological aspects of the study of Lithuanian agrammatic aphasia and to present the results of a pilot study of Lithuanian agrammatism.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

---

**Rozālija Muizniece**

*University of Latvia, BA student*

### **Marxism in fables of Ignats Muiznieks**

This paper explores how Marxist ideology manifests itself in the fables of Latvian writer Ignats Muiznieks. Specific fables are selected from Ignats Muizniek's book "Fables.Stories.", released in 1953 and analyzed by Marxist literary criticism. Soviet Latvian literature industry existed in very specific frames, which significantly influenced the works of every writer, leading to a relevant question about writers' individual creative motives and ability to convey an effective impression to readers. Ignats Muizniek's career in the Soviet Union was successful, attributable to the writer's own political views, and deliberate support for Communist propaganda. Muiznieks was a Member of the Soviet Latvian Writers' Union, as well as editor of the newspaper "Literature and Art". Various basic ideas of Marxist ideology, such as the importance of work, and inequality in social classes, are set out abstractly in the fables. In his work, Muiznieks condemns imperialism, capitalism, and class society, and indirectly points to opponent discourse. This research provides insight into Ignats Muizniek's works, which have not been researched before, as well as highlights the infiltration of political ideology into text, which is also current today.

[Language of presentation: English]

## **Indrė Nugaraitė**

*Stockholm University, PhD student*

### **From Saturday school to a state accredited gymnasium: the story of Vasario 16-osios gymnasium**

Vasario 16-osios gimnazija (*Privates Litauisches Gymnasium*) is a bilingual German - Lithuanian school in Hüttenfeld, Germany. Starting as a Saturday school for Lithuanian refugees over 70 years ago, the school has undergone many changes since then. However, to this day, it remains one of the main centres for the Lithuanian language and culture in Germany and, possibly, in Europe. This paper explores the rich and dynamic history of Vasario 16-osios gymnasium, from its inception in 1950 as a Saturday school for Lithuanian refugee children to its current status as a state accredited German gymnasium. The study looks at the basic ideas and goals set by the school's early founders and examines the significant milestones that have shaped its development over the decades. By employing a multidisciplinary approach, including interviews and analysis of historical documents, this paper provides an in-depth narrative of the school's evolution throughout the years.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

## **Žygimantas Pekūnas**

*Vilnius University, PhD student*

### **The Syntax of the Lithuanian Eurolect**

Legal translation can create distinct legal varieties in the target languages. This is particularly evident in EU translation, where 24 official languages act as intermediaries between the legal cultures of the EU as a supranational legal entity and its 27 member states. EU legal translation has therefore created 24 mirror legal varieties, known as Eurolects (Biel 2014; 2017; Mori et al. 2018), which differ from the language of national legislation in a variety of lexico-grammatical features. My talk is dedicated to the Lithuanian Eurolect, more precisely to its syntax. I will present my corpus-assisted findings, which show syntactic similarities and differences between EU directives and their transposing acts in Lithuanian. The focus of the presentation is set on modification (continuative relative clauses and non-finite relatives) and complementation (nominal and sentential verb complements). The results show that while the Lithuanian versions of EU directives and their transposing acts do share a considerable number of syntactic features, some syntactic constructions are over- or under-represented in the directives, indicating that the directives remain hybrid legal texts of a distinct subgenre of legal Lithuanian.

[Language of presentation: English]

**Konradas Pukinskas**

*Vilnius University, BA student*

### **The Model of a Young Woman's Development in the Prose of Šatrijos Ragana**

The presentation introduces the study of the model of young women's becoming as depicted in the prose of Šatrijos Ragana. The works are examined based on Dan Harmon's narrative structure called the "Story Circle," which is developed according to Joseph Campbell's narrative scheme. The theme of femininity in Šatrijos Ragana work has been mostly explored by Ramunė Bleizgienė and Viktorija Daujotytė, but the model of a young woman's becoming, from the perspective of the chosen narrative aspect in this study, has not been previously researched. First, the model of a young woman's becoming is analyzed in the novella "Viktutė" (1903), which is written in the form of a diary, as it most consistently realizes the points of the scheme. Then, the portrayal of a woman's becoming in "Viktutė" is compared with earlier and later short stories by Šatrijos Ragana. A presumption is raised that in the prose works written before "Viktutė," the models of becoming coincide and correspond to the model of this novella, while in the later prose works, the models of becoming are different. This research is valuable for both readers and scholars of Šatrijos Ragana, as it offers new tools for analyzing and understanding various aspects of her literary works.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

---

**Līga Purīņa**

*University of Latvia, MA student*

### **Navigating Cultural Distortions: Karl Barth's Approach to Theological Education**

. This paper examines the intricate relationship between cultural norms and theological education, exploring how the integration of theology into secular education has influenced the very conception of what theology is. There are two perspectives on theology: as an everyman discipline, where theology integrates with overall culture, and as a Christian discipline, maintaining distinct approaches and principles. The study traces the various methods of engaging in theology, highlighting distortions that occur when theology is too closely aligned with cultural norms. Central to this analysis is Karl Barth's theological approach, which offers a robust framework for conducting theology that resists such distortions. Barth's approach emphasizes theology as a Christian discipline, distinct from broader cultural influences. This paper argues that Barth's approach to theology is the most accurate, as it centers on God who reveals Himself, and uses God's revelation as the lens through which theology thoughtfully engages with cultural contexts. Through a comparative analysis of different theological approaches, the paper demonstrates the superiority of Barth's method in maintaining the essence of theological education amidst cultural change.

[Language of presentation: English]

**Raimonda Rauluševičienė**

*Lithuanian Institute of History, PhD student*

### **The role of men in the birth process in the 21st century at the beginning**

Pregnancy is perceived as a special condition in rural culture of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The whole family was preparing for the birth of the baby, and men were not distanced from the birth process. The mystery of a new life coming into the world has always been shrouded in myths and superstitions. When a woman gave birth, a man would go to the midwife and not tell anyone. It was believed that the less people knew about the birth, the easier it would be. The midwife would sometimes come wearing a man's hat so that she would not be recognized by evil forces. Only the midwife and sometimes the next of kin, such as the mother or sister, stayed with the woman during the birth. In the event of a difficult birth, the husband would not only help the midwife, but also provide a great deal of moral support for his wife. When a woman gave birth, she had to take care of the house, which was the husband's indirect participation in the birth process (Paukštytė-Šaknienė 2007).

In the 1930s, health centers were set up so that mothers in labor could call for a doctor instead of a midwife. Although rural women trusted them very much, this was a cause for concern because midwives did not maintain hygiene. Subsequently, the high maternal and infant mortality rate, due to the risk of infection, eliminates men from the delivery process, and the expectant parents only meet the babies after the mother has been discharged from the hospital.

In modern society, men's participation in the birth process is changing and is highly valued. Young, educated men are aware of their role in the family.

In this presentation, I will seek to show how the role of men in childbirth has evolved over time, with a focus on the current situation. Men's participation in childbirth has depended on the relationship and maturity of the man and the woman, as people's attitudes have been influenced by tradition, upbringing and fears.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

---

**Laura Sakalauskaitė**

*Vilnius University, BA student*

### **Morphological variants of men's surnames: insights from the Ramygala marriage registry book (1922–1928)**

The focus of the presentation is the morphological variants of men's surnames. The source for this research was the marriage registry book (1922–1928) of the town of Ramygala. The



aim is to analyze morphological variants of surnames, identify tendencies of change, and explore their causes. The selection of this topic is motivated by the limited scholarly inquiry into Lithuanian surnames of the 20th and 21st centuries.

The research revealed that 229 morphological variants of surnames were recorded in the studied source. Three main reasons have been identified that led to the appearance of morphological variants of surnames: earlier Slavisation of personal names, the influence of dialect, and inscriptions characteristic of a particular scribe.

The variants of surnames indicate variation in Baltic suffixes within the studied area, with patronymic suffixes being the most common. There were instances of surname pairs with suffixes of different origins, indicating the process of Slavisation of Lithuanian surnames. In some cases, one surname has one suffix, while another has two. It underscores family ties expressed through personal names. Variants of endings reflect the previously occurred process of surname development and attest that not one, but two variants of the same surname ending have become established.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

---

### **Formation of Women's Surnames in the Town of Krakės (1921–1925)**

This study focuses on the formation of women's surnames in Krakės, a region within the Western Aukštaitians of Šiauliai, based on data from handwritten Lithuanian marriage registers dating from 1921 to 1925. The aim is to analyze the selection and variation of surname suffixes among women of different marital statuses, depending on the ending form of the husband's surname and dialectal naming traditions, and to affirm the Lithuanian identity of this phenomenon.

The register documents the surnames of 249 women, all derived from their father's surname. The proportion of regularly formed maiden surnames (58%) to irregularly formed ones (42%) indicates notable variation in surname suffixes, exhibiting dialectal differences. In the early 20th century in Krakės, women's surnames were formed with suffixes of Baltic origin. The most productive suffix for women's maiden surnames was *-aitė* (223 surnames). Other suffixes were less common: 23 surnames were formed with *-ytė*, while *-iukė*, *-iutė*, and *-ė* appeared only once each. Additionally, 24 surnames were formed with the suffix *-ienė*, used to denote widows and marriage witnesses based on their husband's surname in the marriage records. This consistency suggests that surnames derived from the husband's surname did not vary.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

**Anna Sedláčková**

*The University of Latvia Livonian Institute, MA student*

### **Introduction to Livonian literature - overview of the most important milestones**

Literature plays a crucial role in the socio-cultural life of every nation, significantly contributing to the formation of identity and a sense of belonging. This talk seeks to explore the extent to which literature influences the identity of the Livonian people. The earliest examples of Livonian literature emerged in the mid-19th century. Since then, Livonians have endured numerous turbulent periods that have profoundly impacted the development of literature in their language.

The history of written Livonian can be categorized into four distinct periods. The first period, spanning from the 1880s to the 1910s, saw the emergence of the first literary works. During the 1920s and 1930s, the second period, the first textbooks were published, marking a significant step in the formalization of the Livonian language and literature. The third period, from the 1940s to the 1960s, was the most challenging era for the publication of Livonian literature, as political and social upheavals severely restricted publishing in Livonian. The final period, from the 1970s to the present, has been characterized by a revival and contemporary development of Livonian literature.

Each of these periods possesses unique characteristics that will be examined in detail.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

**Stanislavs Šeiko**

*University of Latvia, PhD student*

### **The value of companion animals in promoting the social development of animal rights in Latvia**

The study centers around the animal rights beliefs-based ethical decisions taken by veterinary doctors in situations of ethical challenges or during contact with homeless animals, brought to the veterinary clinics by homeless animal help volunteers, or in case of veterinary inspectors' stated violence. The investigation illuminates the complex connection between emotions and how they influence the perception of the value of a companion animal, as seen from the perspective of the aforementioned social groups. The divergence in beliefs among these groups, together with the transition from viewing pets as nothing more than assets to regarding them as companions or offspring, might influence the broader societal progress of animal rights in Latvia. The analysis relies on semi-structured interviews performed with a total of 10 volunteers, 15 veterinary doctors, and 5 veterinary inspectors, and was carried out using the NVivo two-cycle coding technique. It is organized around the subject matter of personal narratives and moral dilemma experiences. The initial phase of

the analysis digs into the manifestation of the topic of love as it emerges within the narratives provided by the informants.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

## **Paula Sekača**

*RTU Liepāja academy, PhD student*

### **Nazi propaganda narratives in the cultural magazines “Laikmets” and “Latvju Mēnešraksts” (1942-1944): the events of the “Ghastly Year”**

“The Ghastly Year” is the now folklorised name for the events of 1940-1941 in Soviet Russia-occupied Latvia. During that year, the people of Latvia experienced terror and countless crimes against both innocent people and people dangerous to the Soviet authorities. Nazi Germany occupied Latvia in July 1941. As the infrastructure of the previous authorities was taken over, documents came to light proving the atrocities and terror committed by Soviet Russia against the population. This evidence became a popular narrative in the propaganda of the Nazi regime to the Latvian population. The events of the “ghastly year” were also written about in the cultural publications “Latviešu Mēnešraksts” (prose and poetry) and “Laikmets” (journalism). The report will analyse how the two major cultural publications published during the Nazi occupation reflected the events of the “ghastly year” (in fiction and journalistic texts), what the main messages were and how the events were incorporated into the printed propaganda of the Nazi occupation authorities.

[Language of presentation: Latvian]

---

## **Aistė Šiaulytė**

*Klaipėda University, MA*

### **Evolution and Motivation of Street Names of Klaipėda’s City Old Part**

The research is intended to analyse the street names of Klaipėda’s city old part. Street names are one of the constituents of the linguistic landscape, which disclose the history and culture of the city’s inhabitants and serve a significant role in exploring the connection between language prestige and language politics. The research’s relevance lies in the fact that Klaipėda is a multicultural city, however, the change in its linguistic landscape and its connection with geopolitical and cultural shifts have not been thoroughly analysed yet. Distinctive changes in official political attitudes and state dependency characterize the

history of this city. Hence, shifts in the street names can be seen throughout the changes in political status that leave evident traces in history.

Accordingly, the purpose of the presentation is twofold. First, the research aims to analyse the evolution of street names in Klaipėda within the context of changing historical and cultural conditions from the 18th century to the period after the restoration of Lithuania's Independence. Secondly, the research aims to determine the motivation of street names, which reveals the peculiarities of street name nomination. For this study, the street names of Klaipėda city are collected from the city plans of different periods.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

---

**Ieva Šileikaitė**

*Vilnius University, MA student*

### **The Concept of Transposition in Semiotics: From the Window to the Monad**

Transposition is an important term in semiotics: it underpins A. J. Greimas' idea of generativity and is significant in the description of J. Lotman's cultural semiotics model. In Lotman's works, the notion of transposition acquires not only a conceptual meaning (such as transfer, translation, etc.) but also a figurative expression. The presentation will discuss the results of conceptualizing the term, the significance of its figurative usage within Lotman's semiotic theory, and consider what it brings to semiotic perspectives and cultural studies.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

**Márk Sima**

*University of the National Education Commission, Krakow, MA student*

### **The representation of Lithuania on postcards from the interwar period**

In my presentation I would like to show how Lithuania and the Lithuanian national territory is represented on postcards from the inter war period. Postcards were important tools for representing national ideas not just to the Lithuanian general public, but to the international community. The represented self-image presented on postcards give us a deeper look into the narratives that shaped Lithuanian nationalism. By the digitalization process of several Lithuanian museums a great amount of Lithuanian produced postcards and postcards about Lithuania is accessible for research. With the tools of critical cartography, nationalism studies I analyze and present how the Lithuanian national idea especially connected to

spatial concepts and historical narratives were presented on postcards during the interwar period.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

## **Adelīna Skerškāne**

*University of Greifswald, BA student*

### **Turning points in comparative linguistics: how 20th-century linguists changed the perception of the origin of Baltic languages**

Until the 20th century, Baltic languages were considered an additional branch of the Slavic family, all languages of which could be traced to a mutual protolanguage. According to this standard view, the unification of both language groups was justified by the number of shared similarities (Poljakov, 1, 3). A radical turning point in Baltic linguistics took place during the 20th century with the development of comparative linguistics and such persons as A. Meillet, J. Endzelīns, V. Ivanov, and V. Toporov, to name a few (Senn, 251; Karaliūnas, 46). Nevertheless, current winds in science and socio-political reality can influence linguistic theories. Therefore, a more profound comprehension of the argumentative and methodological base and historical background helps us by criticizing and categorizing former ideas. This research aims to analyze the arguments and methodologies of two theories, the Endzelīns' and the one by Ivanov and Toporov. The results will be placed in the context of contemporary scientific tendencies and socio-political events. The outcome shows that such points as different formulations of scientific definitions and assessment of relevance can play a crucial role in the same problem's treatment.

#### References:

Karaliūnas S.: „Kai kurie baltų ir slavų kalbų seniausiųjų santykių klausimai.” In: Baltų ir slavų kalbų ryšiai. (Lietuvių kalbotyros klausimai X) 1968, Vilnius, pp. 7-100

Pohl, Heinz Dieter.: “Die balto-slavische Einheit – areal gesehen”. In: Wiener Slavistisches Jahrbuch, Vol. 28, 1982, Vienna, pp. 77-91

Poljakov, O.: Das Problem der balto-slavischen Sprachgemeinschaft. 1995, Frankfurt am Main

Senn, Alfred.: „On the Degree of Kinship between Slavic and Baltic.” In: The Slavonic Year-Book, 1941, Vol. 1, American Series (1941), Cambridge, pp. 251-265

[Language of presentation: English]

**Anastasija Smirnova**

*University of Latvia, PhD student*

**The lost heritage- the stories of one district in Riga: Sarkadaugava in 19th- 20th Century**

In the 19th century, Riga was one of the pioneering cities in the Russian empire. It was 3rd city by number of industrial workers, it was also 3rd most industrialised city. In parallel, but connected aspect- Riga realised the most considerable amount of volunteer social work in the Russian Empire. Riga was the first among the five (Saint-Petersburg, Moscow, Odessa and Warsaw) biggest cities in the empire for the poor relief aid. Multiculturalism played a major role in such an enormous modernisation process- the elite of Baltic Germans, who pioneered the law system, had a lot of contacts and exchanges abroad, we were part of the Russian empire, but Latvians amongst other minorities started a national awakening. Therefore, with one of the Riga districts – Sarkadaugava - example, I want to show the importance of broader background analysis, out of the borders of your research. Sarkadaugava in cultural memory is still known “as a cradle of industry” in the City of Riga- many big industries have been established there since the 18th century. Because at the same point district became the huge centre of culture and most importantly- social and medical care institutions.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

**Gabriela Socha**

*Adam Mickiewicz University, BA student*

**An introduction to comparative grammar of Lithuanian and Polish**

Chosen aspects of Lithuanian and Polish grammar will be compared. The aim of the presentation is to showcase both similarities and differences between both languages, as they both belong to the group of the Balto-Slavic languages, yet they may seem to differ completely. The main parts of speech will be compared- starting with the noun, its declension, and both semantic and syntactic use of cases. The differences between the definitions of parts of speech and parts of sentences will be pointed out based on an assumption that even the small details in language systems carry a significant role, and acknowledging them might help not only understand the syntactic aspect of a language system but also its significance as a tool used by communities to describe their worldview.

[Language of presentation: English]

**Ingvilda Strautmane**

*Rīga Stradiņš University, PhD student*

### **The development of power and media relations in the context of the centenary of Latvian Radio**

Latvian Radio was founded on 1 November 1925. The Saeima has decided that from 1 January 2025 Latvian Radio and Latvian Television will be merged to form a single Public Service Media.

Will a strong public service media be possible without a change in the funding model?

Has the experience of other European countries, the boards of the two merging media and the opinion of the employees' union been taken into account in the merger?

Will the merger not reduce the diversity of opinions and undermine editorial independence?

The war in Ukraine (as acknowledged by the members of the Board of Latvian Radio and the head of the news service after their visit to the Ukrainian public media) shows the opposite trend - decentralisation. Latvian Radio, as an important national security structure, is being combined with Latvian Television - the exact opposite - centralisation, increasing the administrative apparatus, and now blocking the organisation with bureaucracy.

Latvian Radio was founded in a democracy, but since 1934 it has had to operate under various occupations (Ulmanis authoritarian regime, 1st Soviet occupation, German occupation, 1st Soviet occupation until 1990). Soviet occupation).

Now the journey from state media to truly public media continues, as the funding model allows each parliamentary term to "control" the public media with funding, and the terms "state" and "public" are consciously or unconsciously confused in public rhetoric.

[Language of presentation: Latvian]

---

**Viltė Stukaitė**

*Vilnius University, MA student*

### **Under the care of the Heavenly Mother: Healing Experiences of Unitarians and Catholics according to the miracle books of Zyrowicz and Trakai**

The Grand Duchy of Lithuania was a multiconfessional state. The cult of the Blessed Virgin Mary was an important part of liturgical practices. However, the ways of the adoration of the Mother of God in various confessions differed. This report aims to unravel, how the testimonies of miraculous healings, performed under the patronage of the Virgin Mary, are expressed in the Unitarian and Catholic churches. Therefore by analysing the geography, chronology and typology of the unitarian monk Teodozy Borowik's account of miraculous

healings that took place in the care of Virgin Mary icon in Zyrowicz and catholic priest Szymon Mankiewicz's work about the miraculous experiences, performed under the patronage of the Mother of God in Trakai, the broader Virgin Mary's cult phenomena is unraveled.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

### **Attila Tokai**

*Eötvös Loránd University, PhD student*

#### **Szolnok and Tallinn as twin towns**

The Hungarian city of Szolnok and Tallinn established relationship in 1964, which has later been extended to the entire county and the whole area of the Estonian SSR in social, economic and sports terms. Szolnok studio of Hungarian Radio has broadcasted interesting reports on Estonian life and a radio series of Kalevipoeg. The visits of both delegations were also regular. In 1967, Damjanich Museum began collecting Estonian objects, and a permanent history collection was opened. Even the door was a copy of the entrance to the Great Guild Hall- now the Estonian History Museum. Through a detailed map the history of the Estonian peasant uprisings, moreover folk costumes were also introduced. The visitors could have been familiar with the history of Estonian song festivals, and a model of the festival stage. In 1967 Estonian Graphic and Applied Arts Exhibition, in 1974 Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian art was presented. 'Tallinn Restaurant' was opened in Szolnok with a painting of Jüri Arrak, 'Szolnok Restaurant' was opened in the Estonian capital. With my presentation I would like to give an overview of the history of connection between Szolnok and Tallinn, highlighting the possible continuation.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

### **Aušrinė Tverskytė**

*Vilnius University, MA student*

#### **Expression of Space Deixis in One of the Northern Samogitian Subdialects: A Case Study of the Kretingiškiei Subdialect**

The aim of the presentation is to describe which deictic words are used to construct space in the Northern Samogitians Kretingiškiei subdialect and what might be the reasons for the choice of deictic words. The expression of space deixis in the territory of the Northern



Samogitians Kretingiškiiai is almost unexplored – there are only a few hints in scientific literature of space deictic systems in the Samogitian dialect.

The research consisted of 2 stages: 1) by analysing 36 interviews filmed in the territory of the Northern Samogitians Kretingiškiiai, the aim was to find out what kind of deictic systems are typical for Northern Samogitians Kretingiškiiai; 2) by analysing 783 questionnaires filled in by residents of the study area, the research focused on the motives behind the choice of deictic words. In the second stage of the research, based on the study by Roberta Rocca, Krisitian Tylén and Mikkel Wallentin (2019), attention was paid to the semantic properties of referents (referent: ‘animate/inanimate’, ‘harmful/harmless’, ‘big/small’).

This research has revealed that: 1) the space deictic system of the Northern Samogitians Kretingiškiiai does not match the Samogitian system presented in earlier research; 2) the choice of deictic words may depend not only on physical or psychological distance but also on the semantic properties of the referent.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

---

## **Arnita Agrita Umalas**

*University of Tartu, MA student*

### **An introduction to the themes of Livonian poetry**

The paper deals with the themes of Livonian poetry and how those themes have changed and evolved through the years.

Poetry was and still is to this day a medium for Livonians to explore their heritage and convey their feelings to others. Even if the Livonian poetry is a rich genre, the first Livonian poetry anthology was published only in 1998 with the *title Ma akūb sīnda vizzō, tūrska!* (I’m craftier than you, cod!).

Nowadays, poetry has become more accessible, and more poetry anthologies and collections are being published, with the most notable figures in modern Livonian poetry being Baiba Damberga, Valts Ernštreits, and Ķempi Karl, who uses Salaca Livonian variety in his poetry. Some themes have remained universal and unchanged (like the deep connection with the sea), while others have emerged with the change of centuries.

[Language of presentation: Latvian]

**Maxim Uszakow**

*Jagiellonian University in Kraków, MA student*

### **The analysis of the diminutive suffixes usage in selected texts in Lithuanian language**

As an archaic language, Lithuanian has a broad system of modifying elements. Sometimes they are actually systemized, but some of them may look random.

One of the groups known for a wide array of possible affixes is diminutives. According to K. Župerka, the Lithuanian language is rich in diminutive suffixes: there are around 80 of them, and sometimes it is possible to change the word meaning by several to several dozen of the diminutive affixes.

The idea of this paper is to try to check if there is any possibility of forming a system of conveying the smallness of the object (or its quality) in the Lithuanian language using corpus analysis.

To make it possible, the paper first analyses the frequency of the used suffixes deriving the meaning of the „smallness”, then it tries to check the possible semantic dependence of the used suffix and the stem word.

[Language of presentation: English]

---

**Edita Yuhás**

*Eötvös Loránd University of Budapest, MA student*

### **Gender pay gap in the Baltic States**

In almost all transitive countries, there are centuries-old prejudices about the role of women in society. These gender stereotypes are a major obstacle to economic development and the democratisation of the labour market. According to EuroStat data, in 2021, for example, the average woman in the European Union earned 12.7% less than the average man, and the wage gap was highest in Estonia, a Baltic country (20.5%). The main aim of the research is to show how the pay gap has developed in the Baltic countries and to explore the reasons for it, based on the EBRD Life in Transition Survey. The influence of socialist culture on the formation of gender stereotypes is also analyzed on the basis of historical documents.

[Language of presentation: English]

## **Joris Žiburkus**

*Vilnius University, MA student*

### **“Grybo sapnas” (2023) by Gabija Grušaitė: the Crisis of Western Tradition and the Alternatives**

This paper semiotically analyzes the critique and the postulated crisis of the Western tradition as well as the alternatives given to it in “Grybo sapnas”, a resonant novel by Gabija Grušaitė. The critique revolves around and can be summarized by the concept of rationality. It is positioned both as the *modus operandi* of the aforementioned tradition and as the basis for the human to be placed above other life and matter in the traditional hierarchical structure of being. The novel recounts the developments in the near future, when a scientist by the name of Dustin Carter finds out that human being is symbiont of a fungus and a mammal and that its celebrated rationality, ego, consciousness are an illusion created by the fungus. Thus, the Western tradition is discredited and delegitimized. Paradoxically, as this is accomplished from within the discourse of modern natural sciences which is a product of Western culture. The novel not only criticizes but also tries to provide an alternative to the discredited tradition which is the East, mainly the philosophy and practices of Buddhism. However, analysis has shown that in the novel, it doesn't acquire a positive content and functions mainly as the negation of the Western tradition which shows the problematic status of this alternative.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

---

## **Ugnė Žemaitytė**

*Vilnius University, MA student*

### ***Sincerity in Contemporary Lithuanian Poetry: case of Kazlauskaitė***

The paper aims to explore the concept of sincerity in contemporary Lithuanian poetry, with a particular focus on the works of Giedrė Kazlauskaitė. While sincerity has always been an inherent quality of poetry due to its subjective and emotional nature, the emergence of postmodernism has made authenticity and openness increasingly rare. Considering the general shift towards a post-postmodern paradigm, where genuineness has regained prominence, confessional poetry has seen a resurgence in Lithuania. This paper examines whether Kazlauskaitė's work can be interpreted through the lens of sincerity, analyzing aspects such as genuine emotions, authenticity, and the poet's connection with the reader, as opposed to the use of irony or detachment from the self.

[Language of presentation: English]

The end