

Curriculum vitae

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ACADEMIC AFFILIATION

- Professor, Department of Sociology, Vytautas Magnus university (VMU).
- Chief researcher, Social Research Center, Magnus university (VMU).

ACADEMIC TITLES / EDUCATION ACHIEVED

- Doctoral degree in Social Sciences (Sociology), Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania, 2008. Doctoral dissertation "Networking Governance in Local Community".
- MA in Sociology, Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania, 2003.
- BA in Ethnology, Vytautas Magnus university, Kaunas, Lithuania, 2001.
- Certificate in Sociology, Vytautas Magnus university, Kaunas, Lithuania, 2001.

Research interests

- The role and change in post-communist society
- Religion and politics
- New religions
- Human Rights

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Associated professor, Vytautas Magnus university, Kaunas, Lithuania, from 2015 by now.
- Lecturer, Vytautas Magnus university, Kaunas, Lithuania, 2008–2015.
- Lecturer, Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania, 2008-2012.
- Project manager, expert, Lithuanian Regional Research Institute, from 2004 by now.

COURSE DESIGNED AND TAUGHT

- Sociology of Deviance (BA)
- Sociology and Anthropology of Religion (BA)
- Religion and Politics (BA)
- Contemporary Sociology of Religion (MA)
- Religion and Politics in the Global World (MA)

- 2017-2019 Research Council for Lithuania research project "International Social Survey Program: Social Networks, Social Welfare and Religion", investigating changes of religious values. Senior researcher.
- 2018-2021 ect "Families, Inequalities and Demographic Processes", No. 09.3.3-LMT-K-712-01-0020, EU Structural Funds measure " Improving the qualification of researchers in high-level R&D research", chief researcher.
- 2020-2023 Research Council for Lithuania research project "Minority Religions in Contemporary Lithuania", head of the project, chief researcher.
- 2021-2022 EUROPEAN COMMISSION Directorate General Justice and Consumers project "UniDiversity" (Grant No. 963181) REC-AG-2020 / REC-RDIS-DISC-AG-2020, chief researcher.
- 2021-2024 Baltic Research program research project "Religion and Gender Equality: Baltic and Nordic Developments", head of the project, chief researcher.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- International Sociological Association, member since 2014, elected member of Sociology of Religion research committee (RC22) since 2018.
- International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR), member since 2012, member of the Executive Board since 2015.
- International Society for the Study of New Religions, member since 2011, since 2013 Vice-President, 2015 2017 President.
- The International Study of Religion in Eastern and Central Europe Association (ISORECEA), member since 2001, General Secretary since 2014.
- Lithuanian Sociological Association, member since 2005, since 2011 member of the Executive Board, since 2014 President.
- Lithuanian Society for the Study of Religions (LSSR), member since 2011, 2011-2018 President.

SCIENTIFIC PRIZES AND AWARDS

- National Equality and Diversity Award for Religious Diversity, Lithuania, 2015
- Fulbright visiting scholar, University of California Santa Barbara, USA, 2016
- National Equality and Diversity Award for the coordination of the National Human Rights Forum, in Vilnius, on December 10, 2018, Lithuania, 2019
- Aleksanteri Institute Visiting Fellow, University of Helsinki, Finland, 2021

Plenary Lectures

- "Religion on the Periphery in Central and Eastern Europe since the fall of the Berlin Wall: Diversity, Pluralism and Everyday Life", International Study of Religion in Central and Eastern Europe Association conference: 'Religion on the Periphery', 23-25 April 2020, Olomouc, Czech Republic.
- "Public Religions in the Baltics", international conference Public: Religion and Space, 25-26 February, 2020, Salzburg University, Austria.
- "Diversification of Religious Identities in Post-Socialist society: Believing, Belonging and?" Annual conference of Russian Society for the Study of Religions, October 6, 2019, University of Sankt Petersburg, Russia.
- "Diversification of Religious Identities in Contemporary Central and Eastern Europe: the Case of the Baltic States", 16th Annual Conference of the European Association for the Study of Religions (EASR) 'Multiple Religious Identities Individuals, Communities, Traditions', June 18, 2018, University of Bern, Switzerland.
- "Religions and Nations in Central and Eastern Europe: Is There a Place for Minority Religions?, Estonian Society for the Study of Religions international conference "Religion and Nation(alism): Entanglements, Tensions, Conflicts", November 11, 2016, University of Tartu, Estonia.