



10 November 2015, Vilnius

DEAR SIR/MADAM,

The Association of Polish Academics in Lithuania is pleased to invite you to what is possibly the Baltic region's largest international scientific conference on linguistic rights of national minorities **INTEGRATION AND EXCLUSION: THE LINGUISTIC RIGHTS OF NATIONAL MINORITIES IN EUROPE.**

The conference will take place on 27 November 2015 in Vilnius, Lithuania.

Democracy, especially in Europe, is increasingly perceived through the prism of the ability of States to guarantee the rights of national minorities to preserve their identity and to develop their characteristics, including their language and culture. The Association finds it important to support research and knowledge on the subject, as well as to compare the international and European standards with the experiences and practices in the region.

Holding the conference in Lithuania is also significant: national authorities are currently debating a new draft law on national minorities (the previous legislation adopted in 1989 "expired" in 2010), with particular attention being given to the language rights of minorities – especially the use of minority languages by state authorities and in public spaces.

During the conference a book containing a number of contributions on the topic will be presented. This approach has been adopted in order to make the publication as accessible to decision-makers, politicians, officers, students and academics as possible.

Please find attached the programme of the conference.

Registration for the conference is free but obligatory.  
R.S.V.P. by 22 November by sending an e-mail to [kuzborska@gmail.com](mailto:kuzborska@gmail.com).

Sincerely,

DR ELŻBIETA KUZBORSKA

Chair of the Organizing Committee

Scientific Secretary of the Association of Polish Academics in Lithuania

