


Vilnius University

Name of the organisation:	Vilnius University	 <p>Hinc itur ad astra</p>
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Web site:	https://www.vu.lt/en/	

Name of the contact person :	Novella di Nunzio	
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Type of organisation:

SME Training School No Profit University NGO Public Authority

Other (Specify)

Fields of action:

SMEs Equal opportunities Youth Schools Universities Unemployed Public Authorities

Other (Specify)

Description of the organisation

Founded in 1579, the University of Vilnius is the oldest and largest Lithuanian higher education institution, and one of the oldest and most famous establishments of higher education in Eastern and Central Europe. Functioning for a long time as the only school of higher learning in Lithuania, it was a preserver of cultural and scientific traditions, and has played a significant part in the cultural life not only of Lithuania, but the neighboring countries as well. Since its establishment in the 16th century, Vilnius University, as integral part of European science and culture has embodied the concept of a classical university and the unity of studies and research.

Vilnius University is an active participant in international scientific and academic activities and boasts many prominent scientists, professors and graduates. Scientific development and the expanding relations with global research centres have contributed to the variety of research and studies at Vilnius University. With the support of social partners, the university educates globally-minded specialists who successfully integrate in the modern European community. Vilnius University is a classical university with over 430 years of academic traditions and the widest range of study programmes in Lithuania. The university offers an academic environment focused on excellence in research and teaching. Vilnius University is 1st in Lithuania according to national ranking. It is the most popular and most acknowledged higher education establishment among Lithuanian secondary school graduates. Vilnius University is among 1, 5 % top universities in the world according to the QS World University Ranking.

The mission of Vilnius University is to create, accumulate and disseminate knowledge by ensuring continuity of authentic university culture distinguished by the atmosphere where old traditions and new ideas enrich each other. Freedom of thought and diversity of opinions are the main values of the University community. A unity of research and studies is the core principle of the overall activity of the University. The University should distinguish itself by a broad spectrum of fundamental and applied research. It should seek to assume the leading position among other Lithuanian institutions in all research areas that are essential to the very nature of a comprehensive University and set itself the goal of international excellence in the interdisciplinary research. The University should be committed to the mission of opening the doors and providing universal education for the most talented young people from all districts of Lithuania and educating active and responsible specialists, who demonstrate the need to expand their knowledge and improve professionally and who are able to learn throughout their lifetime. The University should seek that the quality of all forms of studies conforms to the modern culture and technologies and pertains to the needs of the state and society.

Vision: to position and distinguish itself in European research and education area by top level research, which should be sustained by University's research teams of international acclaim and new teams, as well as to ensure annually increasing involvement in European research and educational programmes; to ensure that the balanced development and interaction of research in humanities, social, physical, biomedical and technological sciences remains the most outstanding feature of the University, which essentially differentiates it from other Lithuanian establishments of higher education and research; to initiate and actively implement the projects of value for the economic development of the country, which would encourage effective co-operation of scientific and educational institutions with high technology companies and create favourable conditions and environment for innovations and entrepreneurship; to create a well-functioning quality assurance system which would guarantee effective monitoring of the existing study programmes and development of new programmes and which would encourage the implementation of advanced teaching methods and tools. The system should ensure that generic and specific competencies and skills of University graduates are in consistency with the needs and tendencies in the economy, culture and labour market of the country; to significantly expand non-consecutive, distance and other flexible study forms and methods and become the centre of continuous professional improvement and lifelong learning, which plays an important role in transition of the country toward knowledge-based society.

Experience of the organization in previous European projects

International activity is an important component of Vilnius University's strategy, enabling academic staff and students of the university to be globally active and well prepared for future challenges. Vilnius University collaborates with educational institutions, networks and associations, businesses around the world. Cooperation includes incoming and outgoing student mobility, staff mobility, research and development activities, regional development cooperation and development of education. Since 1991, the University of Vilnius has been a Signatory to the Magna Charta of European Universities. The University is a member of the European University Association (EUA), European Association of International Education (EAIE) and the Conference of Baltic University Rectors.

Vilnius University participates in Utrecht, UNICA, ISEP, BSRUN networks and maintains close cooperation with the university networks in the USA, Australia and other continents. Many academic units and their representatives are active members of specialized international academic associations and networks. There have been signed over 108 bilateral cooperation agreements and 400 Erasmus cooperation agreements to enhance academic exchange. During the recent years the university became an active participant of the European Union educational and research programmes: LLP, Erasmus Mundus, FRAMEWORK and etc. The UNESCO Associated Centre of Excellence for Research and Training in Basic Sciences was among the first to be established in the pre-accession countries under the FRAMEWORK programme.

Through international engagement Vilnius University enhances the accumulation of the comprehensive knowledge for high quality education, spreading internationalization within the University and seeks to strengthen the University's academic reputation.

International projects – Programmes:

Erasmus + KA2

<https://www.vu.lt/en/international-cooperation/international-projects#erasmus-ka2>;

Erasmus + KA3

<https://www.vu.lt/en/international-cooperation/international-projects#erasmus-ka3>;

Erasmus Mundus Joint Master

<https://www.vu.lt/en/international-cooperation/international-projects#erasmus-mundus-joint-master>;

NordPlus

<https://www.vu.lt/en/international-cooperation/international-projects#nordplus>;

Jean Monnet

<https://www.vu.lt/en/international-cooperation/international-projects#jean-monnet>;

Europe for Citizens

<https://www.vu.lt/en/international-cooperation/international-projects#europe-for-citizens>;

Creative Europe

<https://www.vu.lt/en/international-cooperation/international-projects#creative-europe>

Experience and Expertise of the organization in the project's subject area

EUROPEAN REMEMBRANCE #NeverAgain: Teaching Transmission of Trauma and Remembrance through Experiential Learning (2018-2019, Faculty of Communication)

<https://againneveragain.eu/>

CULTURE SUB-PROGRAMME Identity on the Line (2019-2022, Faculty of Communication)

<https://www.kf.vu.lt/en/research/projects/2019-2023-identity-on-the-line>

NORDPLUS HORIZONTAL Integrated Language Teaching in the Field of Cross-border Security (2015-2016, Institute of Foreign Languages)

<https://www.vu.lt/en/international-cooperation/international-projects#nordplus>

Contributions that can be provided to the project

The Department of Italian Linguistics and Literature, through which the University of Vilnius will give its contribution to the project, is the largest centre of Italian studies in Lithuania and the Baltic States. Its contributions will regard in particular the use of the contrasting linguistics and grammar in teaching Italian to synthetic languages speakers.

Reasons of involvement in the project

The Department of Italian Linguistics and Literature of the University of Vilnius permits to include an area where the Italian Studies are particularly active, but which is still poorly represented and known in the European academic network.

Contact Person's Experience and Expertise

Novella di Nunzio is Associate Professor in Italian Literature at the University of Vilnius (Lithuania). She also teaches Italian Literature at the "Vytauto Magnus" University of Kaunas (Lithuania). She taught as visiting professor at the Complutense University of Madrid (2018) and at the "L'Orientale" University of Napoli (2019). She had collaborated with the chair of Italian literature of the University of Perugia. After teaching Italian language and Sectoral language from 2013 to 2017, she is specialized in teaching Italian literature and critics to foreign students, as well as in strengthening language skills through literary and critical texts. Her main field of research is Literary Modernism, but her studies concern also the concept of exile in Literature, the connection between Italian and Lithuanian Literature, as well as political narratives. She has published, among others, essays on Giovanni Verga, Jonas Biliūnas, Italo Svevo, Giacomo Debenedetti, Carlo Michelstaedter, Giuseppe Antonio Borgese, Tommaso Landolfi, Cesare Pavese, Sandro Penna, Enrico Morovich, Clara Sereni, Francesco Pecoraro. She is the author of a manual of textual analysis (*La voce narrante*, Vilniaus Universiteto leidykla, Vilnius 2017). She organized and took part in numerous international conferences. She is member of the editorial committee of the international journal "La parola del testo" and of the scientific committee of the editorial series CEMS (Center for European Modernism Studies).