



14th Meeting of the COE-FRA-ENNHRI-EQUINET Collaborative Platform on Social and Economic Rights

## Young people's access to social and economic rights: Addressing the impact of the cost-of-living crisis

01 July 2024 (09:00-17:30 local time)

Vilnius, Lithuania  
(Meeting room Lambda, Radisson Blu Hotel, Konstitucijos Av. 20)

### Practical Information

#### Time schedule and venue

The meeting will take place on 1 July 2024 (9:00 - 17:30 CET) - Registration opens at 8:30 a.m.  
The meeting will be held in [Radisson Blu Hotel Lietuva](#), room Lambda  
Address: Konstitucijos pr. 20, 09308 Vilnius

#### Travel and accommodation

The Council of Europe will cover the travel and subsistence expenses of one representative per institution. Participants covered by the Council of Europe are invited to confirm their willingness to stay in hotel [Radisson Blu Lietuva](#) from 30 June to 2 July 2024 (two nights) via the registration form or via email. Any additional accommodation must be arranged individually.

The [Radisson Blu Hotel Lietuva](#) is a 4-star hotel that offers a wide range of facilities, including a large modern conference centre with 18 multifunctional rooms, to ensure a comfortable and enjoyable stay. With a modern vibe, it is located in the centre of Vilnius on the north bank of the Neris River, near and at walking distance from the rich historic sites such as the Old Town and Vilnius Cathedral. The highest cocktail bar in Vilnius, Skybar, is on the 22nd floor and offers an exceptional meeting and events room with thrilling views of the Old Town.

Please note that the most popular hotels during this period are rather busy due to festivals, sport events and other attractions.

The Secretariat can plan your journey and send you a pre-paid ticket, provided that you make a request **no later than 5 June 2024** via e-mail to [valentyna.kryvenkova@coe.int](mailto:valentyna.kryvenkova@coe.int).

Additional information on the Council of Europe reimbursement policy will be provided with your nominative invitation letter.

## Meals and coffee breaks

The Council of Europe will offer coffee breaks and a lunch to all the participants. We kindly ask you to indicate your dietary restrictions in your registration form, so we can prepare accordingly.

- Morning coffee: 10:30 - 11:00
- Lunch buffet: 13:00 - 14:30
- Afternoon coffee: 15:45 - 16:15

## Working language

The meetings will be held in English only.

## Visa

Travellers to Lithuania from non-EU countries may be required to obtain a **valid entry visa** which must be obtained prior to the arrival. All participants should ascertain with the Embassy or Consulate in their home jurisdiction whether or not a visa is required. The Council of Europe can provide an invitation letter which can be used for visa application.

## Transport from and to Vilnius Airport

The airport is located on the outskirts of Vilnius. The distance between the airport and the meeting venue is about 9 km.

**Express bus 3G** runs every 10 minutes from the airport to the city centre. For the Radisson Blue Hotel, you need to get off at the “Europos Aikštė- European square” stop. Single tickets can be bought from the bus driver. Ticket price 1 Euro (no discount available, ticket is valid for one trip, cash only).

The taxi line is located in front of the [airport arrival hall](#) or can be booked at hotels or by [mobile app](#). You can also use the [Bolt taxi service](#).

More information about public transport in Vilnius is available [here](#).

Getting around Vilnius:

<https://judu.lt/en/useful-information-to-the-city-guests/>

## Useful links and information

### Electricity

Lithuania has 220V and uses two-pin plugs.

### Currency

The currency of Lithuania is EUR.

All credit cards are widely accepted, and ATM/cash machines are widely available in Vilnius city.

### Languages

Lithuanian is the official language of the Republic of Lithuania. English and Russian are widely spoken.

### Local Time

Lithuanian Time is GMT+2

### Smoking

Smoking is prohibited in all indoor public locations and night clubs.

### Emergency number

For emergencies call 112, an EU-wide emergency number for police, fire department and ambulance.

### Dial Code for Lithuania

+370 ...

### Weather conditions

In July, Vilnius has average daytime temperatures of around 24°C, with minimum nighttime temperatures around 14°C. There is always a risk of a heatwave or rainfall. For a more detailed look at Lithuania's weather, check out the [climate webpage](#).

## About Vilnius

**The Cathedral Square** is the main square of the Vilnius Old Town, right in front of the neo-classical Vilnius Cathedral. It is a key location in the city's public life, situated as it is at the crossing of the city's main streets and reflecting the city's diversity. Regularly held at this site are fairs and gatherings of townspeople, military parades, religious and official public events, attractions and large concerts, Christmas tree and exhibitions. It is not merely the most lively and important location in the city but is also one of the most significant and widely known symbols of Lithuania.

**Gediminas' Tower** is the only remaining part of the Upper Castle. It is possible to climb to the top of the hill on foot. The tower houses an exposition of archeologic findings from the hill and the surrounding areas. It is also an excellent vantage point, from where the panorama of Vilnius' Old Town can be admired. Gediminas' Tower is an important state and historic symbol of the city of Vilnius and of Lithuania itself. It is mentioned in numerous Lithuanian patriotic poems and folk songs. The Flag of Lithuania was re-hoisted atop the tower on October 7, 1988, during the independence movement that was finalized by the Act of the Re-Establishment of the State of Lithuania on March 11, 1990. A reconstruction of the Royal Palace of Lithuania was completed in 2009 and is located near the base of the hill upon which Gediminas' Tower stands.

**The Gate of Dawn** is a city-gate of Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, and one of the most important religious, historical and cultural monuments in the city. In the 16th century city gates often contained religious artifacts intended to guard the city from attacks and to bless travellers. The Chapel in the Gate of Dawn contains an icon of The Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of Mercy, said to have miraculous powers. For centuries the picture has been one of the symbols of the city and an object of veneration for both Roman Catholic and Orthodox inhabitants.

**The Presidential Palace** is located in Vilnius Old Town. It is the official office and occasional official residence of the President of Lithuania. The palace dates back to the 14th century. During its history it has undergone various reconstructions, supervised by prominent architects, including Laurynas Gucevičius and Vasily Stasov. In 1997 the palace became the official seat of the President of Lithuania. **St. Anne's Church** is a Roman Catholic church in Vilnius' Old Town, on the right bank of the Vilnia River. It is a prominent example of both Flamboyant Gothic and Brick Gothic styles. St. Anne's is a major landmark in the Old Town of Vilnius that enabled the district to be included in the list of UNESCO World Heritage sites.

More information on Vilnius: <https://www.govilnius.lt/visit-vilnius>