

Call for papers 1.



Centre for Polish Language and Culture
VYTAUTAS MAGNUS UNIVERSITY

II International Scientific Conference

WEAVING CULTURE:

Cultural Narratives in Central and Eastern European Countries

Vilnius, October 17–18, 2025

ORGANIZERS:

Faculty of Cultural Studies at the University of Białystok
Vilnius Branch of the University of Białystok
Center for Polish Language and Culture, Vytautas Magnus University

As those existing within the cultural landscape of the 21st century, we continually face necessary choices: choosing between what tradition offers and what (post)modernity may bring, between “being” and “having”, between drifting away or having the courage to face the challenges of the modern world. In doing so, we create unconventional and original narratives about our existence. We become the authors of stories about our lives, about the relationships between the material and immaterial, spiritual, and between nature and culture. Out of this, unique and multi-layered stories about our identities are born.

We are interested in flows, movement, diffusion, layering, permeation, and influences that shape our stories in various cultural areas (film, television series, literature, art, social media). Our discussions will consider the processes of clashing and merging present at the intersection of cultures: the creation of concept networks (meshwork), as well as meanings and relations that weave and unweave through different contexts and discourses. We will pay attention to the various strategies of being, expressed through drifting (submitting to cultural processes) or journeying (actively participating in them).

WE WELCOME SUBMISSIONS ENGAGING IN THE FOLLOWING RESEARCH TOPICS:

- Culture as a space for dialogue;
- Culture that unites/divides across borders. Imagined communities (national, fan, local, ethnic, religious, artistic);
- Cultural narratives and their media (film, television, social media, video games), literary, artistic, performative (theatre, dance), and handicraft representations;
- Intertwining culture and nature;
- The influence of modern technology (such as artificial intelligence) on communication methods, cognitive strategies, interpersonal relationships, identity;
- New interweavings and micro-narratives—experimental cultural narratives;
- Cultural transformations of femininity and masculinity;
- Crossroads and margins of cultures—strategies behind making choices amid changes in the encompassing world: the climate crisis, post-pandemic changes, the migrant crisis;

- The rhizomatic character of culture and pop culture (identity of contradictions, “man without qualities”);
- Border identities (fear of disappearance: anxiety, fear, threat);
- Linguistic behavior vs. sociocultural conditions;
- Multiculturalism interculturalism, transculturalism—individual and social dimensions.

Central and Eastern European countries present a multidimensional socio-cultural phenomenon that cannot be described in just one theory, methodology, or discipline.

We welcome researchers and practitioners from cultural studies, as well as other disciplines of the humanities and social sciences (cultural anthropologists, ethnologists, media scholars, film scholars, literary scholars, linguists, pedagogues, sociologists, lawyers, philosophers, and historians), to contemplate the suggested issues and participate in the conference. The conference aims to consider the points of view of various scientific disciplines.

The sessions intend to be held in Polish and English in person, though in exceptional cases, we may offer online participation. Please submit the proposal topic in the language of your choice by June 15, 2025, via the online submission form. A notification of the acceptance or rejection of submitted proposals will be sent by June 30, 2025.

PLEASE FILL OUT THE REGISTRATION FORM: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1xIkD84wMOYIBNR_Zt34yK4rD_gKAx24N3mK1hj5eYOM/viewform?edit_requested=true

The conference fee of 600 zł or 145 € will cover the cost of conference materials, two lunches, a banquet (October 17, 2025), a coffee bar, and the publication of selected papers.

PAYMENT: September 1, 2025

CONFERENCE FEE ACCOUNT NUMBER: PL 92 1160 2202 0000 0002 4179 4346

TITLE: Name and surname + Sploty Kultury II 2025

SWIFT CODE: BIGBPLPW

THE LIST OF OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE:

<https://kulturoznawstwo.uwb.edu.pl/splotykultury>

We intend to publish a scientific monograph.

You can contact us at: Splotykultury2025@uwb.edu.pl

RESEARCH COMMITTEE:

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