



**FACULTY
OF CULTURAL STUDIES**
UNIVERSITY OF BIALYSTOK



Vilnius Branch
of the **UofB**



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

PROGRAM

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF

His Magnificence,

the Rector of the University of Białystok, Prof. Mariusz Popławski, PhD

ORGANIZERS:

Faculty of Cultural Studies, University of Białystok

Vilnius Branch of the University of Białystok

Center for Polish Language and Culture, Vytautas Magnus University

STRATEGIC PARTNER:

Marshal's Office of the Podlaskie Voivodeship



17.10.2025

9.00–9.30

Ceremonious Opening of the Conference (room 108)

Presentation by U. Wróblewska and M. Wendlik (Vilnius Branch of the University of Białystok), *Challenges Facing the Vilnius Branch as a Frontier University*

9.30–10.30

Plenary Session (room 108)

Moderating: Alicja Kisielewska, Kamila Drapało

1. Tomasz Blusiewicz – *Baltic Port Cities as the Cultural Melting Pots of Central and Eastern Europe: A Millennial Overview*
2. Justyna Szlachta-Ignatowicz – *Intersea Concepts according Leszek Szaruga*
3. Małgorzata Nieszczerewska – *Weaving tradition with pop culture. Heritage narratives among modern day Slavs in the context of diverse cultural practices*

Section A (room 108)

10.45–11.45

Cultural Practices – cultural competencies

1. Maciej Białous – *Between actual and imagined cultural practices. Narrative games as a medium for dialogue on culture*
2. Maija Grizāne – *“You don’t have to be born in Poland to be a Pole”: Latvian Polish heritage as a tool for development cultural literacy*
3. Karolina Wierel – *Between trauma and storytelling: affective memory and decolonization of the imagination in the context of Sami people and erased Eastern European communities*

11.45–12.00

Coffee Break (corridor on the first floor between rooms 202 and 209)

12.00–13.00

Linguistic behavior and sociocultural conventions

1. Liliana Citko – *Between Slavia Romana and Slavia Orthodoxa – roads of the legend of Tristan and Isolda in the land of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania*
2. Elżbieta Bogdanowicz – *Personal nomenclature of units living in the Białystok region in 1810 as an example of intermingled cultures*
3. Karalina Kaspiarovich – *The polish language in the Oszmiany area. Reconnaissance research*

13.00–14.00

Lunch

14.00–16.00

Walk around Vilnius

16.00–17.00

Gender lens

1. Krzysztof Arcimowicz – *Faces of masculinity within Polish media messaging regarding Robert Lewandowski. A critical discourse analysis*
2. Małgorzata Bulaszewska – *Colors of Gender: A color analysis in the cultural transformations of femininity and masculinity*
3. Justyna Józowicz – *How to connect and divide at the same time? Gender lens on religion*

Section C (room 202)

16.00–17.00

Panel: Poles in Lithuania at the weave of cultures

Moderators: Alicja Kisielewska, Henryka Sokołowska

Participants:

1. Agnieszka Skinder, Patrycja Kostiukiewicz (Polish Artistic Song and Dance Ensemble “Wilia”)
2. Lilia Kiejzik, Edward Kiejzik (Polish Theatre “Studio” in Vilnius)
3. Irena Litwinowicz, Teresa Samsonow (Polish Theatre in Vilnius)
4. Wioletta Leonowicz (Song and Dance Group “Ojcowizna”)
5. Józef Szostakowski (The museum of Wladyslaw Syrokomla in Borejkwoszczyzna)
6. Walenty Wojniłło (Polish multimedia portal “Wilnoteka”)

17.00–17.15

Coffee Break (corridor on the first floor between rooms 202 and 209)

17.15–18.15

Border Myths and Identities

1. Rafał Kuczyński – *The Noble Lie: Anthropological Blueprint in Polish Historical Chronicles*
2. Tomasz Olchanowski – *Postmodern myths of fluid and stiff identity through the lens of psychoanalytic culture*
3. Marite Opincane – *Symbolic Connotation of Ships in Joseph Conrad’s Sea Prose*

18.15–19.15

Erased Communities and Pasts

1. Irina Presňakova – *Advancing Social Cohesion Through Cultural Literacy: Sport-Based Case Study*
2. Marta Anna Raczek-Karcz (online participation) – *Troublesome weavings – graphic narratives by Jolanta Rejs i Justyna Sokołowska wrapped around erased pasts*
3. Stanisław Rabiej – *Between the Torah and the Oder: The interpenetration of Judaism and local culture in the Opole region in the interwar period*

19.30

Ceremonial dinner

Section B (room 209)

10.45–11.45

Polish media in Lithuania and Lithuanian media in Poland – border identities

1. Helena Chwiedosik (online participation) – *The fate of the „Aušra” newspaper in the perspective of censorship narratives in Lithuanian minorities living in the northern areas of the Białystok voivodeship. Beginning*
2. Barbara Dwilewicz – *On cultural events through the “Red Banner” journal*
3. Alicja Kisiełowska – *Subjective stories about Polish media in Lithuania. A report from research*

11.45–12.00

Coffee Break (corridor on the first floor between rooms 202 and 209)

12.00–13.00

Culture versus nature – culturonature

1. Marianna Michałowska – *A walk in silence – storytelling through experience*
2. Magdalena Anna Długosz – *Interweavings of culture and nature at the Climabiennale Festival in Vienna, 2024*

13.00–14.00

Lunch

14.00–16.00

Walk around Vilnius

16.00–17.00

Cultural Narratives and their musical representations

1. Magdalena Szyndler – *Multicultural aspects of folk music in Beskid Silesia and its contemporary dimensions*
2. Kamila Drapała – *Singing Against Silence: Polish Protest Music and the Hermeneutics of Resistance during the Late PRL*
3. Kate Sidor (online participation) – *Jazz behind the Iron Curtain. The cultural significance of improvisatory music in the post-war era through the dissolution of the Soviet Union*

Section C (room 202)

- 16.00–17.00 **Panel: Poles in Lithuania at the weave of cultures**
Moderators: Alicja Kisielewska, Henryka Sokołowska
Participants:
1. Agnieszka Skinder, Patrycja Kostiukiewicz (Polish Artistic Song and Dance Ensemble “Wilia”)
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 5. Józef Szostakowski (The museum of Wladyslaw Syrokomla in Borejkowszczyzna)
 6. Walenty Wojniłło (Polish multimedia portal “Wilnoteka”)
- 17.00–17.15 Coffee Break (corridor on the first floor between rooms 202 and 209)
- 17.15–18.15 **Interweavings of culture and nature and their media representations**
1. Tomasz Adamski – *Between the current and the camera. Film narratives about Polish rivers*
 2. Barbara Weźgowiec – *The river that speaks: Odra as a manuscript of culture and nature in reportage books by Filip Springer and Zbigniew Rokita*
 3. Barbara Kita – *Between the East and West. The “strategic” in the show “Przesmyk” by Jan P. Matuszyński*
- 18.15–19.15 **Media narratives of culture and weaves of memory**
1. Andrzej Gwóźdź – *Weaves of memory, otherwise nostalgia for NRD in German cinema*
 2. Karīne Laganovska – *Rail Transit in German Short Fiction: Reflections on Space and Meaning*
 3. Krzysztof Okoński – *Between Ireland, Poland, Germany, and Ukraine. Marcel Krueger as a transcultural writer*
- 19.30 Ceremonial dinner

18.10.2025

Section A (room 209)

9.00–10.15 **Forms of narration about Vilnius culture**

1. Domininkas Burba – *The Kingdom of Poland and the General-Governorate of Vilnius in Russian and German travel guides to the Russian Empire in the 19th–20th centuries*
2. Anna Gomółka – *A map of emotions as a form of cultural narrative. Lucjan Rydel's tour of Vilnius (in 1914)*
3. Henryka Ilgiewicz – *Society for the Promotion of People's Industry in Vilnius (1925–1939)*

10.15–10.30 **Coffee Break (corridor on the first floor between rooms 202 and 209)**

10.30–11.30 **Narratives about the Borderlands – literary representations**

1. Beata Gontarz – *Family history in the interweavings of culture. Through the example of the writings of Jan Józef Szczepański and Katarzyna Szczepańska-Kowalczyk*
2. Zofia Zarębianka – *Vilnius through the poems of the sailors as well as Konstanty Ildefons Gałczyński*
3. Łukasz Cebula – *Space and identity. Borderlands in the poetry of Czesław Janczarski*

11.30–12.30 **Narratives on culture and their representations in art**

1. Henryka Sokołowska – *The Silhouette of M. K. Čiurlionis. The intertwining of cultures as a source of fulfillment and distress*
2. Alina Romanovska – *Understanding the Other through Art: A Case Study from a Latvian Border City*
3. Maria Sławińska – *„Dziady” without borders: a romantic drama through the transcultural perspective*

Section B (room 202)

9.00–10.15

Cultural transformations of femininity

1. Elżbieta Filipow – *Adam K. Czartoryski's Programme of Education for Girls as an Exemplification of Arguments against the Gendered Conception of Human Progress in the Polish Enlightenment*
2. Olga Mastianica, Irena Masojć – *"To become a new woman": cultural challenges and their accompanying emotional dilemmas (based on the Emilia Wroblewska's egodocuments)*

10.15–10.30

Coffee Break (corridor on the first floor between rooms 202 and 209)

10.30–11.30

Multiculturalism, interculturalism, transculturalism – personal and social dimensions

1. Antoni Mironowicz (online participation) – *The Cathedral Church of Vilnius in the 14th–16th centuries, as a cult, cultural, and political center*
2. Ewa Dąbrowska-Prokopowska (online participation) – *Identity camouflage and secularization within the eastern borderlands – the personal dimension of multiculturalism through the experiences of young residents of Podlasie*
3. Ewa Kępa – *Passion that connects. Belonging to a community through the experience of those involved in the reactivation of weaving traditions in Podlasie*

11.30–12.30

Narratives on culture and their representations in new media

1. Aneta Wójciszyn-Wasil – *Podcast: narratives of literature within modern media culture*
2. Igor Mogielnicki – *Meme, myth, and medium: how Internet culture transforms collective narratives*
3. Paweł Plichta – *The religious heritage of Central and Eastern Europe in micro-narratives from/on a journey*

12.30–13.00

Summary of sessions and closing of the conference

13.00–14.00

Lunch

The conference will be accompanied by an exhibition entitled 'FRAMING THE WORLD. IMAGES WOVEN FROM LIGHT AND RAGS', which will be on display at the Polish Cultural Centre in Vilnius (76 Naugarduko Street, Vilnius) on 17 October from 9.00 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. and on 18 October from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.