

European Network of Education Council

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## **ABOUT ANNUAL PROGRAMME OF THE LITHUANIAN EDUCATION COUNCIL**

In response to EUNEC's request of 24 August 2023 to share the annual programme of the Lithuanian Education Council (the Council), we would like to inform that the majority of the members of the Council will be completing their term of office in the Council this year. The Council will end its term of office in October. When this time comes, Council elections will be organised. Until the Council's term of office has ended and the new Council will be elected this autumn, the Council's work is being carried out in accordance with the Council's work plan for 2022-2023.

It should be noted that the Council is required to prepare and submit a report regarding the state of education in Lithuania once every four years in accordance with the legislation governing its activities. The Council is currently making every effort to prepare this document.

The analysis of the state of education in Lithuania is planned to cover all levels of education, research and experimental development also. Key aspects: quality, accessibility. The analysis of the large-scale survey will include measures and key decisions in the field of education, science and innovation; progress in the implementation of measures in the field of education, science and innovation; recommendations of international organisations in the field of education, science and innovation; responsibility and effectiveness of national institutions and municipalities.

The Council's priorities for the term of office (2019-2023) were:

1. Ensuring a level playing field for lifelong learning and developing the recognition of competencies acquired through non-formal and informal learning;
2. Strengthening the expression of community and leadership and the development of self-management in educational institutions;
3. Diversity, accessibility and quality of education in preschool, general education and vocational training institutions;
4. Ensuring equal access to higher education qualifications;
5. Sustainable development of the training, qualification and career development system for teachers, education staff and researchers;
6. Enhancing the inclusiveness of preschool education and care.

Topics the Council had set out to discuss in the period 2022-2023:

- Teacher training, professional development and careers;
- Concept, purpose and diversity of educational content;
- Ensuring and developing self-management in education;
- Provision of humanities and social education in general education schools: current situation and improvement;
- Improving the concept of non-formal education for children;

- Mental, emotional and physical health of pupils.

#### THE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH SYSTEM:

- Forecasting state-centered study places;
- Review of study funding and the calculation of standard tuition fees;
- Implementation of short training programmes;
- Vocational guidance;
- Clarification of the mission of colleges and network restructuring;
- Ensuring the professional development of higher education teachers;
- Promoting positive economic migration in the higher education sector;
- Social dimension in the higher education system, increasing access to higher education;
- Amendments to the Law on Technology and Innovation and the Law on Science and Studies

on the evaluation of scientific activities and the development of innovative activities.

#### VOCATIONAL TRAINING SYSTEM:

- Attraction to vocational training institutions and vocational guidance;
- Changes in the VET system to improve the training of skilled professionals.

#### LIFELONG LEARNING:

- Integrating people into the labor market, more flexible recognition of qualifications and improving the lifelong learning system;

- On enabling people to pursue higher qualifications;
- Implementing the micro-credentials system in Lithuania;

#### PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION AND CARE:

- Compulsory and universal pre-school education;

#### THE SYSTEM OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION:

- Ensuring the quality of education;

- Inclusive Education;

- Consideration of the draft Government Decree on the rules for the formation of the network of general education schools.

#### GENERAL QUESTIONS:

- Vision for the future of the State "Lithuania 2050";
- Agreement on Education Policy (2021-2030);
- Status and development of educational research;
- Concept of Blended Education.



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