

“Human Rights in Lithuania. NGOs’ Perspective”



**December 9th,
2015**

**Embassy of Finland
in Vilnius**

On the occasion of the International Human Rights Day,
the National Equality and Diversity Forum (NEDF)
cordially invites you to the seminar-discussion
“Human Rights in Lithuania. NGOs’ Perspective”
on **December 9th, 2015** at **2:00-4:30 PM**
at the premises of the Embassy of Finland in Lithuania
(K. Kalinausko str. 24, Vilnius).

Please fill in the online registration form until December 7th:

<http://goo.gl/forms/pXhb8vyz8L>

Organizer:

**National Equality
and Diversity Forum
(NEDF)**



Sponsors:

**Embassy of Finland in
Vilnius, Ministry of
Social Security and
Labour of the Republic
of Lithuania, EEA
Grants, ILGA-Europe,
TGEU - Transgender
Europe**



Seminar-Discussion "Human Rights in Lithuania. NGOs' Perspective"

Overview

On the occasion of the International Human Rights Day, the [National Equality and Diversity Forum \(NEDF\)](#) cordially invites you to the seminar-discussion "Human Rights in Lithuania. NGOs' Perspective". In the public discourse we often hear that the effective implementation of human rights standards is of the secondary priority, ceasing its importance over economic, geopolitical and social realities of the country. However, the representatives of the civil society, who engage with the promotion of human rights on a daily basis, remind us – the maturity of the democratic society, based on pluralist values, is inseparable from effective implementation of individual rights and freedoms.

In the course of the seminar-discussion, the representatives of the civil society will discuss some of the most pressing human rights challenges under the present day conditions, namely: (1) prevalence of the discriminatory attitudes in the Lithuanian society, based on the results of the "Eurobarometer" survey "[Discrimination in the EU 2015](#)"; (2) opportunities within the UN human rights protection mechanisms with the view of ensuring effective implementation of human rights standards in Lithuania – [the case of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#); (3) implementation of [the right to legal gender recognition and the right to gender reassignment treatment](#) in Lithuania – challenges and perspectives.

[The National Equality and Diversity Forum \(NEDF\)](#) is a non-formal network of civil society organizations, representing various socially vulnerable groups within the Lithuanian society. The Forum consists of the [Lithuanian Forum of the Disabled](#), the [National LGBT* Rights Organization LGL](#), the [Women's Issues Information Center](#), the [House of National Communities](#), the [Lithuanian Community of Seniors "Bočiai"](#) and the [New Religions Research and Information Center](#).

The languages of the event will be Lithuanian and English (simultaneous translation). The event is partially funded by the [Ministry of the Social Security and Labour](#) of the Republic of the Lithuania, [EEA and Norway Grants](#), [ILGA-Europe](#) and [TGEU - Transgender Europe](#).

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

- Eleanor Roosevelt, U.S. politician, diplomat and human rights activist, one of the drafters of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Why is it worth in attending?

- The presentation of the NGOs' position regarding the most pressing human rights issues delivered.
- The attention of the, legislators, policy and decision makers with the view of developing comprehensive national policies on equal opportunities increased.
- The awareness about the specific human rights issues raised
- The networking of the local NGOs, working in the field of equality and diversity, will be promoted within the framework of the national equality coalitions.

Who should attend?

- Representatives of the civil society
- Legislators, policy and decision makers
- Representatives of the institutions responsible for the execution of the national policy on equal opportunities
- Members of the social groups, vulnerable to discrimination
- Members of the academia
- Members of the general public

Location of the Event

**The Embassy of Finland in Vilnius
(K. Kalinausko str. 24, Vilnius)**



Seminar-Discussion „Human Rights in Lithuania. NGOs' Perspective“

Programme

- 14:00 Welcome coffee and registration
- 14:30 Welcoming remarks:
Maria Ågren (Counsellor of the Ambassador of Finland in Lithuania and Belarus)
Agneta Lobačevskytė ([Equal Opportunities Ombudsperson](#) of the Republic of Lithuania)
Prof. Dr. Leonidas Donskis ([Vytautas Magnus University](#)) (TBC)
- 14:50 Presentation:
Prevalence of the discriminatory attitudes in the Lithuanian society, based on the results of the "Eurobarometer" survey "Discrimination in the EU 2015"
Natalija Bitiukova
([Human Rights Monitoring Institute](#))
- 15:10 Presentation:
Opportunities within the UN human rights protection mechanisms with the view of ensuring effective implementation of human rights standards in Lithuania – the case of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
Dovilė Juodkaitė
([Lithuanian Forum of the Disabled](#))
- 15:30 Presentation:
Implementation of the right to legal gender recognition and the right to gender reassignment treatment in Lithuania – challenges and perspectives.
Tomas V. Raskevičius
([National LGBT* Rights Organization LGL](#))
- 15:50 Questions and discussion:
moderated by **Birutė Sabatauskaitė**
([Lithuanian Center for Human Rights](#))

Event Details

- Date: December 9th, 2015, Wednesday
- Time: 2:00-4:30 PM
- Place: Embassy of Finland in Vilnius
(K. Kalinausko str. 24, Vilnius)



<https://www.facebook.com/events/530555453774352/>



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<http://www.nlif.lt/en>

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