

## Informal Meeting of senior officials of Ministries of Culture and senior officials responsible for culture in Ministries of Foreign Affairs 16-17 October, Vilnius, Lithuania

### Speakers



#### Leonidas Donskis (Lithuania)

Dr. Leonidas Donskis is a Member of the European Parliament (2009–2014). He has written and edited over thirty books, fifteen of them in English. Donskis combines political theory, history of ideas, philosophy of culture, philosophy of literature and essayistic style. Among other books, he is a co-author (together with Zygmunt Bauman) of *Moral Blindness: The Loss of Sensitivity in Liquid Modernity* (2013), and the author of *Fifty Letters from the Troubled Modern World: A Philosophical-Political Diary, 2009–2012* (2013), *Modernity in Crisis: A Dialogue on Culture of Belonging* (2011), *Troubled Identity and the Modern World* (2009), *Power and Imagination: Studies in Politics and Literature* (2008), and *Forms of Hatred: The Troubled Imagination in Modern Philosophy and Literature* (2003). His works originally written in Lithuanian and English have been translated into Brazilian Portuguese, Danish, Estonian, Finnish, German, Hungarian, Italian, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Swedish and Ukrainian. He is also the author of books of aphorisms published in Canada, Italy and Lithuania. Donskis is a Visiting Professor of Politics at Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas, Lithuania. Donskis holds an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters from the University of Bradford, United Kingdom.



#### Jan Trzuszczński (European Commission)

Jan Trzuszczński has been the Director-General of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Education and Culture since May 2010, when he moved from his position as the Deputy Director-General in the same Directorate-General. He joined the European Commission in January 2007 as the Deputy Director-General for Enlargement, with responsibility for enlargement strategy and communication. From 2001 to 2005 Trzuszczński worked in the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, first as the Undersecretary of State, later as the Secretary of State. In this capacity, he was Poland's chief negotiator during its negotiations for EU accession. Prior to that, Trzuszczński was Ambassador of Poland to the EU in Brussels from 1996 to 2001.



### Michael Reiterer (European External Action Service)

Michael Reiterer is the Senior Advisor in the Asia and Pacific Department at the European External Action Service. From 2007 to 2011 he was EU Ambassador to Switzerland and the Principality of Lichtenstein. From 1998 to 2006 he worked in the Department for External Relations of the European Commission and was the Head of the Delegation of the European Commission to Japan.

Prior to his work in the European Commission and EEAS, Reiterer had served as Minister Counsellor of the Permanent Representation of Austria to the European Union, and occupied various positions in the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

He holds a PhD in Law (University of Innsbruck), a diploma in International Relations from the Graduate Institute for International Studies (Geneva), graduated Johns Hopkins University, School for Advanced International Studies (Bologna Centre).

From 2005 Reiterer has been the Adjunct Professor for International Politics at the University of Innsbruck.



### Evaldas Ignatavičius (Lithuania)

Evaldas Ignatavičius is a Lithuanian diplomat, poet and essayist. He graduated from the Faculty of Philology of Vilnius University and the Institute of International Relations in Leeds, Great Britain.

During his diplomatic career, Ignatavičius has occupied leading positions in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He served as a Consul General of the Republic of Lithuania in Kaliningrad, Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to the Federal Republic of Germany, the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs. Currently he serves as the Lithuanian Ambassador to Belarus.



### Darius Udrys (Lithuania)

Darius Udrys is a political scientist, media specialist and civic educator with more than a decade of experience promoting democratic citizenship in the United States and other countries.

Dr. Udrys has worked as a broadcast journalist and media trainer with RFE/RL, Inc. (Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty), and has served in various non-profit leadership positions, including the Director of Development at the Los Angeles-based Center for Civic Education, the Director of Ludwick Family Foundation's Arsalyn civic education program, and the President of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Lithuanian American Community.

Dr. Udrys is currently the Vice-Rector for Development and Communications at the European Humanities University (EHU). EHU is a private non-profit university founded in Minsk in 1992. It was relocated to Vilnius, Lithuania, after it was forcibly closed by Belarusian authorities in 2004.



### Stefano Bianchini (Italy)

Stefano Bianchini is a Professor of East European Politics and History at the School of Political Science of the University of Bologna, Forlì Campus; the Director of the two-year Interdisciplinary Master in East European Studies (MIREES) and a member of the Scientific Board of the PhD Program in Diversity Management and Governance of the University of Bologna. Bianchini, particularly involved in the internationalisation program of the University, also is the Scientific Co-Director of the European Regional Master in Democracy and Human Rights in South-East Europe of the Universities of Sarajevo and Bologna, the Director of the Institute for the Central Eastern and Balkan Europe at the University of Bologna and a member of the Executive Board of the Association for Studies of Nationalities (ASN) based at the Harriman Institute, Columbia University, New York.



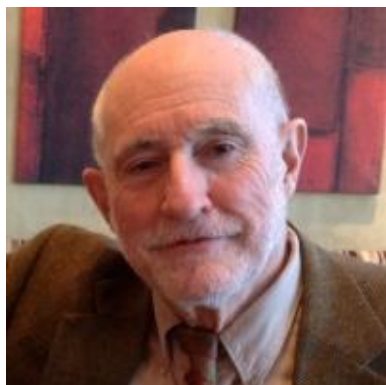
### Egidijus Aleksandravičius (Lithuania)

Egidijus Aleksandravičius is a Professor of History and a Senior Research Fellow of Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas, Lithuania. After earning his PhD and working at Vilnius University he spent a year at the University of Wisconsin. Aleksandravičius began his career in 1992 at Vytautas Magnus University and has held the positions of Professor of History, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Vice-Rector of the University for higher studies, and Chair of the Senate. Since 2000 he has been the Director of the Lithuanian Emigration Institute and President of the Centre for Lithuanian Diaspora Studies. Aleksandravičius has been a Visiting Professor at the Universities of Illinois, Helsinki and Bologna. His scholarly interests focus on Lithuanian cultural history in the 19th and 20th centuries and Lithuanian historiography. He is an author of over ten books. As a renowned and respected publicist and intellectual, Aleksandravičius was awarded the Cross of Commander of the Order of the Lithuanian Grand Duke Gediminas and several other national and international prizes.



### Miran Mohar (Slovenia)

Miran Mohar is a visual artist. He is a member of the Irwin Group, Co-Founder of the group NSK, the design studio New Collectivism and Scipion Nasice Sister Theatre.



### Yves Plasseraud (France)

Yves Plasseraud graduated from the Paris Institute of Political Studies with a PhD in Industrial Property Law. He is a Patent Policy Consultant (1970 onwards), the President of the Minority Rights Group (since 1996) and an expert on national minorities in Central and Eastern Europe, an international consultant on legal matters and a teacher at different universities, including the Faculty of History at Vilnius University, Lithuania (2003). Yves Plasseraud, a lawyer by training, has developed an interest in the Baltic States and in Jewish culture in particular.



### Olexandr Butsenko (Ukraine)

Olexandr Butsenko is the Director of the Development Centre "Democracy through Culture", an NGO/think tank located in Kyiv (Ukraine), a member of European Cultural Parliament, and an Associate Professor (Project and Programme Management) of the National Academy for Managers in Culture and Art (Kyiv). Butsenko is a writer, researcher, journalist, translator, lecturer. He is an expert on cultural policies and development strategies, an adviser of the Parliament and ministerial committees. Butsenko writes poetry, monographs on artists, essays and articles in the national and international media on cultural policy, cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue. He is also an initiator and coordinator of various international projects in Ukraine, and a curator of art exhibitions.



### Rein Raud (Estonia)

Rein Raud is an Estonian scholar and author. As a scholar, he has published on a wide range of subjects from cultural theory to pre-modern Japanese literature and philosophy, both in English and Estonian. He graduated from the Saint Petersburg State University in 1985 with a degree in Japanese Studies and earned a PhD degree in Literary Theory at the University of Helsinki in 1994. He has worked in the Estonian Institute of Humanities (now a part of Tallinn University) and the University of Helsinki, where he is currently a Professor in the Department of World Cultures. From 2006 to 2011 he served as the first Rector of Tallinn University. He is also the current President of the European Association of Japanese Studies. As an author, Raud has published four collections of poetry, five novels and several collections of short stories and plays. He has also frequently contributed to the Estonian public debate by opinion pieces, essays and critical newspaper columns. He is also well known for his translations of Japanese classical literature into Estonian.



### Jens-Martin Eriksen (Denmark)

Jens-Martin Eriksen graduated from The University of Aarhus with an MA (Literature) in 1981. He is a writer of novels, essays, drama and travelogues. He has won several awards in his country – among these are the Beatrice Prize from the Danish Academy and The Lifelong Grant of Honour from the National Endowment of the Arts. A number of his works are available in German (*Jonathan Svidts Verbrechen* and *Winter im Morgengrauen* from Liebeskind Verlag, München), French (*Nani*, *Anatomie du bourreau* and the cultural essay *Les Pièges de la Culture*), English (*The Democratic Contradiction of Multiculturalism*, Telos Press, New York). Eriksen's books have also been translated into Serbian, Dutch and Italian. Together with Professor Frederik Stjernfelt he has written extensively on the civil wars in the Balkans and on multiculturalism and cultural critique. Eriksen is also an author of a number of plays that have been staged in Switzerland and Germany. His most recent works include *The Process against Malaparte* on the meeting between Hitler's Governor-General of Poland Hans Frank and the Italian writer Curzio Malaparte and *Breivik II*, a play on the Norwegian terrorist for a German theatre, on which Eriksen is currently working.



### Ulrike Ackermann (Germany)

Ulrike Ackermann is a German author and Professor of Political Science, based in Heidelberg. Her research has primarily focused on freedom, a leitmotif of her intellectual career. She has studied Social Sciences, Political Science, German Language and Literature as well as Psychology and since 2008 has taught political science at the SRH University Heidelberg, chairing the John Stuart Mill Institute for the Research of Freedom that she founded. In the 1970s, Ackermann was a frequent visitor to Czechoslovakia and a supporter of Charter 77, the Polish KOR and Solidarity and other civic initiatives that sprung up in Central and Eastern Europe at that time. In 2002, she initiated the European Forum, a conference at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences; she has chaired discussions on several German public radio and TV stations and is a regular contributor to the monthly *Merkur* as well as various German dailies. Her books include *Freiheit in der Krise. Der Wert der wirtschaftlichen, politischen und individuellen Freiheit* (Freedom in Crisis. The value of economic, political and individual freedom); *Eros der Freiheit. Plädoyer für eine radikale Aufklärung* (The Eros of Freedom. In defence of radical enlightenment) and *Welche Freiheit. Plädoyer für eine offene Gesellschaft* (What Freedom. In defence of open society).



### Lena Pasternak (Sweden)

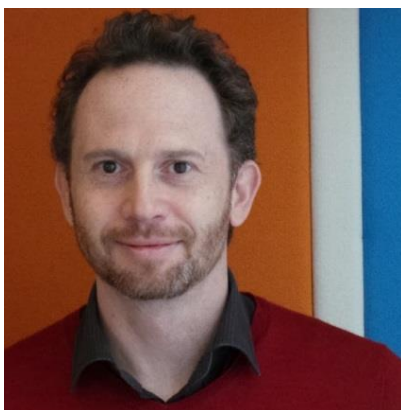
Lena Pasternak is the Director of the Baltic Centre for Writers and Translators (the BCWT) in Visby on the island of Gotland, Sweden. The BCWT is an international work-place and meeting point for writers and translators. The BCWT hosts annually 200 literary professionals from thirty countries.



### Ina Marčiulionytė (Lithuania)

Ina Marčiulionytė graduated from Vilnius University in 1986 with a degree in Lithuanian Language and Literature. As a member of *Sąjūdis*, the Lithuanian civil society movement that led to independence for Lithuania in 1990, she actively sought to revive the use of the Lithuanian language and protect the cultural heritage suppressed during the Soviet period.

As a Founding Member of the Open Society Fund Lithuania in 1991, Marčiulionytė was in the vanguard of the efforts to foster democracy in the newly independent Lithuania. In 1999, she was appointed the Vice-Minister of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania. She was also actively involved in the preparation of the international conference "Dialogue Among Civilizations" supported by UNESCO (2001). Since her appointment as the Permanent Delegate to UNESCO in 2004, Ambassador Marčiulionytė has been elected to a number of UNESCO committees, bodies, and has made a significant contribution wherever she has served, most prominently as the Chair of the World Heritage Committee and the Vice-President of the UNESCO Executive Board. Currently Marčiulionytė is the Director of the Department of Latin America, Asia, Africa and the Pacific at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania. Marčiulionytė has translated books and articles published in the national and international specialised press on arts and culture, cultural policy and heritage.



### Damien Helly (France)

Damien Helly has been an expert on the cultural dimensions of the external action of the European Union since 2006. He is currently a Policy Officer in the EU External Action Programme at the European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) and a Visiting Professor at the College of Europe, Bruges, for EU Diplomacy, Security and Defence. In 2012, while he was a Senior Research Fellow at the European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS), he published *More Cultural Europe in the World*, a groundbreaking monograph linking policy analysis and practical recommendations on EU external cultural relations. He also called for the creation of a European worldwide cultural radio service. Helly holds a PhD in Political Science from Sciences Po, Paris.



### Rod Fisher (United Kingdom)

Rod Fisher is the Director of International Intelligence on Culture, the consultancy he founded, and an Associate Lecturer on European cultural policies at Goldsmiths, University of London. He was the Director of the European Cultural Foundation UK (2002–2012), a Visiting Lecturer on international cultural policies at City University, London (1984–2007) and worked for the Arts Council of Great Britain and in positions related to cultural management in city governments. Fisher co-founded the cultural research network CIRCLE (Chairman 1985–1994). He has undertaken research, lectured and addressed conferences in more than 30 countries. Research interests include cultural diplomacy/cultural co-operation, e.g. whether there has been a paradigm shift in the cultural relations policies of EU Member States (2009–2011), programmes supporting the mobility of artists (ERICarts 2008) and skills/training needed for managing transnational cultural projects (Fondation Hicter 2007). His report *A Cultural Dimension to the EU's External Policies* was published by Boekmanstichting (2007). A book on the EU and culture is underway.