

# Center of Social Anthropology

## Carries out the research project:

“The Peculiarities of Secularization Process in Lithuania: Intersection of Public and Private Religiosity”<sup>1</sup>

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### Project Goals

The project aims to identify the dimensions, scope, and specific features of secularization in Lithuania. This goal will be achieved by (a) the analysis of scholarly literature on the manifestations and dimensions of secularization; (b) the study of the relations between religion, church, and society, in order to identify the role of religion in Lithuanian society; (c) the investigation of the manifestations of secularization on the individual level, by determining the relationship between tradition and individualization and by investigating new forms of religiosity and spirituality; (d) the inquiry into the use of religious symbols in the construction of cultural identity.

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### Project Stages

First stage – review of scholarly literature on the role of religion in contemporary society.

Second stage – analysis of documents that frame church-state relations, of mass media content and public discourse with regard to the relations between religion, church, and society.

Third stage – studying secularization on the individual level, with the aim to (1) to investigate the relationship between traditionalism and individualism and (2) identify new forms of spirituality and religiosity through the application of qualitative methods (participant observation and semi-structured interviews).

Fourth stage – corroboration of the theoretical hypotheses formulated in the second and third stages through quantitative research (a representational survey of Lithuanian society).

Fifth stage – analysis of the scope and specificity of secularization in Lithuania in comparison with other European societies.

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### Project Acronym

SPYL

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### Project Dates

2010 09 - 2013 08

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### Project Participants

Associate Professor Dr. Jolanta Kuznecovienė, Vytautas Magnus University, Associate Professor of Sociology – head of the project  
 Professor Dr. Ingo W. Schröder, Vytautas Magnus University, Senior Researcher at the Center of Social Anthropology. Participants  
 Dr. Milda Ališauskienė, Vytautas Magnus University, Lecturer of Sociology  
 Donatas Glodenis, Vilnius University, PhD candidate in Sociology

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### Planned Outcomes

During the project a methodological workshop, where theoretical issues concerning secularization will be discussed and a scientific conference for the dissemination of project results will be organized. The result of the workshop, conference, and individual research will be presented in four scholarly articles, one monograph, and an edited volume.

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