



# VILNIUS UNIVERSITY







**VILNIUS UNIVERSITY**

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# VILNIUS UNIVERSITY

## Interesting facts

*Vilnius University was established by the Jesuit Order in 1579 to counteract the Protestant Reformation in the multinational and multi-confessional Grand Duchy of Lithuania.*

*Mathias Casimirus Sarbievius, alumnus and Professor of Vilnius University, and a famous 17<sup>th</sup> century poet, was awarded a laurel wreath by Pope Urban VIII.*

*Johan Peter Frank and his son Jozef Frank, outstanding Austrian medical scholars, who were well-known in Europe, were professors at Vilnius University at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.*

*The most prominent graduate of Vilnius University was the famous romantic poet and writer Adam Mickiewicz (1798-1855).*

*During the period of the Soviet regime, the Lithuanian language was used as the main language of instruction at Vilnius University, but believers were denied access to the University Church of St. Johns.*

## Did you know that...?

*Vilnius University Library, founded in 1570, is the oldest library in the Baltic States.*

*Vilnius University offers one of the widest ranges of study programmes in Lithuania.*

Vilnius University is the oldest and largest institution of higher education in Lithuania. It actively participates in international scientific and academic activities and embodies the concept of a traditional university – the unity of studies and research.

Vilnius University has been an integral part of European scientific and cultural life since its establishment in 1579. As one of the oldest higher educational institutions in Central and Eastern Europe, it has had a profound influence on the cultural life of Lithuania, as well as on its neighbouring states.

The University aims to establish itself as a centre of excellence in the sphere of European research and education. Vilnius University has taken upon itself the responsibility to maintain the highest level of research and studies; thus fulfilling the needs of the state and society for higher education. Recently, the University has significantly improved its infrastructure through active involvement in European structural funds projects.

Today, Vilnius University has over 22,000 students and more than 2,300 teaching and research staff. The University has 14 faculties, five institutes, and three university hospitals, in addition to four study and research centres. It has one of the richest libraries in Europe, an astronomical observatory, a botanical garden and the cherished Church of St. Johns. The University also boasts several museums, a dormitory campus,



laboratories, workshops, summer resorts, and various bases  
for student work placements.

The University enjoys a unique academic atmosphere and  
academic freedom; priority is always attached to intellect,  
wisdom, and tolerance.

Vilnius University remains young, dynamic, progressive, and  
open to the world's cultural and scientific values.

# STUDIES AT VILNIUS UNIVERSITY

## Did you know that...?

*Vilnius University is the most popular and most acknowledged institution of higher education among Lithuanian secondary school graduates.*

*Applicants may select from nearly 70 different undergraduate (Bachelor's) study programmes and over 110 graduate (Master's) programmes.*

*Postgraduate students and resident physicians may select study programmes in 30 different research fields.*

*Every year, more than 500 students have the opportunity to study abroad for one or two semesters.*

*There is a wide variety of activities contributing to the rich student life with the Students' representation, three choirs, folk music ensembles, students' theatres, a chamber orchestra, sports clubs/activities, and much more.*

Owing to its academic traditions stretching back for centuries, Vilnius University has gained considerable experience in organising studies, while creating the foundations for a wide range of study areas and fields based on the knowledge that reflects fundamental and the most recent scientific achievements. The University offers an academic environment that is focused on excellence in research and teaching, which in turn ensures the unity of studies and research.

Vilnius University offers a wide range of high quality undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate studies in the humanities, social sciences, physical and biomedical sciences and technologies.

Undergraduate studies usually take four years to complete. After finishing the chosen study programme, graduates are awarded a Bachelor's degree, with the exception of certain areas where they are also granted professional qualifications. Graduate studies and Master-degree studies last from one-and-a-half to two years; graduates of Master's studies are awarded a Master's degree.

Studies in the fields of Law, Medicine, and Odontology embrace both undergraduate and graduate studies. The residency and postgraduate studies enable graduates in Medicine and Odontology to acquire a higher qualification of a specialised medical doctor. Doctoral studies aim to prepare researchers in various scientific fields.



These postgraduate studies take four years and are completed after the successful defence of the PhD thesis.

In order to respond to the demands of a rapidly evolving lifelong learning society, Vilnius University offers a variety of courses and study programmes which aim to increase the qualification or re-qualification of specialists, as well as to expand the general or professional knowledge of citizens. Vilnius University offers additional one-year study programmes to supplement Bachelor's degrees awarded by colleges. Upon the successful completion of these studies, the students are granted admission rights to Master-degree study programmes.

# STUDENT NUMBERS

As of January 1, 2013

Undergraduate	14,890
Graduate	4,046
Doctoral students	793
Resident physicians	785
Attenders	1,082
International students	713
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>22,309</b>

## Study programmes by study area



Technological Sciences



Biomedical Sciences



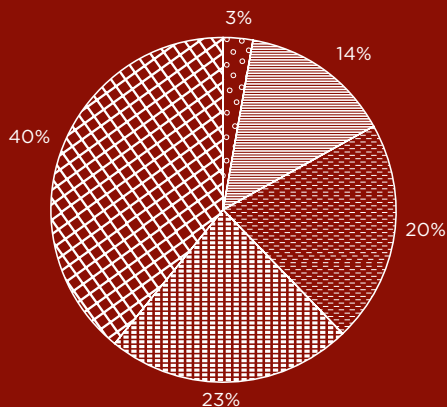
Social Sciences



Humanities



Physical Sciences





# RESEARCH

Fundamental and applied research is pursued at Vilnius University in many fields of science. The main research priorities are: Lithuanian studies; the structure and development of society; biological and socio-psychological cognition and the evolution of man; healthy lifestyles, the prevention, diagnostics and treatment of diseases; genomics, biomolecules and biotechnologies; changes in ecosystems, protection, natural resources; new functional materials and derivatives; theoretical and condensed matter physics; laser physics and light technologies; fundamental and applied mathematics; and informatics and information technologies.

Vilnius University has over 2,300 teaching and research staff, over 70 percent of whom hold research degrees and/or academic titles.

The researchers are increasingly engaged in various national and international scientific programmes such as EU FP7, COST, EUREKA, CERN, EU Public Health, national global grant programme, etc. Scientists in laser technologies of the University participate in the European Laser Network. The Institute of Biotechnology participates in FP7 project MoBiLi with the main objective of transforming itself into a centre of excellence in molecular biotechnology. The Regional Bioethics Information Centre is functioning at the University. Researchers contribute to the development of *grid* technologies. The international network 'Baltnexus' of researchers in Lithuanian and Baltic studies has been created. There are also other research schools at the University which have gained international recognition by taking part in the implementation of international projects.

Many foreign researchers use our research infrastructure and participate in high level international conferences organised by the University.

Annually, University researchers publish over 3,000 scientific publications, including approximately 40 monographs and over

## Did you know that...?

*Czeslaw Milosz (1911-2004), the Nobel Prize winner for literature, graduated from Vilnius University.*

*The number of scientific articles by the University staff that have been published in the Web of Science journal list account for a third of all Lithuanian researchers' articles of this kind.*

*Geologist Ignas Domeika (1802-1889), an alumnus of Vilnius University, became the Rector of Chile Santiago University. A mountain ridge, a town, a flowering plant, and a mineral discovered by him - domeikitis, have all been named after him.*

*The Lithuanian Laser research school has developed at Vilnius University, and currently, lasers for research made by Lithuanian producers account for 10% of the global market share.*



500 articles in leading scientific journals, and organise around 140 national and international scientific conferences and seminars. Annually, around 140 doctoral degrees are awarded. Doctoral theses defended at Vilnius University are among the winners of the annual contest for 'The best PhD thesis of the year'.

University researchers have earned national and international acclaim. This is illustrated by their membership of the Lithuanian Science Academy, the European Science and Art Academy and other international academic organisations. They have also been awarded honorary titles at foreign universities, and received international prizes and grants, participating in international congresses and programme committees.

# INNOVATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Vilnius University is in the midst of the development of new structures to stimulate the development of research, ensuring that research, education, and innovation interact and flourish. This is a guarantee for Vilnius University to position itself in the field of European and global research and education; uniting universities, research institutes, top-level high-tech companies and fast-developing start ups. The 'Sunrise Valley' and the 'Santara Valley' programmes, initiated by Vilnius University, in cooperation with other national institutions, stimulate a breakthrough in research development and the commercialisation of research.

The 'Sunrise Valley' project will mobilise the research potential of Lithuania, especially in the field of laser and light technologies, materials science, nanotechnologies, semiconductor physics and electronics; whereas the project 'Santara Valley' will develop biotechnologies, bio-pharmacy, molecular medicine, innovative medical technologies, information technology, ecosystems and safe environment.

The first building of The Sunrise Valley Science and Technology Park with a Business Incubator was completed in 2009. The National Open Access Science Information and Communication Centre - part of Vilnius University Library - was opened in February 2013. It is an excellent meeting venue for better interaction between the University, businesses, and the community.

The new building of the Visoriai Information Technology Park with an IT Incubator was opened in May 2013. The National Centre of Physical and Technological Sciences and The Joint Centre of Life Sciences are to be opened in 2015 within the structures of 'Sunrise Valley' and 'Santara Valley'.

These developments provide high quality sites and premises suitable for technology-driven businesses and promote networking between universities and businesses, among the businesses themselves, and with partners elsewhere in Lithuania and worldwide.

# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

## **Did you know that...?**

*125 bilateral agreements have been signed by Vilnius University with higher education establishments all over the world.*

*Vilnius University has signed over 750 Erasmus cooperation agreements.*

*In 2013/2014 there are over 500 interdisciplinary courses in English, German, French, and Russian available for international and Lithuanian students.*

International cooperation in general and mobility in particular are seen as basic values for the development of the institution and for fulfilling its mission to society, the region, and the world.

Vilnius University collaborates with educational institutions, networks and associations, and businesses around the world. The number of bilateral agreements with foreign universities is growing, the catchment of cooperation is geographically expanding, and its nature changing. International cooperation has an impact on all spheres of university life; embracing studies, research and cooperation of administrators.

The University actively participates in projects with international organisations such as UNESCO, NATO and EUA, and engages in EU education and scientific programmes, such as the Lifelong Learning programme, Erasmus Mundus, Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window, COST, FRAMEWORK and others.

Since 1991, the University of Vilnius has been a Signatory to the Magna Charta of European Universities. The University is a member of the European University Association (EUA) and the Conference of Baltic University Rectors. The University's membership of the Utrecht Network, UNICA and EUPRIO networks provides the opportunity for all faculties and administrative offices to maintain close cooperational ties with partner universities and to keep in touch with the latest developments in the sphere of European Higher Education.



Many academic units and their representatives boast active members of specialised international academic associations and organisations.

A great number of projects based on bilateral cooperation have been carried out by various faculties, departments, and other academic divisions of the University.

The most intensive cooperation, about 48%, takes place in the European Union with other universities and science and research centres. The University is currently rapidly expanding its cooperational ties with Asian, Australian, and Middle Eastern universities. Mobility and cross-border collaboration is the hallmark of the University strategy as a means to ensure its publicity and provide an incentive for development.

# UNIVERSITY AND SOCIETY

## Interesting facts

*In the last five years, 62 researchers of Vilnius University have been awarded the highest scientific awards and those for achievements in culture: The Lithuanian National Prize and The Lithuanian Science Prize.*

With the dynamic changes in society and the increasing role of higher education, the mission of the University to serve the needs of society is continually growing in importance.

The University has taken upon itself the goal to promote science and culture among young people. Amongst others, these include: the Children's University activities; a joint project with the company 'Thermo Fisher Scientific' called 'Mobile Bio-classroom', which presented the recent achievements of the biosciences to school-children; the University has established a long-term collaboration with secondary schools and gymnasiums all over Lithuania; and there are also events open to the general public at the University Library on various occasions. Furthermore, the activities of The School of the Young Physicists, The School of the Young Chemists and The School of the Young Mathematicians take place, as well as public lectures run by prominent researchers, participation in the 'Researchers Night' and the science festival 'Spaceship Earth' – these are but a few examples of various projects offered for the public, and for young people in particular. Vilnius University Library, the newly opened National Open Access Science Information and Communication Centre, lecture rooms, halls and courtyards are excellent meeting venues for better interaction between the University, businesses, and the community. Every year, the University hosts a number of international conferences, exhibitions and other events, concerts in the University Church of St. Johns, and festivals in the picturesque courtyards of the Old Campus.



10 University art ensembles perform not only for the University community, but for the general public as well as internationally.

Vilnius University Museum, which encompasses 10 faculty and department museums, has accumulated valuable artefacts and is open to the public upon request.

University graduates, as well as University researchers and the teaching staff, are actively involved in the activities of the public institutions of Lithuania, and influence political, cultural, economic, and business activities.

# PERSONNEL

(As of January 1, 2013)

Total*	3,761
Of them: <i>Dr. Hab. (HP included)</i>	283
<i>Doctors</i>	1,387
Academic staff*	1,353
Professors*	247
Docents*	476
Research fellows*	480
Dr. Hab. (HP included)	63
Doctors	294

\*Full-time equivalent



# FINANCE

## Allocation of budget: %



Line-item budget



EEA, ESF, NG Co-financing



Project based funding



ESF, EEA, NG funding



Other international funding



Tuition fees



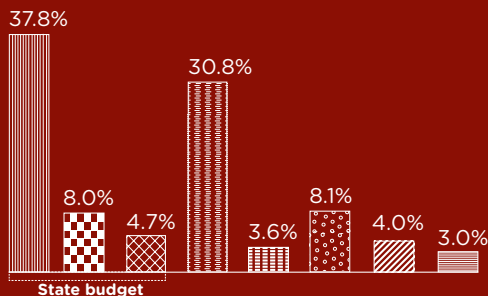
Economic activity revenue



Other (courses, research contracts, etc.)

## Incomes of Vilnius University in 2012

Total: 406,829.30 (thousand Lt)



\*EEA -European Economic Area, NG- Norway Grants, ESF - EU structural assistance

## Allocation of expenditure: %



Salaries



Social insurance payments



Materials, supplies and services for research and studies



Student scholarships



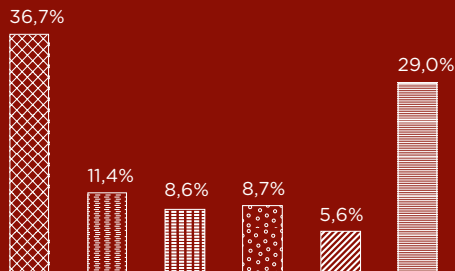
Maintenance services



Investments

## Expenditure in 2012

Total: 372,192.50 (thousand Lt)





# UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES

The University consists of six academic campuses. The main location of the University is the unique Old Campus, whose enormous contribution to the international image of the city, and indeed of the country, cannot be overestimated.

The complex of the University buildings extends over a whole block of the Old Town. Vilnius University is one of the few universities in Europe which has preserved the original purpose of the buildings since its establishment in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Its original architecture certainly grabs the visitor's attention.

The campus is composed of 13 buildings, some of which are made up of multiple structures, the Church of St. Johns, and the belfry. At present, the Rector's Office, the Library, the Institute of Foreign Languages, the Faculties of Philology, Philosophy, and History are all situated in the old town, as well as some interdisciplinary centres.

Other faculties and research institutes are scattered all over the city, on other eight University campuses.

The Faculty of Humanities in Kaunas is the only faculty of Vilnius University established in a different city other than the main campuses.

## Did you know that...?

*The highest building of the Old Town - The Bell Tower of the Church of St. Johns - provides the unique possibility for tourists to observe the stunning panorama of Vilnius.*

*Vilnius University owns over 100 buildings in Vilnius, Kaunas and other locations in Lithuania.*

*A miniature replica model of the Old Campus of Vilnius University represents Lithuania in the Mini Park Europe in Brussels.*

# STRUCTURE

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**Admissions Officer tel. (+370 5) 2687183**, e-mail: trs@cr.vu.lt

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## **Directorate of Science and Innovation**

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## **Office of Post-Graduate Studies**

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## **Students' Representation**

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## **Career Centre**

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## **Library**

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**Institute of Foreign Languages**

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**Institute of Biotechnology**

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ADDIDIT ANTIQVO VIRTUS NOVA LUMINA COELO.



