



The Research Council of Lithuania | Institute of International Relations and Political Science
of Vilnius University | Eastern Europe Studies Centre

International Seminar

Main Pillars of Belarusian Regime: Strengths and Weaknesses

Wednesday, May 7, 2014

9:00 – 15:30 h

EESC, D. Poskos str. 59, Vilnius

9:00-9:40 **Registration & Morning Coffee**

9:40-10:00 **Welcome addresses**

Dr. Jovita Neliupšienė, Institute of International Relations and Political Science, Vilnius University

Ms. Kristina Vaičiūnaitė, Director, Eastern Europe Studies Centre

Session I: Internal Developments in Belarus. Regime Efforts and Challenges

Moderator: *Mr. Marius Laurinavičius, Senior Policy Analyst, Eastern Europe Studies Centre (Lithuania)*

10:00-10:20 **Longevity of Belarusian Political Elite: Nation Building, Denationalized Country or Loyalty to State**

Dr. Jovita Neliupšienė, Institute of International Relations and Political Science, Vilnius University (Lithuania)

10:20-10:40 **Public Administration Reform and Local Elections in Belarus**

Dr. Tatsiana Chulitskaya, Lecturer, European Humanities University (Belarus)

10:40-11:00 **Power of Social Media: Inclusive or Exclusive?**

Mr. Alaksiej Lavončyk, Media Expert and Project Manager, Transitions Online (Belarus)

11:00-11:20 **Civil Society in Belarus: an Engine for Change?**

Ms. Kristina Vaičiūnaitė, Director, Eastern Europe Studies Centre (Lithuania)

11:20-11:40 **The Prospects of Political Opposition in Belarus**

Mr. Jake Jones, IRI Residence Country Director, Belarus (USA)

11:40-12:00 **Q&A**

12:00-13:00 **Lunch**



Lietuvos
mokslo
taryba

 VU TSPMI


Eastern Europe Studies Centre

Session II: External Factors of Regime Stability

Moderator: Dr. Laurynas Jonavičius, *Institute of International Relations and Political Science, Vilnius University*

13:00-13:20 Eurasian Union: Russian and Belarusian Perspectives

Dr. Kirill Koktysh, *Associate Professor, MGIMO University (Russia)*

13:20-13:40 Dilemmas within the Relations between Russia and Belarus

Mr. Andis Kudors, *Executive Director, Centre for East European Policy Studies (Latvia)*

13:40-14:00 Belarus' Foreign Policy: Any Changes to Be Expected?

Mr. Andrei Yeliseyeu, *Analyst, Belarusian Institute of Strategic Studies (Belarus)*

14:00-14:30 Q&A

Instead of Closing Remarks: Book Presentation

14:30-15:30 Presentation of Anatoly Liabedzka's book "108 Days & Nights in a KGB Dungeon"

Mr. Anatoly Liabedzka, who was a campaign aide to presidential candidate Jaroslav Romanchuk, was among the hundreds of people arrested in the wake of a police crackdown on a post-election protest staged in Minsk on December 19, 2010. In his book "108 Days & Nights in a KGB Dungeon" Mr. Liabedzka describes his experience as an inmate of the KGB prison and reflects upon lawlessness of the Belarusian regime.