

Preface

In this issue, the reader will find six articles on various sociological topics and two book reviews.

The first two articles are devoted to the analysis of men's educational variable. In the article "Men's Educational Resources and Transition into First Marriage: Is There the Advantage of University Education?" Aušra Maslauskaitė and Domantas Jasilionis examine the association between men's educational resources and transition into first marriage in Lithuania. The authors claim that higher men's educational resources increase men's attractiveness in the marriage market.

In the article "Educational Differences in Mortality among Working-age Men in Lithuania", Daumantas Stumbrys and Domantas Jasilionis analyse the association between education and mortality among working-age men in Lithuania. According to the authors, education is one of the major factors influencing health of the middle-aged men.

In the third article "The Analysis of Theoretical Hypotheses and Factors Influencing the Reconstitutions of Partnership after Divorce" Ernesta Platūkytė looks at economic, social and cultural factors that are important for the constitution of new partnership after divorce. The author points out that women who have undergone divorce face more constraints and have fewer opportunities for reconstitution of partnership than divorced men.

In the article "Subjective Perception of Security by the Lithuanian People in the Context of External Threats", Ingrida Gečienė states that perceived threats by the country's population is highly dependent on the specific political, economic, social, environmental and the situation of external threats of the time. Although most people are concerned most with an individual security level, the change of the situation could put forward both national and international level of security awareness and force us to review approaches to emerging external threats and responses to them.

In her article "Political Participation of the Polish National Minority in Lithuania", Asta Visockaitė writes that members of the Polish minority understand political participation in a narrow sense, i. e. as being only interested in politics and participation in the elections, and are greatly interested in the Lithuanian politics only when the political issues are closely related to the Polish minority.

The topic of ethnic studies is further analysed by Vidmantas Vyšniauskas and Giedrė Baltrušaitytė. In their article "Pupils' Approach to Poles and

Lithuanian-Polish Relationships”, the authors state that pupils’ knowledge about Polish people and Lithuanian-Polish relationships are rather pure, and a sizable number of respondents are negatively disposed toward them and the role of the neighboring country in Lithuania’s history. The authors presume that pupils’ views might be influenced by history classes and history textbooks used in schools.

Two book reviews are published in this issue. The first review “Vortexes of the Politics of Memory in Central and Eastern Europe“ written by Eglė Tuzaitė is devoted to the analysis of “History, Memory and Politics in Central and Eastern Europe: Memory Games”, a book edited by Georges Mink and Laure Neumayer and published in 2013 by the Palgrave Macmillan. The second review entitled “What Moves the Lithuanian Pop Culture?” is written by Virginijus Savukynas and analyses Artūras Tereškina’s book “Pop Culture: Emotions, Bodies, Texts” (*Popkultūra: jausmų istorijos, kūniški tekstai*) that was published in 2013 in Lithuania.

Diana Janušauskienė
Managing Editor