

International Conference

# Women in Science

Empowering  
Inclusive Futures

## Event Program

February 11-12, 2026  
Mykolas Romeris University  
Vilnius, Lithuania

Honorary Patron of the  
Conference:  
**Prime Minister of Lithuania  
Inga Ruginienė**

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International Conference

# Women in Science

Empowering  
Inclusive Futures

## Day One February 11

Mykolas Romeris University  
Central Building  
Ateities g., 20  
Room I-414  
English Language

Program subject to change  
Last updated: 22 January

Honorary Patron of the  
Conference:

**Prime Minister of Lithuania  
Inga Ruginienė**

### 09:30 Registration and Badges

Conference Introduction by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Isabel Palomo-Domínguez**. Chair of the Conference Organizational Committee; Leader researcher of the Post-digital Storytelling in favor of Gender Equality Project (PSGENEQ) at Mykolas Romeris University; Vice President of the Association of Spanish Scientists in the Baltic Countries (ACEBaltic).

### 10:00 Opening Remarks

**Inga Ruginienė**. Prime Minister of Lithuania.

**Prof. Dr. Inga Žalėnienė**. Rector of Mykolas Romeris University, President of the Lithuanian University Rectors' Conference (LURK); Vice President of International Association of Universities (IAU); Member of the Board of Directors of the European Women Rectors' Association (EWORA).

**Raminta Popovienė**. Minister of Education, Science and Sport of Lithuania. (TBC)

**Prof. Habil. Dr. Vytautas Nekrošius**. President of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences.

**Dr. Gintaras Valinčius**. Chairman of the Research Council of Lithuania.

**Fernando Fernández-Aguayo Muñoz**. Ambassador of Spain to Lithuania.

### 10:30 Leadership in Academia

Panel: ***Rectors' Perspectives on the Status of Women in Academia.***

**Prof. Dr. Sondan D. Feyiz**. Former Rector of Kadir Has University, Turkey; Vice President of the European Women Rectors' Association (EWORA).

**Prof. Dr. Birgit Riegraf**. Former President at Paderborn University, Germany; Member of the Board of Directors of the European Women Rectors' Association (EWORA).

**Prof. Dr. Eugenijus Valatka**. Rector of Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania.

**Prof. Dr. Artūras Razbadauskas**. Rector of Klaipėda University, Lithuania.

Moderator: **Prof. Dr. Inga Žalėnienė**. Rector of Mykolas Romeris University; President of the Lithuanian University Rectors' Conference (LURK); Vice President of International Association of Universities (IAU); Member of the Board of Directors of the European Women Rectors' Association (EWORA).

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11:15 Coffee Break

11:45 Equality in Research Excellence

### ***Women's Role in Scientific Societies.***

Presented by **Dr. Habil. Gražina Tautvaišienė**, President of the Lithuanian Physical Society; Vice President of the International Astronomical Union; Member of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences; Member of the Research Council of Lithuania.

### ***Measures to Promote Equality in Research Excellence: Addressing the Challenge Across Different European Contexts.***

Presented by:

**Representative of the Research Council of Lithuania.**  
(TBC)

**Representative of the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities of Spain.** (TBC).

12:30 Inclusive and Ethical Scientific Cultures

### ***RAICEX White Paper on Gender Policies in Science and Academia.***

Presented by its editors and co-chairs of the Research and Gender Commission at the Network of the Associations of the Spanish Researchers and Scientists Abroad (RAICEX):

**Dr. Rocío Fuente-Pérez.** Department of Cellular Biology and Embryology at the University of Oviedo, Spain.

**Dr. Sara Barrasa-García.** Department of Geography at Complutense University of Madrid, Spain.

Panel: ***State of the Art and Lessons Learned in Lithuania.***

**Dr. Vaida Aleknavičienė.** Minister of Culture of Lithuania.  
(TBC)

**Dr. Regina Valutytė.** Vice Minister of Education, Science and Sport of Lithuania. (TBC)

**Dr. Reda Cimmperman.** Ombudsperson for Academic Ethics and Procedures of Lithuania.

13:30 Networking Lunch

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English Language

<sup>1</sup> Viscasillas-Vázquez,  
Minkevičiūtė, & Benito-Castaño, 2026.

### 14:30 Keynote Presentation

#### ***AI Bias and Gendered Knowledge Production.***

By **Prof. Dr. Paola Panarese**, Department of Communication and Social Research (CoRiS) at Sapienza University of Rome, Italy; Leader of the GeMMa Research Unit, the Mediamonitor Minori Observatory, and the UXLab; Principal Investigator of the PRIN PNRR project IMAGES on inclusive machine learning, gender and ethnic stereotypes.

### 15:15 Women in Science Who Make History

#### ***From Recognition to Inspiration: Antonia Ferrín Moreiras and Women's Visibility in Astronomy***<sup>1</sup>.

Presented by **Dr. Renata Minkevičiūtė**, Institute of Theoretical Physics and Astronomy at Vilnius University, recipient of the ELLE Lithuania Women Awards 2025.

#### ***Announcement of the Inaugural Award Call: Antonia Ferrín Moreiras, ACEBaltic Award for the Best Doctoral Dissertation in Astronomy in the Baltics.***

Presented by **Dr. Francisco José Maldonado-Torralba**, Institute of Computer Science at University of Tartu, President of the Association of Spanish Scientists in the Baltic Countries (ACEBaltic), President of the Network of the Associations of the Spanish Researchers and Scientists Abroad (RAICEX).

### 16:00 Closing of Day One

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## Day Two February 12

Mykolas Romeris University  
Lab Building  
Didlaukio g., 55  
English  
& Other Languages

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09:00 Registration and Badges

09:30 Keynote presentation

Room L-102. English Language

***Finding my place in Quantum Science.***

By **Dr. Mažena Mackoit-Sinkevičienė**, Faculty of Physics at Vilnius University, Lithuania. Awarded with the Baltic Women in Science Fellowship.

10:15 Shaping STEM Futures: Education,  
Motivation and Skills for Inclusive Innovation

Room L-102. English Language

Session chaired by **Dr. Francisco José Maldonado-Torralba**. Institute of Computer Science at University of Tartu, Estonia; President of the Association of Spanish Scientists in the Baltic Countries (ACEBaltic); President of the Network of the Associations of the Spanish Researchers and Scientists Abroad (RAICEX).

***Arts-Based Futures Literacy in Primary Education: A Female-Led, Practice-Oriented Positioning Study from Kochi, India.***

**Dr. Kim de Vidts**. Erasmus Brussels University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Belgium.

***Awakening Vocations in STEM.***

**Dr. María José Martínez-Bravo**. University College London, United Kingdom.

**Women in Science Committee**. Society of Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom (SRUK/CERU), Spain.

***Recipients of Scientific Discourse: Gendered Motivations for STEM Careers in Cross-National Comparison.***

**Prof. Dr. Lilach Nir**. Hebrew University, Israel; Freie University of Berlin, Germany.

***Beyond the Skills Gap: How Empowering Women Can Transform the Future of Cybersecurity.***

**Prof. Dr. Giedre Sabaliauskaite**. Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania.

***How do education system structures influence women's participation in STEM fields, North Macedonia compared with EU trends.***

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nora Taravari**. University Mother Theresa, North Macedonia.

12:00 Coffee Break

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Lab Building  
Didlaukio g., 55  
English  
& Other Languages

12:30 Parallel session:

**Mokslas ir lyčių lygybė: Lietuvos perspektyva / Science and Gender: A Lithuanian Perspective.**

Room L-102. Lithuanian Language

Session chaired by **Dr. Raimonda Bogužaitė**. Dean of the Sudovian Academy at Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania.

***Motery verslininkų socialinis reprezentatyvumas Lietuvos žiniasklaidoje / Social Representations of Women Entrepreneurs in Lithuanian Media.***

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Miglė Černikováitė**. Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania.

**Daiva Lunienė**. SMK College of Applied Science, Lithuania.

***Motery tyrėjų balsas sporto srities tyrimuose: Lietuvos atvejis / The Voice of Female Researchers in Sports Research: Evidence from Lithuania.***

**Greta Galdikaitė**. Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania.

**Dr. Rūta Tamošiūnaitė**. Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania.

***Istoriniai naratyvai ir moterų savarankiško veikimo galimybės lietuvių autorių komiksuose: įžvalgos mokslo komunikacijai / Historical narratives and women's agency in comics by Lithuanian authors: implications for science communication.***

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Viktorija Mažeikienė**. Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania.

***Barjerų įveikimas po žvaigždėmis: Lietuvos astronomija erdvėje ir laike / Breaking Barriers Under the Stars: Lithuanian Astronomy Through Space and Time.***

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Edita Stonkute**. Vilnius University, Lithuania.

Simultaneously, the following sessions will take place:

- In Spanish: Ciencia y Género: Una Perspectiva Española / Science and Gender: A Spanish Perspective (See Page 6).
- In English: Science and Gender: Selected cases. Part A (See Page 7).

### 14:00 Networking Lunch

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English  
& Other Languages

12:30. Parallel session:

**Ciencia y Género: Una Perspectiva Española /  
Science and Gender: A Spanish Perspective.**

Room L-101. Spanish Language

Session chaired by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ana León-Manzanero**. Latvian Academy of Culture, Latvia; Science in Spanish Committee of the Association of Spanish Scientists in the Baltic Countries (ACEBaltic).

*Mapa dialectal del lenguaje inclusivo en el mundo hispánico / Dialectal Map of Inclusive Language in the Spanish-Speaking World.*

**Dr. Carlos Soler Montes**. The University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom.

*Comité de Investigación y Género de RAICEX: Avanzando en la Visibilidad de la Mujer en la Ciencia / The Research and Gender Committee of RAICEX: Advancing the Visibility of Women in Science.*

**Dr. Sara Barrasa-García**. Complutense University of Madrid, Spain.

**Dr. Rocío Fuente-Pérez**. University of Oviedo, Spain.

*Del legado de María Moliner a las lexicógrafas lituanas actuales / From María Moliner's legacy to today's Lithuanian lexicographers.*

**Dr. Alfonso Rascón Caballero**. University of Vilnius, Lithuania.

*Prácticas Editoriales en Igualdad de Género de la Fundación Española para la Ciencia y Tecnología (FECYT) / Editorial Practices in Gender Equality by the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT).*

**Assoc. Prof. dr. Jesús Segarra-Saavedra**. University of Alicante, Spain.

**Dr. Belén Cambrónero-Saiz**. International University of La Rioja, Spain.

Simultaneously, the following sessions will take place:

- In Lithuanian: Mokslas ir lyčių lygybė: Lietuvos perspektyva / Science and Gender: A Lithuanian Perspective. (See Page 5).
- In English: Science and Gender: Selected cases. Part A (See Page 7).

14:00 Networking Lunch

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English  
& Other Languages

12:30 Parallel session:

**Science and Gender: Selected cases. Part A**

Hybrid Session: Online & Room L-104. English Language

Session chaired by **Prof. Dr. Fernando Infante del Rosal**. University of Seville, Spain; Researcher in the Post-digital Storytelling in Favor of Gender Equality (PSGENEQ) project at Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania.

***Cultivating Leaders: Partnerships to Advance Leadership Pathways of Kenyan Women in Research Ecosystems.***

**Lillian Elizabeth Anyango**. Daystar University, Kenya.

***Scientific Representation of Social Responsibility Projects for Women's Empowerment: A Bibliometric Analysis of Global Trends.***

**Dr. Metin Enes Dönmez**. Istanbul Aydin University, Turkey.

***Pauline Oliveros and Deep Listening: Sound Art Strategies for an Ecofeminist Knowledge Construction.***

**Dr. Eugenio Rivas Herencia**. University of Málaga, Spain.

**M. Aránzazu Ruiz-Nuño**. University of Málaga, Spain.

***Women & Astronomy Commission: working for a more inclusive and diverse Spanish Astronomical Society since 2010.***

**Dr. Alicia Rouco Escorial**. Spanish Astronomical Society, Spain.

***Research in Communication from a Gender Perspective.***

**Dr. Nuria Sánchez-Gey Valenzuela**. University of Seville, Spain.

**Carlos Sáenz-Torralba**. University of Cádiz, Spain.

**Pablo Morillo Pérez**. Pablo de Olavide University, Spain.

Simultaneously, the following sessions will take place:

- In Lithuanian: Mokslas ir lyčių lygybė: Lietuvos perspektyva / Science and Gender: A Lithuanian Perspective. (See Page 5).
- In Spanish: Ciencia y Género: Una Perspectiva Española / Science and Gender: A Spanish Perspective (See Page 6).

14:00 Networking Lunch

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15:00 Parallel session:

**Gender, Media and Professional Cultures:  
Narratives and Organizational Insights**

Room L-102. English Language

Session chaired by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Migle Černikovaite**.  
Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania.

*University Education, Gender and Organisational  
Structure in the Communications Industry: Evidence  
for Public Action.*

**Prof. Dr. Gloria Jiménez-Marín**. University of Seville,  
Spain.

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rodrigo Elías-Zambrano**. University of  
Seville, Spain.

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Marta Saavedra-Llamas**. Nebrija  
University, Spain.

*Visible Tattoos and Academic Professionalism:  
Perceptions at Mykolas Romeris University.*

**Greta Klimienė**. Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania.

**Prof. Dr. Marius Kalinauskas**. Mykolas Romeris  
University, Lithuania.

*Comparing gendered career narratives in Italian and  
Lithuanian educational and work contexts.*

**Dr. Giulia Lausi**. University of Vilnius, Lithuania.

*Abortion in European news media discourse: A  
feminist critical socio-cognitive approach.*

**Dr. Silvia Peterssen**. University of Vilnius, Lithuania.

*Women as entrepreneurs and caregivers in scientific  
literature and the media.*

**Dr. Dolores Rando-Cueto**. University of Malaga, Spain.

**Ainhoa del Pino Rodríguez-Vera**. University of Malaga,  
Spain.

**Prof. Dr. Carlos de las Heras-Pedrosa**. University of  
Malaga, Spain.

*Linking Career Expectations and Internal Marketing:  
Insights from Highly Skilled Professionals.*

**Mrs. Rasa Rudaitienė**. Mykolas Romeris University.

**Dr. Violeta Rapuano**. Mykolas Romeris University.

**Ms. Aušrinė Greičiūtė-Solovejė**. Mykolas Romeris  
University, Lithuania.

Simultaneously, the following sessions will take place:

- Equality, Health and Leadership: Evidence and Practices for Inclusive Futures (See Page 9).
- Science and Gender: Selected cases. Part B (See Page 10).

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English  
& Other Languages

15:00 Parallel session:

**Equality, Health and Leadership: Evidence  
and Practices for Inclusive Futures**

Room L-101. English Language

Session chaired by **Dr. María José Martínez-Bravo**.  
University College London, United Kingdom; Society  
of Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom (SRUK/  
CERU), Research and Gender Committee of the Network  
of the Associations of the Spanish Researchers and  
Scientists Abroad RAICEX.

***Advancing Gender Equality at University: Insights  
from HELCI Project.***

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ramunė Jakštienė**. Mykolas Romeris  
University, Lithuania.

***Enabling Women's Leadership in Inclusive and Green  
Futures: Evidence from EU Countries.***

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lina Volodzkienė**. Lithuanian Center for  
Social Sciences, Lithuania.

**Prof. Dr. Tomas Baležentis**. Lithuanian Center for Social  
Sciences, Lithuania.

***Data-driven approaches and scientific rigor: lessons  
from brain research.***

**Dr. Karolina Armonaitė**. Kaunas University of  
Technology, Lithuania.

***Gender Inequality in Healthcare: How Sexism Shapes  
Women's Health Outcomes in Western Healthcare  
Systems.***

**Monika Bukauskaitė**. Mykolas Romeris University,  
Lithuania.

***Culture and health: women in 'care' professions for  
inclusive wellbeing and sustainable ecosystems.***

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Reda Šatūnienė**. Lithuanian University  
of Health Sciences, Lithuania.

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Polina Šedienė**. Lithuanian University of  
Health Sciences, Lithuania.

Simultaneously, the following sessions will take place:

- Gender, Media and Professional Cultures: Narratives  
and Organizational Insights (See Page 8).
- Science and Gender: Selected cases. Part B (See  
Page 10).

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English  
& Other Languages

15:00 Parallel session:

### Science and Gender: Selected cases. Part B

Hybrid Session: Online & Room L-104. English Language

Session chaired by **Dr. Rūta Tamošiūnaitė**. Researcher in the Post-digital Storytelling in Favor of Gender Equality (PSGENEQ) project at Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania.

*Wandering Gazes: Drifting, Observation and Archiving in the Work of Agnès Varda and Sophie Calle.*

**Alejandra Durán**. University of Malaga, Spain.

*Strategies to Reduce Gender Bias and Encourage Female Participation in engineering workforce in Pakistan.*

**Research Engineer Kamran Khan**. Pakneftgaz, Pakistan.

*Len Howard and her birds in present-day feminist ecosystems.*

**Ana Isabel Perujo Pérez**. University of Málaga, Spain.

*NEST: sustainable fashion and science education from an intersectional gender perspective.*

**Concepción Rosas Jiménez**. Sain Telmo Art School, Spain.

*Empowering women in science globally: Professional associations as inclusion infrastructure.*

**Dr. Ekaete George**. University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria.

Simultaneously, the following sessions will take place:

- Gender, Media and Professional Cultures: Narratives and Organizational Insights (See Page 8).
- Equality, Health and Leadership: Evidence and Practices for Inclusive Futures (See Page 9).

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English  
& Other Languages

### 16:30 Keynote Presentation

Room L-102. English Language

#### ***The Meaning of the Untold: Intersectional Stories Making Women in Science Visible.***

By **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Isabel Palomo-Domínguez**, Leader researcher of the Post-digital Storytelling in favor of Gender Equality Project (PSGENEQ) at Mykolas Romeris University, Vice President of the Association of Spanish Scientists in the Baltic Countries (ACEBaltic).

### 17:15 Closing Ceremony

Room L-102

*Honorary Patron of the  
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This conference originates from the Post-digital Storytelling for Gender Equality (PSGENEQ) Research Project.

It is organized as part of a project funded by the State Budget titled "Establishment of Centers of Excellence at Mykolas Romeris University," which is implemented under the initiative "Centers of Excellence Initiative" initiated by the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports of the Republic of Lithuania.

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