



## Experts' forum

### General education curriculum reform and teacher education

18<sup>th</sup> September, 2018

Kaunas, Lithuania

In the last years numerous countries have initiated curriculum reforms in the field of general education. These initiatives are closely related to the global challenges regarding 21<sup>st</sup> century competences. Even though the World Economic forum announced a list of the most important competences which should be developed for living and working in contemporary societies, the discussion remains how national curricula should be changed and updated to respond to the new needs. Even though there are various strategic curriculum change approaches observed, some similar tendencies could be identified: merging boundaries between subjects, focusing on phenomenon but not subject studies, multidisciplinary in solving problems, analysing cases; learning personalisation and individualisation responding to individual and specific learning needs, inclusion, spread of technologies and digitalisation of learning. These are the main but not the only tendencies which indicate that changes in national curricula cannot take place without changing teacher education and training system.

The experts' forum aims to bring the best experiences in curriculum reform and teacher education in the region and strives to open discussion on new approaches, initiatives and projects. It invites national experts and practitioners from Ministry of Education and Science, municipalities, higher education establishments and school leaders.

### Agenda

18<sup>th</sup> of September

Meeting Venue: S. Lozoraitis hall, Donelaičio 58, Kaunas

9.30	Welcome coffee/tea
10.00 – 10.15	Welcome words <i>Prof. Ineta Dabašinskienė, Vice Rector of Vytautas Magnus University</i> Representative from Ministry of Education and Science Representative from Kaunas City Municipality
10.15 – 11.00	<i>How to make the world's best teachers even better? Changing needs for teacher education in Finland</i> <i>Prof. Riitta Pyykkö, Vice Rector of the University of Turku</i>
11.00 – 11.30	<i>Local and Global: Latvia's strategies in curriculum reform and teacher education</i> <i>Prof. Ina Druviete, Vice Rector of the University of Latvia</i>
11.30 – 12.00	<i>Teacher education and students' science achievement in Estonia</i> <i>Prof. Miia Rannikmäe, Head of the Center for Science Education, Institute of Ecology and Earth Sciences, University of Tartu</i>
12.30 – 13.00	<i>Rethinking teacher education in Lithuania</i> <i>Vilma Bačkiūtė, Ministry of Education and Science, Lithuania</i>
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch break
14.00 – 14.30	<i>Child-centered sensitivities towards curriculum development</i> <i>Prof. Katherine Tyson McCrea, Loyola university of Chicago</i>
14.30 – 15.00	<i>Do we really understand what we want from general education today?</i> <i>Prof. Natalija Mažeikienė, Vytautas Magnus University</i>
15.00 – 16.00	Discussion. <i>What first? How can challenges be addressed through strengthening cooperation in the region?</i> <i>Moderator Assoc. prof. Lina Kaminskienė, Vytautas Magnus University</i>
16.00 – 16.30	Summing up and closure