



DARBO SANTYKIŲ
IR VALSTYBINIO
SOCIALINIO DRAUDIMO
TEISINIS-ADMINISTRACINIS
MODELIS

CONFERENCE

THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LITHUANIAN PENSION SYSTEM: EXPERIENCE AND PROSPECTS

PROGRAMME

19 September 2014

Conference Hall, Building 3, Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Gedimino pr. 53, Vilnius

8.30–9.00 Registration

9.00–9.05 **Welcome address**

Loreta Graužinienė, Speaker of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Morning session 1. Lithuanian pension system in the international context

Moderator: Prof Romas Lazutka, Vilnius University

9.05–9.20 **The pension system: origins, evolution and current developments**

Algimanta Pabedinskienė, Minister of Social Security and Labour of the Republic of Lithuania

9.20–9.40 **The Lithuanian pension system: 20 years of experience**

Assoc Prof Dr Teodoras Medaiskis, Vilnius University

9.40–10.10 **The history and prospects of state pension systems**

Asta Žvinienė, Senior Social Protection Specialist, World Bank

10.10–10.40 **Round table discussion**

Participants: Assoc Prof Dr Teodoras Medaiskis, Vilnius University; Audronė Morkūnienė, Deputy Director, Social Inclusion Department, Ministry of Social Security and Labour of the Republic of Lithuania; Algirdas Sysas, Deputy Speaker of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania; Asta Žvinienė, Senior Social Protection Specialist, World Bank; Kaetana Leontjeva, Senior Expert, Lithuanian Free Market Institute.

10.40–11.00 Coffee break

Morning session 2. The role of pension saving within the pension system

Moderator: Audronė Morkūnienė, Ministry of Social Security and Labour of the Republic of Lithuania

11.00–11.20 Pension saving scheme: the decade of changes. Towards stability

Šarūnas Ruzgys, President, Lithuanian Investment and Pension Fund Association

11.20–11.40 Pension reforms in Poland in 1999–2014: towards pension saving and backwards

Prof Maciej Żukowski, Poznan University of Economics

11.40–12.20 Round table discussion

Participants: Šarūnas Ruzgys, President, Lithuanian Investment and Pension Fund Association; Prof Maciej Żukowski, Poznan University of Economics; Vilius Šapoka, Director, Financial Services and Markets Supervision Department, Supervision Service of the Bank of Lithuania.

12.20–13.20 Break

Afternoon session. Foreign experience and Lithuanian prospects

Moderator: Assoc Prof Dr Teodoras Medaiskis, Vilnius University

13.20–13.50 20 years after the big Swedish pension reform

Bo Könberg, Chairman of the Board of the Swedish Pension Authority

13.50–14.10 Modernization of the Polish pension scheme. Current problems and ways of solving them

Michał Jonczyński, Vice Chair of the Polish Social Insurance institution (ZUS)

14.10–14.30 The pension system in Estonia: experience and future challenges

Eve Liblik, Head of Pensions and Benefits Department, Estonia

14.30–14.50 Pension system under demographic and macroeconomic changes in Latvia

Jana Muižniece, Head of Social Insurance Department, Ministry of Welfare of the Republic of Latvia

14.50–15.20 The Lithuanian pension system after 20 years: projected reform guidelines

Prof Romas Lazutka, Vilnius University

15.20–15.40 Discussion

THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LITHUANIAN PENSION SYSTEM: EXPERIENCE AND PROSPECTS

In 1994, the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania adopted legislation on retirement pensions, thereby establishing the first universal retirement pension system of the independent Republic of Lithuania. It substituted the system which had been inherited from the Soviet Union.

Despite heavy criticism and concerns over its future, the new pension system, which has already been in existence for two decades, is the main source of income to a quarter of the population and provides social security to every citizen of the country at the age of retirement and in cases of lost earning capacity. Pensions help to reduce poverty and inequality faced by the elderly as compared to many other social groups.

The jubilee conference is a wonderful opportunity to critically assess national experience, take a closer look at the practice prevailing in the neighbouring countries and project guidelines for necessary reforms. We hope that the ideas which will be shared in this conference will promote strengthening and modernisation of the pension system and, most importantly, will contribute to greater social security of the elderly, the disabled and the people who lost their family members.