



Photograph by Violeta Jonynienė

## MEILĖ LUKŠIENĖ (1913–2009)

### Works

Department Head at Vilnius University, research fellow at the Pedagogical Institute, member of the initiative group of the Lithuanian national reform movement, shaper of the Lithuanian education reform.

**Author of** *Works of Jonas Biliūnas (1956), Features of the Lithuanian Education of the First Half of the 19th Century (1970), Democratic Education Ideology in Lithuania: Second Half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century – First Half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century (1985), Junctions (2000), The Meanings of Time (2004).*

**Co-author of** *History of the Lithuanian Literature (1957), Historic Features of the Lithuanian School and the Pedagogical Thought (1983), National School Concept (1988), Lithuanian Education Concept (1992), Lithuanian Education Reform Guidelines (1993), General Programmes for the General Education Schools of Lithuania (1994), General Programmes for the General Education Schools of Lithuania: Grades I-X (1997), General Education Standards for Grades I-X (1997).*

### Awards

Title of Venerable Researcher (1989), 5th Class Order of the Lithuanian Grand Duke Gediminas (1994), the Great Cross of the Night Commander of Vytautas Magnus (2003), UNESCO Jan Amos Comenius Medal (2004), the Award of Honour of the Ministry of Education and Science (2007).



Švietimo ir mokslo ministerija

# „Education in Lithuania: towards happy society“

Second reading of Dr. Habil. Meilė Lukšienė's works

Vilnius  
28 April 2011

<http://www.smm.lt/strategija/>

*“A future democratic society cannot be perceived as a mere sum of autonomous individuals protecting their personal interests. Instead it should be viewed as a new formation of society members constantly searching for new ways to harmonise personal and the emerging community relations to make them more humane.”*  
Meilė Lukšienė, 1999

**The following issues are to be dealt with during the planned reading:**

**How do Lithuanians perceive happiness? Why aren't they happy?**

Happiness, happy individual, happy society, wellbeing of the society and separate individuals, success, social justice, public advancement and modernity, personal power and empowerment: what is it? Why is it important? How is it measured?

**How to become (be) happy?** To what extent can somebody make us happy?

What are (should be) the priorities of the public advancement vision in Lithuania? Are such things as “modern state” and “happiness of the society”, wellbeing, and justice compatible?

**How can education contribute to the wellbeing of separate individuals and the society at large?**

How should the education policy look like? What needs to be changed in terms of education (structure, management, content, methods, relations, environment, etc.) in order to make the society and its members feel happier?

**What are the signs of Lithuania's and other countries' success (failure) and how do they make us behave?**

What should we be happy (worried) about, why, and what does it mean in terms of our wellbeing? What kind of educational problems other parts of the world face? What are the current educational development trends and why?

**What would make us happier right away?**

What were you recently happy about in terms of education in Lithuania and when exactly was it? What are our pupils happy or sad about? Is learning a source of happiness or a doom? What do we have now, how should it be, and how to achieve it?

10.00 **Introductory word**

**Gintaras Steponavičius**

**Moderator Eglė Pranckūnienė**

**Prof. Dr. Jūratė Baranova** *The Lithuanian school: is happiness a mere hope for something ideal or a feasible reality?*

**Prof. Dr. Romas Lazutka** *Coherence of equity and effectiveness in education*

**Prof. Dr. Jonas Ruškus** *Sensitive education. Mission possible?*

**Prof. Dr. Andreas Schleicher** *Strong performers and successful reformers. Lessons from PISA*

**Andrius Kubilius** *National progress strategy: educational goals*

**Suggestions, discussions**

12.00–12.30 **Coffee break**

12.30 **Moderator Ričardas Ališauskas**

**Prof. Dr. Thomas Welsh** *21<sup>st</sup> century education: challenges to small nations. Context – Policies – Probabilities*

**Dr. Lina Markauskaitė** *Technologies, knowledge and the world: at the juncture between freedom and responsibility*

**Vygantas Kornejevas** *I choose to be happy at school*

**Prof. Dr. Gintautas Mažeikis** *National education, hermeneutics and communication: new states and challenges*

14.30 **Suggestions, discussions**