DN34 | DISCOURSE NET INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

DARE

Discourse, Identity and Polarisation

10–12 NOVEMBER 2026

VILNIUS UNIVERSITY, FACULTY OF PHILOLOGY



VILNIAUS UNIVERSITETAS · 1579 · UNIVERSITAS VILNENSIS

VILNIUS UNIVERSITY 1579

MONDAY, 9 NOVEMBER 2026 - PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS				
Time slot	Room	V. Krėvės aud. - Hybrid	K. Donelaičio aud. - Hybrid	122 aud. - Hybrid
10:00-11:30	Main event	**Workshop 1:** Applying for MSCA and ERC starting grants: strategies, evaluation criteria, and the discursive construction of “excellence” in European Research funding **Eleonora Esposito** *Ch. Silvia Peterssen*		
11:30-12:00	COFFEE BREAK (Muse Hall, Domus)			
12:00-13:30		**Workshop 2:** Reading across disciplines: CDA and literary critique in polarisation and identity research **Orlagh Woods; Silvia Peterssen** *Ch. Liudmila Arcimavičienė*		
19:00-21:00	**PRE-CONFERENCE DRINKS AND INFORMAL WELCOME** Baras Begemoto Sapnas *(Visų Šventųjų St. 5)*			

TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER 2026				
08:30-09:00	REGISTRATION DESK Muse Hall, Domus, staffed by student volunteers			
09:00-10:30	**OPENING CEREMONY AND OPENING KEYNOTE, VU Aula** **Veronika Koller. Polarisation as metaphor, polarisation and metaphor** *Ch. Jurga Cibulskienė*			
10:30-11:00	MORNING COFFEE BREAK Muse Hall, Domus			
Time slot	Room	V. Krėvės aud. - Hybrid	K. Donelaičio aud. - Hybrid	122 aud. - Hybrid
11:00-12:30	PARALLEL SESSION 10.1	**V. Krėvės Auditorium** **Women's Rights and Identities in Polarised Contexts** [Panel] *Ch. Silvia Peterssen* 11:00-11:20 **Eleonora Esposito** Speaking out in platformed spaces: Feminist influactivism, online misogyny and digital governance 11:20-11:40 **Silvia Peterssen & Lorella Viola** Polarisation and activism in news reports on abortion during and after the Covid-19 pandemic 11:40-12:00 **Ieva Bisigirskaitė & Lina Šumskaitė** Normative motherhood as a strategy: Lithuanian NGO mothers of LGBTQ+children 12:00-12:20 **Orlagh Woods** Counter-narratives of reproduction: In her shoes and the discursive politics of repeal	**K. Donelaičio Auditorium** **Constructing Identities and Boundaries in Polarised Media Discourse** *Ch. Virginija Masiulionytė* 11:00-11:20 **Adeliya Bissenbayeva [Online]** Constructing Russian identity through the use of geopolitical imaginaries of “Europe”, “Asia” and “Eurasia”. Shifts in Russian self/other representation from 2000 to 2024. 11:20-11:40 **Leyla Rommel** Narrating softness: Affective polarization and identity construction in tradwife videos 11:40-12:00 **Manuel Padilla Cruz** The online discursive construction of non-human identity as a case of social polarisation: A corpus-based analysis of otherkin discourse in Spanish on X	**Room 122** **Contested Identities, Discursive Boundaries and Visibility in Digital Publics** *Ch. Jurga Cibulskienė* 11:00-11:20 **Javier Fernández-Cruz & Antonio Moreno-Ortiz** Semantic infrastructures of polarization: Ontological divergence in YouTube political discourse during Trump’s first 100 days 11:20-11:40 **Jan Křovák & Annkatrin Reiner** Us, “the survivors” vs. the “corrupt system”: The discourse of anti-psychiatry and psychiatric populism 11:40-12:00 **Inês Lameira Grosso [Online]** Negotiating visibility: Political self-censorship in TikTok’s algorithmic public sphere

12:30-14:00	LUNCH BREAK			
14:00-15:30	PARALLEL SESSION 10.2	**V. Krėvės Auditorium** **Political Identity, Media Frames and Discursive Polarisation** *Ch. Silvia Peterssen* 14:00-14:20 **Nina Cingerová & Katarína Motyková** Discursive construction of polarization in Slovak online political satire: The case of the constitutional amendment on “two sexes” 14:20-14:40 **Lorella Viola** #ClimateCult, #ResistTheReset, #Agenda2030 and other climate change frames for collective agency and belonging on X 14:40-15:00 **Nataliia Talavira [Online]** Volodymyr Zelenskyy’s mediated identity: A case of speeches to foreign parliaments 15:00-15:20 **Ozan Deniz Yalçınkaya [Online]** Identity construction and discursive polarization in Turkish parliamentary debates following the 2023 earthquakes: A corpus-assisted critical discourse analysis	**K. Donelaičio Auditorium** **Constructing "Us" and "Them": Identity, Positioning and Social Boundaries** *Ch. Liudmila Arcimavičienė* 14:00-14:20 **Piotr Topolski** Corpus analysis of Polish media discourse concerning the Ukrainian refugee crisis in 2022-2025 14:20-14:40 **Sixian Hah & Johannes Angermuller [Online]** Inside/Outside: Academic positioning and identity construction 14:40-15:00 **Chris Featherman** Producing 'Us' and 'Them' within NATO: Ideological proximation and the Baltic States in Trump administration discourse	**Room 122** **Language, Identity and Ideological Polarisation in Digital Discourse** *Ch. Lina Marčiulionytė* 14:00-14:20 **Artūr Afanasjev & Rita Juknevičienė** Creating identity in gaming chats: An exploratory corpus-driven analysis of Reddit posts 14:20-14:40 **Anna Ivanova [Online]** Between democratic values and security concerns: Media frames on immigration in Chile's official Instagram communication (2022–2024) 14:40-15:00 **Aimee Herring** Raciolinguistic Ideologies and the Lithuanian Language 15:00-15:20 **Awni Etaywe [Online]** Grievance, legitimation and ambient polarisation: Discourse as mobilisation in extremist texts
15:30-16:00	AFTERNOON COFFEE BREAK Muse Hall, Domus			

		V. Krėvės Auditorium	K. Donelaičio Auditorium	Room 122
16:00-17:00	PARALLEL SESSION 10.3	**Political Leadership, Collective Identity and the Construction of Enemies** *Ch. Liudmila Arcimavičienė* 16:00-16:20 **Sadia Zamir** Discursive constructions of politicians' identity for democratic legitimacy in televised speeches in Pakistan 16:20-16:40 **Panayota Gounari & Minh Nghia Nguyen** From "the people" to "the enemy": Trumpism, identity and one-dimensional polarization 16:40-17:00 **Mohamed Saki [Online]** Funeral orations, the grieving community, and the absolute enemy: Polarization and identity construction in the public memorial service for Charlie Kirk	**Representing Communities in Conflict: Peace, Marginalisation and Victimhood** *Ch. Virginija Masiulionytė* 16:00-16:20 **Zainab Faayiza & Peter Teo Chin Soon** Keeping the peace: A critical discourse analysis of peace representations in primary school textbooks 16:20-16:40 **Desislava Cheshmedzhieva-Stoycheva** Constructing Roma and GRT identities in media discourse: A critical discourse analysis 16:40-17:00 **David Mitchell [Online]** Victimhood, Erasure, Polarisation: UK media constructions of Palestinian and Israeli identities after October 7th	**Protest, Evaluative Discourse and Ideological Polarisation** *Ch. Jurga Cibulskienė* 16:00-16:20 **Rainer Stummer** Discourse analysis and infrastructure: Protesting mobility policy in the run-up to the Vienna municipal elections 2020 16:20-16:40 **Jaanika Erne [Online]** Three perspectives on ideology critique: foundational, traditional and post-structuralist 16:40-17:00 **Mark Winston Visonà [Online]** Enhancing polarization via evaluation, graduation and chronotopic contrasts in newsbites from Trump email newsletters
19:00-21:00	**CONFERENCE GALA DINNER** Grey Restaurant *(Pilies St. 2, Vilnius)*			

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2026				
Time slot	Room	V. Krėvės aud. - Hybrid	K. Donelaičio aud. - Hybrid	122 aud. - Hybrid
09:00-10:20	PARALLEL SESSION 11.1	**V. Krėvės Auditorium** **Gender, Othering and Ideological Contestation in Contemporary Discourse** *Ch. Matteo Silvestri* 09:00-09:20 **Alexia DeBono** Social actor labelling in abortion news reporting: A case of Malta 09:20-09:40 **Yiting Yan [Online]** Constructing British Muslim women politicians as outsiders: Identity, polarisation and online hostility on X 09:40-10:00 **Atefeh Namdari** How post-feminism made the manosphere possible: A discursive account	**K. Donelaičio Auditorium** **Persuasion, Polarisation and Collective Identity in Political Discourse** *Ch. Liudmila Arcimavičienė* 09:00-09:20 **Geremia Trinchese [Online]** Platform-emplacement: @eyeonpalestine and the construction of Palestinian collective identity online 09:20-09:40 **Sabina Tabacaru** Non-verbal markers of humorous stance: The case of political debates 09:40-10:00 **Hana Kallus [Online]** Persuasion in public speaking: Sociolinguistic, pragmatic and CDA analysis of persuasion in the Iconic BBC Radio 4 political discussion programme ‘Any Questions’ 10:00-10:20 **Clara Müllenmeister** Referential identification as a site of polarisation	**Room 122** **Ideology, Epistemic Violence and Political Polarisation** *Ch. Lina Marčiulionytė* 09:00-09:20 **Jakub Handzlik [Online]** Deleting the "Other": Sovereignty and epistemic violence in US and Russian rhetoric 09:20-09:40 **Xinying Chen & Miroslav Kubát** When complexity misleads: Syntactic structure and disinformation in Czech news discourse 09:40-10:00 **Paolo Casani [Online]** From liberatory individualism to networked collectivism: The discursive construction of the "global citizen" in contemporary AI governance
10:20-10:40	MORNING COFFEE BREAK Muse Hall, Domus			
10:40-11:40	**KEYNOTE. Jan Zienkowski: Discourse and the construction of illiberal orders of (mis)recognition** *Ch. Liudmila Arcimavičienė*			

		V. Krėvės Auditorium	K. Donelaičio Auditorium	Room 122
11:40-13:00	PARALLEL SESSION 11.2	**Constructing Political Communities: Identity, Security and Ideology** *Ch. Silvia Peterssen* 11:40-12:00 **Marcin Deutschmann** A(nta)gonistic quasi-deliberation: Instrumentalizing free speech for extremist mainstreaming on YouTube 12:00-12:20 **Demetrios Mitres Sioupis & Athina Sioupi** Securitizing migration in German elite political discourse 12:20-12:40 **Minh Nghia-Nguyen & Panayota Gounari [Online]** The necropolitics of American exceptionalist identity: A discourse-historical study 12:40-13:00 **Arina Sydorkina [Online]** American dream, Russian world and Japanese harmony as mythologemes of national Identity: A critical discourse analysis of political speech	**Discourses of Nationhood, Conflict and Polarisation** *Ch. Lina Inčiuraitė-Noreikienė* 11:40-12:00 **Simona Uksaitė** Localising hegemony: Regional war discourses in Russia's domestic information environment 12:00-12:20 **Serhiy Potapenko [Online]** "Partnership born out of dispute": King Charles' address to the US Congress from cognitive-rhetorical perspective 12:20-12:40 **Janaica Gomes Matos & Mario Junglas Muniz [Online]** The discursive construction of political polarization in Flávio Bolsonaro's speeches: Referential networks and the representation of social actors 12:40-13:00 **Marge Käsper, Raili Marling & Ann Veismann** Dying or Sailing? Metaphoric constructions of nationhood and polarisation in contemporary Estonia	**Constructing Belonging: People, Nation and Demography** *Ch. Jurga Cibulskienė* 11:40-12:00 **Maciej Nowakowski** Manufacturing "Us": Discursive constructions of political peoplehood in Veneto, Silesia and Valencia 12:00-12:20 **Alexandra Shaitan [Online]** Contesting belonging and "Japaneseness" in Japan. 12:20-12:40 **Geoffroy Dewandeler** Producerism: Quo Vadis? 12:40-13:00 **Klaudia Wolniewicz-Slomka & Adam Konopka [Online]** The rhetorics of demographic decline. A discourse-historical analysis of parliamentary debate on low fertility in Poland
13:00-14:30	LUNCH BREAK			
14:30-15:30	**KEYNOTE. Ruth Breeze: Identity, community and polarisation in online forums** *Ch. Liudmila Arcimavičienė*			

		V. Krėvės Auditorium	K. Donelaičio Auditorium	Room 122
15:30-17:00	PARALLEL SESSION 11.3	**Contesting Political Identities: Discourse, Ideology and Polarisation** *Ch. Maryam Ayad* 15:30-15:50 **Adrià Gibernau** From the procés to the post-procés: Identity privatisation, political disenchantment and the rise of nativist nationalism in Catalonia 15:50-16:10 **Nicola Davies-Laubscher [Online]** Populist discourse across the South African political spectrum: Finding common ground on X 16:10-16:30 **Maryam Ayad** Success as a polarized concept: The challenge between Qur'anic Exegesis, Shi'i Ritual Discourse, and the narrative of the Islamic Republic 16:30-16:50 **Liran Peretz & Alena Vasilyeva [Online]** The construction of identities in public arguments on X: The Bad Bunny's Super Bowl performance controversy	**Discourses of Crisis: Authority, Ideology and Social Division** *Ch. Virginija Masiulionytė* 15:30-15:50 **Silvana Neskovska & Zorica Trajkova [Online]** Ursula von der Leyen's discursive strategies for constructing leadership identity in times of global crisis and polarisation 15:50-16:10 **Karol Franczak** Between fear and resilience: Polish and German press discourses on the September 2025 drone incursions and the polarisation of Threat Perception 16:10-16:30 **Daniil Goncharenko & Arseniy Karsakov [Online]** Less divided, more hostile: Hegemonic discourse and divergent polarization in pandemic Italy 16:30-16:50 **Iralia Kotsakidou** Examining religious and ethical references in Candace Owens' discourse: A critical discourse analysis study	**Identity Across Borders, Communities and Temporalities** *Ch. Lina Marčiulionytė* 15:30-15:50 **Fidan Abiyeva** Building collective military identity in English military discourse: A critical discourse analysis 15:50-16:10 **Cláudia de Araújo [Online]** The protesting "other": Protesters as the enemy within 21st century Spain 16:10-16:30 **Dolors Ortega Arévalo & Thor Kerr [Online]** Transoceanic diasporas and white nostalgia: Kamala Harris in the age of Trump 16:30-16:50 **Gabija Skucaite** Chronotopes of the threshold: Liminal temporality, identity and polarisation in public discourse
17:00-17:30	AFTERNOON COFFEE BREAK Muse Hall, Domus			
17:30-19:00	**VILNIUS UNIVERSITY AND OLD TOWN TOUR (Departure from Muse Hall)**			
19:00-20:30	**CONFERENCE COCKTAIL** Muse Hall, Faculty of Philology			

THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 2026				
Time slot	Room	V. Krėvės aud. - Hybrid	K. Donelaičio aud. - Hybrid	122 aud. - Hybrid
09:00-10:00	PARALLEL SESSION 12.1	**V. Krėvės Auditorium** **Identity, Agency and Responsibility in Media Discourse** *Ch. Matteo Silvestri* 09:00-09:20 **Lara Su Yaman & Audronė Šolienė** Constructing girlhood across cultures: A critical appraisal and multimodal analysis of femininity in Lithuanian and American teen magazines 09:20-09:40 **Giuseppina Scotto di Carlo [Online]** Why do 'Incels' default to men? Gender, agency and hate speech in femcel discourse 09:40-10:00 **Palina Salei [Online]** Agency and responsibility in food sustainability discourse: A comparative analysis of American and British online news sources	**K. Donelaičio Auditorium** **Gendered Identities, Social Norms and Polarised Public Discourse** *Ch. Orlagh Woods* 09:00-09:20 **Norazrin Zamri** Contesting "Janda" in the digital sphere: The construction of Malaysian women's post-divorce womanhood in the #BellaSyedYes social media discourse 09:20-09:40 **Zea Szebeni [Online]** "The biggest expectation is for men to not act like men": Exploring men's contradictory talk about masculinity 09:40-10:00 **Liudmila Arcimaviciene** Marginalised women and polarisation in post-Roe U.S. abortion news	**Room 122** **Stigma, Othering and Polarised Representations in Digital Discourse** *Ch. Jurga Cibulskienė* 09:00-09:20 **Mario Leto [Online]** Negotiating stigma: Plant-based identities in social media 09:20-09:40 **Inesa Šeškauskienė & Jurga Cibulskienė; Virginija Masiulionytė** Irony in polarised discourse. The Belarusian crisis from "our" and "their" perspectives 09:40-10:00 **Magdalena Nowicka-Franczak** The Dispositif of Polarized Public Debate and the Effect of Conceptual Flipsiding
10:00-10:30	MORNING COFFEE BREAK Muse Hall, Domus			
10:30-11:30	**KEYNOTE. Augusto Soares da Silva: National identity, polarisation and socio-culturally situated construal operations: The case of far-right populism in Brazil and Portugal** *Ch. Silvia Peterssen*			

		V. Krėvės Auditorium	K. Donelaičio Auditorium	Room 122
11:40-13:00	PARALLEL SESSION 12.2	**Political Authority, Collective Identity and Contested Imaginaries** *Ch. Claudia Medrano* 11:40-12:00 **Selman Ecevit** Virtual gentrification: Multimodal social media discourses of imagined urban redesigns of Istanbul 12:00-12:20 **Eleni Siouti [Online]** Towards a "decoupled" European identity? Contesting Europe-as-authority while embracing Europe-as-values in Tsipras's founding parliamentary address 12:20-12:40 **Alina Mozolevska & Olena Siden** Performing 'the People' in times of war: Visual populism and the multimodal construction of Ukrainianness in Volodymyr Zelenskyy's Independence Day addresses (2019-2025) 12:40-13:00 **Maria Antonietta Marongiu [Online]** Constructing authority in a post-truth era: Trump's rhetorical stance on Iran	**Ideology, Counter-Discourse and Polarised Identities** *Ch. Lina Inčiuraitė-Noreikienė* 11:40-12:00 **Bilyana Todorova** 'WAR IS CONTAINER' metaphors in contemporary Bulgarian media discourse: A corpus-based study 12:00-12:20 **Cristina Núñez-Rodríguez & Antonio Moreno-Ortiz [Online]** Laughing back at power: Sarcasm, echoic irony and counter-hegemonic discourse in American late-night television and YouTube responses 12:20-12:40 **Indeevari Dodantenna** Elite rhetorical strategies and transformative repolarisation in Sri Lanka's 2024 presidential elections 12:40-13:00 **Ellen Thorisaen [Online]** Subnational identity and polarisation: Representation of the Other linguistic community in sensationalist popular news	**Identity, Power and Discursive Negotiation** *Ch. Matteo Silvestri* 11:40-12:00 **Giuseppina Di Gregorio [Online]** Rewriting legal identity: From newspaper controversy to streaming narrative in the case of Lidia Poët 12:00-12:20 **Jaspal Naveel Singh** The struggle is real: Navigating the metapolitics of Palestine/Israel discourse 12:20-12:40 **Ping Du [Online]** Culture as action in intercultural workplace conflict resolution interactions 12:40-13:00 **Johannes S. Vogel & Daniel Bultmann** Frictional discourses, polarized elites: International development and identity formation in Cambodia's field of power
13:00-14:30	LUNCH BREAK			

14:30-15:30	PARALLEL SESSION 12.3	**V. Krėvės Auditorium** **Discourses of Agency, Identity and Responsibility** *Ch. Silvia Peterssen* 14:30-14:50 **Waldemar Bojakowski** Beyond the "managed transition": Hegemony struggles and polarisation in heterodox economic discourses 14:50-15:10 **Aram Ahmed** "English is a tool, Kurdish is who you are": EMI policy and the discursive production of a class-differentiated identity spectrum in Iraqi Kurdistan 15:10-15:30 **Isabel Alonso-Belmonte & Dolores Porto [Online]** Identity first: Grassroots slogans and the discursive logic of polarization	No session scheduled	**Room 122** **Discursive Practices of Polarisation: Humour, Populism and Exclusion** *Ch. Liudmila Arcimavičienė* 14:30-14:50 **Dolores Porto & Manuela Romano [Online]** Humour as a polarising strategy in social media. The case of Spanish customers against Ryanair on X 14:50-15:10 **Luis Miguel Jaraba Andrade** Democracy as moral community: Populism, affective polarization and the erosion of deliberative democracy 15:10-15:30 **Mehmet Recai Uygur** Selfish democracy and the communication of exclusion: Discursive boundaries of “the people” in polarised democratic debate
15:30-16:00	AFTERNOON COFFEE BREAK AND CLOSING FAREWELL Muse Hall, Domus			
16:00-20:00	**TRAKAI TOUR (Departure from Muse Hall at 16:00, bus leaves at 16:30)**			

Programme at a glance:

MONDAY, 9 NOVEMBER 2026	
10:00-11:30	**Workshop 1**: Applying for MSCA and ERC Starting Grants: Strategies, Evaluation Criteria and the Discursive Construction of “Excellence” in European Research Funding
12:00-13:30	**Workshop 2:** Reading across Disciplines: CDA and Literary Critique in Polarisation and Identity Research

TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER 2026				
09:00-10:30	**Opening Ceremony and Keynote. Veronika Koller: Polarisation as Metaphor, Polarisation and Metaphor**			
11:00-12:30	**10.1**	Women's Rights and Identities in Polarised Contexts	Constructing Identities and Boundaries in Polarised Media Discourse	Contested Identities, Discursive Boundaries and Visibility in Digital Publics
14:00-15:30	**10.2**	Political Identity, Media Frames and Discursive Polarisation	Constructing "Us" and "Them": Identity, Positioning and Social Boundaries	Language, Identity and Ideological Polarisation in Digital Discourse
16:00-17:00	**10.3**	Political Leadership, Collective Identity and the Construction of Enemies	Representing Communities in Conflict: Peace, Marginalisation and Victimhood	Protest, Evaluative Discourse and Ideological Polarisation
WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2026				
09:00-10:20	**11.1**	Gender, Othering and Ideological Contestation in Contemporary Discourse	Persuasion, Polarisation and Collective Identity in Political Discourse	Ideology, Epistemic Violence and Political Polarisation
10:40-11:40	**Jan Zienkowski: *Discourse and the Construction of Illiberal Orders of (Mis)recognition***			
11:40-13:00	**11.2**	Constructing Political Communities: Identity, Security and Ideology	Discourses of Nationhood, Conflict and Polarisation	Constructing Belonging: People, Nation and Demography
14:30-15:30	**Ruth Breeze: Identity, Community and Polarisation in Online Forums**			
15:30-17:00	**11.3**	Contesting Political Identities: Discourse, Ideology and Polarisation	Discourses of Crisis: Authority, Ideology and Social Division	Identity Across Borders, Communities and Temporalities
THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 2026				
09:00-10:00	**12.1**	Identity, Agency and Responsibility in Media Discourse	Gendered Identities, Social Norms and Polarised Public Discourse	Stigma, Othering and Polarised Representations in Digital Discourse
10:30-11:30	**Augusto Soares da Silva: National Identity, Polarisation and Socio-culturally Situated Construal Operations: The Case of Far-Right Populism in Brazil and Portugal**			
11:40-13:00	**12.2**	Political Authority, Collective Identity and Contested Imaginaries	Ideology, Counter-Discourse and Polarised Identities	Identity, Power and Discursive Negotiation
14:30-15:30	**12.3**	Discourses of Agency, Identity and Responsibility		Discursive Practices of Polarisation: Humour, Populism and Exclusion