



LIETUVOS MOKSLŲ AKADEMIJOS
VRUBLEVSKIŲ BIBLIOTEKA

International research conference

Francysk Skaryna and the Renaissance book culture

Skaryna's *Little Travel Book* turns 500

Vilnius, 22–23 September, 2022

CALL FOR PAPERS

2022 marks the 500th year since the first printing house was established in Vilnius, Francysk Skaryna published his *Little Travel Book* (1522) and thus the age of the printed word and mass communication began in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania (GDL) as well as in East Europe, testifying to the importance of ways and means of communication for societal development. The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania declared 2022 the Year of Francysk Skaryna. The forthcoming international research conference will address the emergence of printing in the GDL and various issues of book culture and heritage of the first centuries of printing in Europe. The event will continue the tradition of interdisciplinary Vilnius book science conferences. The conference organizers hope to bring together scholars studying creation, publishing, production, distribution and reception of print media by F. Skaryna and other prominent Renaissance figures as well as the GDL and early printed European book heritage. They aim to conceptualize Skaryna studies in the European context, and to promote the development of Skaryna studies in Central and Eastern Europe. The organizers have a broad understanding of the concept of book culture and view it as related to the culture of publishing, book art, artistic printing and bookbinding, and of book distribution and reading. The GDL book heritage is interpreted as collections of the GDL manuscript and print books in Lithuanian and the world memory institutions, as well as research and communication related to these collections.

We invite you to submit papers on the following topics:

- Skaryna and the age of Renaissance. The invention of printing and the modernization of the European society. Skaryna as a printer of the Czech Kingdom and the founder of printing in the GDL. Personality, social class, the context of his life, creative and book-publishing activities and their legal, economic, and cultural milieu.
- *Little Travel Book*, the first GDL post-incunabulum. It's origin and structure. Skaryna's Prague and Vilnius publications.
- Research on Skaryna and his works in Belarus, the Czech Republic, Lithuania, Russia, and other countries.
- Manuscript book culture in the GDL and other European regions before and in the first centuries after the invention of printing.
- The development of printing in Europe. The first print books in national languages. Vilnius, the capital of the GDL, as a centre of writing, publishing and book culture.

- Specific features of print media culture from the mid-15th to the mid-17th century. Printing business and the organization of distribution of prints. Freedom and control of publications. Emergence of new genres and publication types.
- Book culture of the old Lithuania. Multiculturalism of the GDL society, book-needs of ethnic and religious communities. Lituanica outside the GDL. Printing, book publishing and distribution in Prussia, Livonia, and other regions.
- Institutional and personal libraries in the GDL and Europe, reading and readers, book dissemination. The emancipation of the reading community.
- The manuscript and print heritage of the GDL: applied research and communication. Research of incunabula, post-incunabula and modern media. Applied research of paper and bookbinding. Book art.
- Dissemination and communication of written (manuscript and print) heritage.
- Francysk Skaryna in historic and cultural memory.

Conference organizers and partners

The Faculty of Communication at Vilnius University, The Wroblewski Library of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, Charles University in Prague, The Institute of the Lithuanian Language, The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore, The Department of the Humanities and Social Sciences of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences. In collaboration with the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP) and Nordic–Baltic–Russian Network on the History of Books, Libraries and Reading (HIBOLIRE).

Conference location

Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, 3 Gedimino av., Vilnius, Lithuania.

Conference management (live or virtual)

The conference is planned to be held live. In case of pandemic situation being unfavorable, the conference will be run virtually via Microsoft Teams or ZOOM.

Conference languages

English, Lithuanian and Russian; simultaneous interpretation service will be available. For submissions in other languages, please contact the organizers of the conference.

Key dates

1 December 2021 – Final deadline for proposals of individual paper abstracts.

1 February 2022 – Notification of acceptance.

1 June 2022 – Publication of the final program.

1 September 2022 – Deadline for registration of participants.

22 September 2022 – Conference opening.

Submission guidelines / Registration

Please submit proposals and register online through the conference website (<http://www.ibsc2022.kf.vu.lt/>).

The time allocated for presentations is 20 minutes (max. 2500 words). Proposals for papers must include a title, an abstract (max. 250 words), and a short biography of the presenter (max. 50 words). Articles based on the papers will be published in the scholarly journal „Knygotyra“ (Book Science) for 2023. The journal is peer-reviewed, open access and has been indexed in Scopus since 2018. Attendance of the conference is free.

Accommodation and meals

Participants are responsible for their accommodation and meals during the conference.

Conference contact information

E-mail: ibsc2022@kf.vu.lt

Correspondence address

Department of Book, Media and Publishing Research
Faculty of Communication
Vilnius University
3 Universiteto Str.
LT-01513 Vilnius, Lithuania