

2021

This year, “Anthropos” expanded the scope of its research activities. We joined and initiated long-term projects with local and international partners. We also continued addressing the issue of cultural representation in school textbooks and expanded this topic beyond schools by conducting seminars and writing projects for the NGO sector. In addition, we broadened this issue beyond cultural representations alone to include questions of behavior, and launched a new direction – ensuring cultural sensitivity toward various cultural, ethnic, and social groups in schools. Alongside all this, we continued organizing our annual workshops, seminars, and public outreach on issues important to us.

WHAT DID WE ACHIEVE?

- In 2021, the project “Let’s Not Waste Food” was launched and continued into 2022. The project is carried out together with the Kaunas University of Technology Food Institute, the Natural Resources Institute Finland (LUKE), Copenhagen Business School (CBS), EIT FOOD, and LIDL. During 2021, a literature review was conducted and a scientific article prepared, a focus group methodology was developed, and “Anthropos” organized and conducted two focus groups along with their analysis. Guidelines on reducing food waste were also prepared. The project is funded by “Norden” (the Nordic Council of Ministers). 2021 01 01 – 2022 09 01;
- We publicized the results of the 2020-completed project “Social Science for Social Action!” on social media and on our website;
- We shared the experience of “Anthropos” by presenting at the “Young Sociologists and Anthropologists Conference.” Presentation: “Application of Anthropological Knowledge in School Textbooks – Representations of Cultures,” 2021 03 26;
- We prepared and analyzed a participant survey questionnaire for the MO Museum project “Visual Thinking Exchange in Art: A Teacher Project,” 2021 04 – 2021 06;
- We conducted the seminar “Representing the ‘Other’ – Challenges of Talking About Communities,” organized by the multicultural non-formal education center “Padėk pritari.” The event was intended for artists, organizations, and community representatives working with communities, social projects, ethnocultural minorities, and social groups, 2021 05 28;
- During the renewal of the General Education Curriculum in schools, we submitted comments on the content of Cultural Competence, the general principles of Social Education, the Civic Education competence and curriculum, and the content of History and Geography subjects. Later, we also worked with a methodological group of historians.

You can check all proposals here:

https://anthropos.lt/img/BUP_komentarai.pdf



- Some of the suggestions were taken into account. We are especially pleased with the changes made and the topics included in the history curriculum. Following our proposal, the phenomenon of neo-colonialism was included in the modern history section of the general history curriculum as a force that continues to shape world politics, power relations, and contributes to the formation and persistence of global poverty. Our proposal to introduce students to different forms of capitalism and contemporary ideologies was also accepted, for example helping them understand how neoliberal global politics affects the distribution of poverty. Attention will also be given to social movements that emerged in the mid-20th century and shaped the development of human rights in society (i.e. Black, women's, sexual minority, and Indigenous movements). In addition, following our suggestion, the concepts of "ethnocentrism" and "Eurocentrism" were included in the curriculum.

You can check the accepted recommendations here:

<https://www.emokykla.lt/bendrasis/bendruju-programu-projektai2>

- For the third summer in a row, a three-day anthropology workshop for youth took place. The 2021 theme was: "Anthropology Workshops: The Social Body and Contemporary Society." The project was funded by the Kaunas City Municipality through the "Initiatives for Kaunas" program, 2021 07 26 – 2021 07 28.

A few moments from the workshops:

<https://www.facebook.com/anthropos.lt/photos/pcb.986816808781047/986814758781252/>

- We prepared a feasibility study for organizing activities at the "Vėtrungė" student camp in Kintai. During the study, we conducted qualitative research – semi-structured interviews with camp organizers and campers. We also examined documents regulating camp activities, organized meetings and workshops with stakeholder groups including the Šilutė municipality, the Šilutė Vocational Training Centre, and the Kintai community, and analyzed foreign examples. The project was funded by the public institution "Šilutė Vocational Training Centre," 2021 07 26 – 2021 11 26.

You can check the study here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Pet_v--YbMw3S_ckfrc5QxnrJ33YJgaD/preview

- We received a special mention at the European Applied Anthropology conference awards "Why the World Needs Anthropologists" for our 2020 initiative on cultural representations in textbooks. We attended the conference in Prague, Czech Republic, where we presented our project, 2021 09 10 – 2021 09 13.

Award ceremony moment:

<https://www.facebook.com/EASAAAN/photos/a.1505641529671120/3052272235008034/>

- We prepared materials and conducted two days (8 academic hours) of remote training sessions for textbook authors and content evaluators on discrimination against different groups and communities based on race, nationality, language, culture, religion, social status, gender, and ethnic origin. Our goal was to promote respectful representation of other cultures and groups in textbooks. A guideline document was prepared based on the seminar materials. The seminars were funded by the National Education Agency and took place on 2021 09 23 and 2021 09 30.
- We also conducted the workshop "Anthropological Perspectives on the Senses: Culture, Social Position, and Sensory Experience" as part of the remote event series "Science and Sensation: Are Your Senses Really Yours?" organized by "Estetikos Somelje." The seminar was commissioned by UAB "Femina Bona," 2021 11 25;



- In 2021, we carried out four educational activities under the “Culture Passport” programme: the educational programme “Globalization and Ethnicity in Today’s World” took place at Vilnius Lazdynai School on 2021 10 14 and at Kazys Boruta Gymnasium in Liudvinavas, Marijampolė district municipality, on 2021 11 24; two sessions of “Anthropology Workshops: Food and Climate Change” took place at Vilnius Viršuliškės School on 2021 12 10. These activities were funded by the Lithuanian Ministry of Culture’s “Culture Passport” programme.

WE WROTE AND SUBMITTED PROJECT APPLICATIONS:

- “Cultural Representations and Education” to the Nordic Council of Ministers’ Norden programme for cooperation between Baltic and Nordic non-governmental organizations (NGOs) (the project did not receive funding);
- “Towards Ethical Cultural Representations in Advocacy Work” to the ERASMUS+ Youth Workers Mobility programme (the project received funding and will be implemented in 2023);
- “Towards a Culturally Sensitive and Safe School: Strengthening Intercultural Competencies in School Communities” to the Active Citizens Fund, under the larger support scheme for the human rights impact area (a decision regarding funding is still pending);
- “Anthropology Workshops 2022: The City and National Identity under the Influence of Globalization – Exploring Kaunas Identities” to the programme “Initiatives for Kaunas” (the project received funding);
- Applications to the “Culture Passport” programme for the remote workshops “Anthropology Workshops: Global Inequality and Cultural Representation” (approved), “Anthropology Workshops: Global Inequality and Cultural Representation” (approved), and “Anthropology Workshops: Food System and Climate Change” (not approved).

WE SPOKE ABOUT OUR ACTIVITIES AND ISSUES OF CONCERN:

- In the “Teatronas” podcast “So That the Tension Would Disappear”: “Privilege, Prestige and Culture.” You can watch the conversation here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bKIRGW-V0tY>
- In an interview with the magazine “Savaitė” about food, food waste, and climate change;
- Kornelija Čepytė participated in the conference “The (Non)Standard of School” organized by the project “Renkuosi mokyti,” where she shared insights about the challenges the education system will face in the context of climate change and migration, 2021 11 09.

Moments from the event can be seen here:

<https://www.facebook.com/renkuosimokyti/photos/pcb.2004414433065817/2004389363068324>



**WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL
TO THE INTERNS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO OUR ACTIVITIES IN 2021:**

Aleksandras Krochmalis and Lukas Norkus from the Asian Studies programme at Vilnius University, and Živilė Vaicekauskaitė from the Sociology and Anthropology programme at Vytautas Magnus University.

2021 BUDGET:

Pajamos

	2021 metai	2020 metai
Suteiktų paslaugų pajamos	13 430,00	2 980,00
Panaudotas gautas tikslinis finansavimas		
Kauno miesto savivaldybė	1 197,38	868,00
Direktorat for internasj. Og, Fortunen NordPlus		5 025,54
Lietuvos vartotojų institutas		2 953,37
Gyventojų skirta 2 proc. paramos suma		
Iš viso Eur:	14 627,38	11 826,91

MOMENTS FROM 2021:

