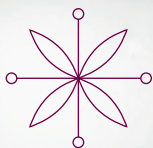


The Abstract Book of the 22nd European Conference on Developmental Psychology



August 25-29, 2025
Vilnius, Lithuania

<https://doi.org/10.15388/ECDP.2025>

The Abstract Book of the 22nd European Conference on Development Psychology

August 25–29, 2025

Vilnius, Lithuania



VILNIAUS
UNIVERSITETO
LEIDYKLA

2026

Scientific committee:

- Vilmantė Pakalniškienė (chair)
- Rima Breidokienė
- Lysanne Te Brinke
- Simona Caravita
- Goda Gegieckaitė
- Neringa Grigutytė
- Jessie Hillekens
- Willem Koops
- Beata Krzywosz-Rynkiewicz
- Francesca Lionetti
- Saulė Raižienė
- Lauryna Rakickienė
- Maja Schachner
- Dagmar Strohmeier
- Spyridon Tantaros
- Peter Titzmann

Local organizing committee:

- Vilmantė Pakalniškienė (chair)
- Roma Jusienė (co-chair)
- Rasa Barkauskienė
- Rima Breidokienė
- Goda Gegieckaitė
- Neringa Grigutytė
- Antanas Kairys
- Vita Mikuličiūtė
- Dalia Nasvytienė
- Saulė Raižienė
- Lauryna Rakickienė
- Monika Skerytė-Kazlauskienė
- Olga Zamalijeva
- Arūnas Žiedelis

Organisers:



Faculty of
Philosophy



Partners & Sponsors:



THE
WEMP
FOUNDATION
愛望基金



LMT

Lietuvos mokslo taryba

Konferenciją, kurios santraukos publikuojamos šiame leidinyje, iš dalies finansavo Lietuvos mokslo taryba (LMTLT), sut. Nr. S-MOR-25-11.

The authors are responsible for the content of their abstracts. The organizers assume no responsibility for the quality of the abstracts or the accuracy of the information.

Copyright © 2026 [Vilmantė Pakalniškienė, Roma Jusienė, Olga Zamalijeva]. Published by Vilnius University Press This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Licence, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. <https://doi.org/10.15388/ECDP.2025>
ISBN 978-609-07-1244-3 (skaitmeninis PDF)

HOW MUCH PLAY IS LEFT IN CHILDHOOD?

Monika Skerytė-Kazlauskienė

Institute of Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy, Vilnius University, Lithuania

Monika.Skeryte-Kazlauskiene@fsf.vu.lt

Play is one of the most essential activities in a child's life, according to prominent developmental psychologists such as Piaget, Vygotsky, and Bruner. Our research indicates that most teachers working in Lithuanian preschool education centers and kindergartens share this view. However, in practice, is there truly space for play in childhood? To explore this question, we conducted several studies.

In one study, we asked various individuals what they consider to be a good childhood. We inquired about their favorite childhood games, their children's favorite types of play, and whether they played frequently during their childhood. In another study involving Lithuanian preschool teachers, we examined children's opportunities for free play during their time in kindergarten.

Our findings revealed a significant positive correlation between the amount of play adults remember from their childhood and their well-being in the past two weeks (as measured by the WHO-5 Well-Being Index). We also found that while children in kindergartens do have some time to play, this time is usually what remains after other activities or occurs while waiting for scheduled tasks. Play is not a priority in most kindergartens, except for those with a play-centered approach, such as Waldorf or forest kindergartens.

For the conference, we will analyze generational perspectives on childhood and different types of play. We also aim to collect data from Lithuanian youth and students to examine how much they played during their childhood, their favorite types of play, and whether they consider play an important part of their early years. We are also gathering data to assess whether the situation in Lithuanian kindergartens regarding the time allocated for free play has changed.