

## Next Left Research Programme

### Focus Group and Progressive Pollsters Network meeting Vilnius, Lithuania

5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025

#### Tuesday – Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025

*“Friends for Eastern Partnership” – an additional programme (training and capacity building event) organized by FEPS, FMS, FES and Olaf Palme Centre. The details to be found in a separate file.*

#### Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Arrivals in the afternoon

20h00

Dinner

*(For the participants of both programmes – as the participants of the training will leave on Thursday morning and will not be further involved)*

Restaurant Lokys

Stiklių Str. 8, Vilnius, 01131

#### Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> November 2025

*@Seimas, Lithuanian Parliament, Seimo III r., 2 a., room 218B*

09h00-09h30

**Welcome**

LSDP-Hosts / Chair of the Next Left / FEPS and KRI

Mindaugas Sinkevičius, Chair LSDP

Karolis Klimka, Head of Communication in the Parliament,  
LSDP

Andreas Schieder, MEP, S&D Group, Head of the Austrian  
Delegation, Chair of the Next Left Research Programme

09h30-12h30

Progressive Pollsters' Network session:

## "Strengthening the Centre-Left: Insights and Strategies for 2026 and Beyond"

*This session aims to dive into the results of the recent surveys and discuss their implication for the political landscape in the EU, the Member States and the UK in mid- and long-term perspective. We invite pollsters to share 10-12-minutes presentations each.*

*-Tentative order-*

1. András Bíró-Nagy, Director at Policy Solutions, Senior Research Fellow at ELTE Centre for Social Sciences
2. Bruno Jeanbart, Vice President, Opinion Way
3. Christabel Cooper, Director of Research, Labour Together
4. Eva Zeglovits, Sozialforschung, Managing Director and Senior Researcher, IFES Institut für Empirische
5. Kaisa Vatanen, Chief Client Officer, Datapraxis
6. Lenny Benbara, Associate Director, Virtus
7. Marcin Duma, CEO, IBRIS
8. Rado Fonda, Head of Research, SWG Spa and Director, Polling Europe

12h30 – 14.00

### **Closed-door lunch with the representatives of LSDP and the Institute for Solidarity, as well as the Youth Organisation**

*@Seimas restaurant's banquet room, III r. 2 a.*

*With special participation of*

- Džioraldas Šukys, Vice-President of the Lithuanian Social Democratic Youth Union
- Augenis Vadluga, LSDP Youth
- Raminta Leonavičiūtė, LSDP Youth

14h00-16h30

### **Meetings in Seimas**

*@Constitution Hall, I r., Room 326*

The discussion will present new data on the challenges and opportunities arising from socially just and progressive policies.

- Andreas Schieder, MEP, S&D Group, Head of the Austrian Delegation, Chair of Next Left Research Programme

- Laurynas Sedvydis, MP, Chair of Human Rights Committee, LSDP
- Kaisa Vatanen, Chief Client Officer, Datapraxix
- Jurgita Šukevičienė, MP, Member of Foreign Affairs Committee, Member of European Affairs Committee, LSDP
- Ania Skrzypek, Director for Research and Training, FEPS
- Ruslanas Baranovas, MP, Member of Foreign Affairs Committee, Deputy Committee Chair of European Affairs Committee, LSDP.

17h00-18h30

**Progressivism in Lithuania and Europe – dilemmas, detours and drive forward**

*@The Office of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania,  
Gediminas Ave. 11, LT-01103 Vilnius, Lithuania*

- Akvilė Danielė, Vice-Minister of Transport and Communications, Republic of Lithuania
- Svetlana Tučkė, Chancellor of the Ministry of Social Security and Labour, Republic of Lithuania
- Gabriel Gorbačevski, Vice Minister of Energy, Republic of Lithuania
- Alicija Ščerbaitė, Vice-Minister of the Interior, Republic of Lithuania

19h00

**Dinner**

Special guest: Juras Taminskas, the Minister of Transport and Communications, Republic of Lithuania

Also attending:

- Laurynas Sedvydis, MP, Chair of Human Rights Committee, LSDP.
- Jurgita Šukevičienė, MP, Member of Foreign Affairs Committee, Member of European Affairs Committee, LSDP.
- Ruslanas Baranovas, MP, Member of Foreign Affairs Committee, Deputy Committee Chair of European Affairs Committee, LSDP.

[@Neringa](#), Gediminas Ave. 23, 01103 Vilnius

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025

@Best Western Hotel, Granite Hall

09h00-12h30

**The Next Left Focus Group**

*Introduction to the new cycle by: Ania Skrzypek, Director for Research and Training, FEPS, followed by the presentation of abstracts.*

12h30

**Closing and the next steps**

13h00-14h30

**Lunch**

@Grey Restaurant, Pilies str. 2, Vilnius, 01124

Quick visit to the LSDP headquarters before or after the tour

14h30

**Optional: Guided tour of Vilnius**

Meeting point: the Cathedral

### Non-exhaustive list of participants

1. **Akvilė Danielė**, Vice-Minister of Transport and Communications, Republic of Lithuania
2. **Alicija Ščerbaitė**, Vice-Minister of the Interior, Republic of Lithuania
3. **András Bíró-Nagy**, Director at Policy Solutions, Senior Research Fellow at ELTE Centre for Social Sciences
4. **Andreas Schieder**, MEP, S&D Group, Head of the Austrian Delegation, Chair of Next Left Research Programme
5. **Ania Skrzypek**, Director for Research and Training, FEPS
6. **Antonia Ortner**, Advisor to MEP Schieder
7. **Augenis Vadluga**, LSDP Youth
8. **Bruno Jeanbart**, Vice President, Opinion Way
9. **Carlo D'Ippoliti**, Professor of political economy at Sapienza University of Rome (*excused*)
10. **Céline Guedes**, Partnership and Project Coordinator, FEPS
11. **Christabel Cooper**, Director of Research, Labour Together
12. **Daniela Ostra**, political scientist at the Department of Political Science and European Studies, Palacký University in Olomouc
13. **Daniels Bormanis**, Project Manager, FES Baltics
14. **Dimitris Tsarouhas**, Visiting Associate Professor at the Department of Political Science, Virginia Tech, and Associate Professor at the Department of International Relations, Bilkent University, Turkey (*excused*)
15. **Džioraldas Šukys**, Vice-President, Lithuanian Social Democratic Youth Union
16. **Eunice Goes**, Politics at Richmond, The American International University in London
17. **Eva Zeglovits**, Sozialforschung, Managing Director and Senior Researcher, IFES Institut für Empirische
18. **Felix Butzlaff**, Temporary Professor for Democracy and Participation at Europa University/Flensburg and Postdoctoral Fellow, Central European University (*excused*)
19. **Gabriel Gorbačevski**, Vice Minister of Energy, Republic of Lithuania
20. **Indre Vilniskyte**, LSDP
21. **Juras Taminskas**, Minister for Transport and Communications, Republic of Lithuania
22. **Jurgita Šukevičienė**, MP, Member of Foreign Affairs Committee, Member of European Affairs Committee, LSDP
23. **Kaisa Vatanen**, Chief Client Officer, Datapraxis
24. **Karolis Dambrauskas**, PhD an anthropologist/sociologist
25. **Karolis Klimka**, Head of Communication in the Parliament, LSDP
26. **Konstantin Vössing**, Reader in Comparative Politics, City University of London
27. **Laurynas Šedvydis**, MP, Chair of Human Rights Committee, LSDP

28. **Laurynas Sedvydis**, MP, LSDP
29. **Lenny Benbara**, Associate Director, Virtus
30. **Marcin Duma**, CEO, IBRIS
31. **Mindaugas Sinkevičius**, Chair, LSDP
32. **Patrick Diamond**, Professor of Public Policy at Queen Mary University of London
33. **Rado Fonda**, Head of Research, SWG Spa and Director, Polling Europe
34. **Raminta Leonavičiūtė**, LSDP Youth
35. **Ruslanas Baranovas**, MP, Member of Foreign Affairs Committee, Deputy Committee Chair of European Affairs Committee, LSDP
36. **Svetlana Tučkė**, Chancellor of the Ministry of Social Security and Labour, Republic of Lithuania
37. **Tomas Petricek**, Senior Non-resident Fellow, Institute of International Relations and Director, Progressive Analytical Centre
38. **Yannis Tsirbas**, Assistant Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Athens