

Philosophy Center of Algis Mickūnas

The 1st International Conference

## **Fear and courage**

### I. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

1. The purpose of the conference is to develop students' abilities to think freely, write and speak fluently; to promote the cooperation of students, teachers, scientists, and scholars.
2. Tasks of the conference:
  - 2.1. to develop students' critical thinking competence and ability to plan, together with the advisors in writing a descriptive analytical work on the given topic.
  - 2.2. to develop students' dialogical abilities by presenting a prepared report at a conference.
  - 2.3. to develop a participatory culture of discussion between students and teachers.
  - 2.4. to discuss the importance and meaning of written works in the general education program, their relevance for students' educational motivation and career choices.

### II. CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION PROCEDURE

3. The conference will be held in 2023, **16 of November** at Petro Vileišio Gymnasium in Pasvalys (P. Vileišio St. 7) in a hybrid way.
4. Registration for the conference is available from **June 15** by e-mail to *kraptaviciute.kotryna@gmail.com* (indicating name, surname, school, teacher's name and surname).
5. The conference is organized by: Professor Algis Mickūnas Philosophy Center, Pasvalys Mariaus Katiliškis Public Library and Pasvalys Petras Vileišis High School.
6. Conference organizing committee: chairman - prof. Algis Mickūnas (e-mail: *amuali@gmail.com*), member dr. Žilvinas Svirgis (*svigaris@3t.lt*), conference coordinator Kotryna Kraptavičiūtė.

### IV. PARTICIPATION IN THE CONFERENCE

7. Persons of 15-20 year can participate in the Conference.
8. Participants should submit written work before 2023 **October 31** according to the regulations (appendix no. 2), by e-mail to *kraptaviciute.kotryna@gmail.com*
9. At the conference, participants will have 5-10 minute oral presentation of their written work.
10. Participants can prepare and present their work in English or Lithuanian language.
11. The course of the conference and the discussion will be held in two languages - English and Lithuanian.

### V. AWARD

12. Participants are awarded with letters of thanks from the organizers and gifts from sponsors.

## **A letter to conference participants**

Annex no. 1

Fear can appear in two main forms: conditional and absolute. The first is the fear of something, that can be avoided, something, that we can hide from. For example, I'm afraid of math exams, I'm afraid of a storm, but I can hide from it. The second fear is existential. No matter what, we are mortal, and we fear events that remind us of mortality—war, accident, violence—directly reveals our existential transience.

Meanwhile, courage has a wide variety. One can dare to go beyond the established boundaries of the community: class, origin, race, or role. One can dare to question the "highest" authorities of science and culture. Different forms of courage appear in the face of various risks, such as losing wealth or career, changing lifestyle or location, in other words, courage is needed when traveling into the "unknown". But the highest courage appears in daring to join the desperate struggle against slavery, realizing that it is better to die on one's feet than to live on one's knees.

The relationship between fear and courage. Supreme Relation: Despite existential dread, one can transcend the question of life and sacrifice it for a "supreme purpose." Courage can be created by overcoming the obstacles of fear and using them to achieve a goal - this is strategic courage. Courage can be strengthened by showing the irrationality of fear, its overemphasis in specific situations. Courage can be gained through dialogue with those who have experienced fear and overcome it.

Algis Mickūnas, or Uncle Algis

# Requirements for the written work

Annex no. 2

- 1) The written work must be written in correct Lithuanian or English.
- 2) The manuscript is submitted in digital Word format.
- 3) Manuscript text is in Times New Roman font, size - 12 pt., spaces between lines - 1.5 lines.
- 4) Volume of written work - up to 10,000 characters with spaces.

Each written work must contain the following mandatory structural elements:

- 1) Title of work.
- 2) Name and surname of the author.
- 3) Name(s), surname(s) of the supervisor(s).
- 4) Name of the educational institution.
- 5) Content.
- 6) **In the introduction**, the topic, purpose, and tasks of the research are presented, the formulation of the problem, and the structure of the work is presented.
- 7) **The research part** discusses the main question. This part of the work should have chapters and short summaries at the end of the chapter.
- 8) **Conclusions** contain the most important summaries, recommendations, and suggestions. This part of the work can briefly discuss further research directions of the topic or questions for discussion.
- 9) **Literary sources**, Internet links (based on monographs, collections of articles, articles in periodicals, unpublished publications (dissertations, master's theses), online documents and sources from databases (e.g., Google Scholar, Europeana, Lituania, ScienceResearch, ResearchGate, Academia etc.).

The conference report is prepared and presented in English or Lithuanian.

Participation in the conference is defined by the following **ethical regulations**:

- 1) To do written work honestly and independently.
- 2) Do not exceed the defined notification time (10 minutes)
- 3) Deliver the message at a moderate pace, speaking clearly. It is recommended to speak freely, not to read from a page. It is also possible to prepare a slide presentation, following the proportion of 80% visual material and 20% text in the slide.
- 4) Actively participate during the discussion by asking questions to other speakers.
- 5) Listen respectfully to the speaker/interviewer.
- 6) Participate throughout the conference.
- 7) Be kind and open to other people's ideas.