



**VDA  
Kaunas  
Faculty**

## **INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP**

**ERASMUS+ BLENDED INTENSIVE PROGRAM ORGANISED BY THE VILNIUS ACADEMY OF ARTS KAUNAS FACULTY**



### **ERASMUS+ BLENDED INTENSIVE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS:**

Vilnius Academy of Arts Kaunas Faculty (VAA)  
École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Grenoble (ENSAG)  
School of Architecture, Technical University of Crete (TUC)

### **THEME:**

**SYNERGY OF AN IMPORTANT HERITAGE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL FRAMEWORK WITH TODAY'S NEW ARCHITECTURAL NEEDS - THE 16TH-17TH CENTURY PANEMUNĖ RENAISSANCE CASTLE**

**DATE:** 2025 06 25 – 2025 07 02

**PLACE:** VAA Kaunas Faculty, Kaunas / Panemunė Castle

## **VIRTUAL SEMINAR:**

Although relatively young, the Lithuanian state experienced a period of power and prosperity during the late Middle Ages and early modern period. Unfortunately, from the late 18th century onwards, it endured long periods of occupation and devastation, leading to significant damage to its material cultural heritage. Of the thousands of castles, palaces, and estates, only a few hundred remain, and most of them are in poor condition. Moreover, no historical records of the original appearance of many of these cultural heritage buildings have survived. As a result, there are different approaches to the preservation and restoration of partially or completely decayed buildings, and there is still ongoing debate about which approach is best.

The workshop participants will learn about four different preservation/restoration approaches: the Palace of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania in Vilnius (a late 15th-century building that has deteriorated down to its foundations and was restored in the early 21st century, primarily based on iconography), Trakai Island Castle (an architectural interpretation of a 14th-century Gothic castle, created in the early 21st century based on the remains of its foundations and the iconography of its ruins), Kaunas Castle (a partially decayed 14th-century urban fortress, which underwent a partial reconstruction in the early 21st century), and Panemunė Castle (a 17th-century residential castle with a park that is currently being restored).

## **CREATIVE WORKSHOP:**

The participants of the workshop will have the opportunity to reflect on the case of the restoration of Panemunė Castle and its park and to identify the most acceptable and promising methods for the preservation and restoration of medieval architectural heritage for which there is insufficient information for an authentic restoration, using the methodological and creative experience accumulated by all three countries.

The aim of the workshop is to propose architectural principles for the restoration of Panemunė Castle and its surroundings, considering the historical, cultural and identity significance of this architectural complex, as well as its functional and informative-touristic importance.

### **Key questions for reflection:**

Why and for whom is the restoration of representative heritage architecture important?

What aspects of recovery and recovery of what aspects are most important?

What architectural and other methods should be used for this?

**TECHNIQUES AND PRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS:** sketches, drawings, 3D images, physical models, etc..

## **COORDINATORS:**

**Rimantas Giedraitis** (Assoc. Prof., Head of the Department of Architecture of VAA Kaunas Faculty)

**Ieva Žekevičiūtė** (Coordinator of the Department of Architecture of VAA Kaunas Faculty)

## **CONTACTS:**

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