

NEOLAIa Joint Learning Activity

Navigating Uncertainty: Preparing Society for the Future

19-23 April 2027

Overview

This joint learning activity, hosted in Šiauliai, Lithuania, brings together students and staff from across the NEOLAIa alliance, alongside Ukrainian partners, to engage in an intensive week of collaborative learning under the theme: "Navigating Uncertainty: Preparing Society for the Future."

Drawing on Lithuania's unique geopolitical and social context - especially its proximity to the Belarusian border and experiences in resilience-building - this program will serve as both a case study and a launchpad for broader discussions around uncertainty, societal cohesion, and civic preparedness in Europe.

Location: Šiauliai, Lithuania

Duration: 1 week

Target Group: Academic and Administrative Staff

Partners:

- Šiaulių valstybinė kolegija (Lithuania)
- Bielefeld University (Germany)
- University of Ostrava (Czech Republic)
- Ukrainian partners (to be confirmed)



Key Themes and Topics

Navigating
Uncertainty

European
Values in
Practice

Role of
Education
in Social
Cohesion

Civil
Protection
and Disaster
Relief

Civic
Engagement

Learning Format

The program includes a mix of:

- Thematic workshops and seminars
- Interactive group work and intercultural dialogue
- Joint staff-student sessions to promote peer learning
- Expert lectures and panel discussions with practitioners

Optional on-site visits to:

- Šiauliai Air Base, a key NATO strategic site
- Other relevant locations (to be defined)

Expected Outcomes

- **Strengthened intercultural competence and understanding of European values**
- **Practical insights into how education systems can support civic resilience**
- **Increased awareness of civil protection mechanisms in frontline EU and partner states**
- **Collaborative networks among students and staff across NEOLAiA and Ukrainian institutions**

Activity is relevant to those studying or working in:

At Šiaulių valstybinė kolegija (ŠVK)

- Public Administration, Law, and Security
- Social Work and Community Development
- Health Sciences
- Business and Management
- Information Systems and Cybersecurity

At Bielefeld University

- Sociology and Social Sciences
- Educational Sciences
- Political Science and History
- Psychology
- Data Science and Digital Humanities

Participants from all disciplines are welcome

This is an opportunity to collaborate across institutions, linking theory with practice in a real-world setting shaped by historical and contemporary challenges. Possible formats could include **workshops, debate/discussion sessions, round tables, or lectures.**

Application Form

