

The current volume of *Kultūrologija* deals with significant changes in present-day Lithuanian culture and society related to globalization processes. The studies presented in this volume fall into four sections.

The first section – Cultural Changes: History, Theory and Praxis – investigates the concepts and forms of manifestation of globalization, the specifics of Lithuanian culture and its relationship with adjacent cultures. In his paper Vytautas Berenis focuses on the peculiarities of the formation of Lithuanian national culture, national ideology and historiography. Virginijus Savukynas demonstrates how the virtual world and its rules interfere with the real world and impact on it. Renata Šukaitytė analyzes the achievements of electronic art and its prospects in the Baltic states.

In the second section (Contours of Globalization) Antanas Andrijauskas and Aivaras Stepukonis expand the sphere of research to the most general and fundamental issues of the cultural interface between the East and the West. Stanislovas Juknevičius reveals the religious, moral, and ideological causes of the conflict between the West and Islam.

The articles of the third section – The Priorities of the Lithuanian Population in the Global Context – draw mainly on the data of the research of values in European and other countries. These papers are presented in the order of importance of values in the modern Western world: family, work, society and politics. Alfonsas Algimantas Mitrikas offers a wide panorama of family priorities against a background of the principal interests of the mankind. The theoretical possibilities of the definition of work and leisure and the transformation of functions in the post-modern society are researched by Aida Savicka. Rūta Žiliukaitė's article is devoted to a most comprehensive analysis of the phenomenon of confidence in the present-day Western world.

The fourth section is devoted to religious issues. In her article drawing on the still topical ideas of Leo Tolstoy Elizaveta Khvartskiya discusses the chances and ways of the rebirth of Christianity in the Western world. Basia Nikiforova analyzes the theoretical aspects of the development of religion in the conditions of globalization.

The last section presents an analysis of a collective monograph on the preservation of the visual identity of the city of Vilnius and the principles of its development. The author of the review is Inesa Aistratovaitė.

It is to be hoped that this volume of *Kultūrologija* will attract the attention of the scholarly community and will encourage further research of related problems.

Editor Stanislovas Juknevičius