

## **Genealogijos, heraldikos ir veksilologijos instituto prezidento Remigijaus Bimbos sveikinimo žodis**

Mieli kolegos, lektoriai, dalyviai, svečiai! Ponios ir ponai!

Sveikinu susirinkusius į trečiąją tarptautinį kolokviumą „Genealogija, heraldika ir veksilologija“. Šių metų kolokviumo tema: „Valdovai: jų kilmė, herbai ir vėliavos“. Vilnius – išskirtinė vieta! Ypač šis muziejus, kuriame rezidavo Lietuvos Didžiosios Kunigaikštystės valdovai. Čia – Lietuvos širdis!

Pernai Vilniuje 14-os šalių atstovai pasirašė deklaraciją steigti Tarptautinį genealogijos, heraldikos ir veksilologijos tyrimų institutą. Tapo graži tradicija stipriausiems genealogijos, heraldikos ir veksilologijos mokslininkams ir specialistams susirinkti Vilniuje. Esu įsitikinęs, kad kasmet organizuojamas šis kolokviumas taps puikia galimybe mokslininkams, specialistams diskutuoti ir pasidalinti su visuomene sukaupta informacija ir tyrimų rezultatais. Genealogijos, heraldikos ir veksilologijos institutas yra dviejų prestižinių pasaulinių organizacijų (Tarptautinės genealogijos ir heraldikos konfederacijos, Tarptautinės vėliavų asociacijų federacijos) narys. Šios dvi organizacijos ir Tarptautinė genealogijos akademija yra šio kolokviumo globėjai. Džiaugiuosi, kad šiame kolokviume dalyvauja 13 šalių atstovai. Linkiu visiems gerai praleisti laiką, pasidžiaugti galimybe būti kartu, dalintis sukaupta genealogijos, heraldikos, veksilologijos informacija ir diskutuoti. Skelbiu trečiąją tarptautinį kolokviumą „Genealogija, heraldika ir veksilologija“ atidarytą.

## **Tarptautinės veksilologijos asociacijų federacijos gen. sekretoriaus dr. Bruce'o Berry'io (Pietų Afrika) sveikinimo žodis**

Good morning, special guests, fellow heralds, genealogists and vexillologists, Ladies and Gentlemen (or as we say in South Africa – *all protocol observed*)

It is indeed a privilege for me to be here today as although I have been fortunate enough to visit over 50 countries in the world, this is my first visit to Lithuania, and indeed to the Baltics! It is even more so as when I received the initial invitation to attend the colloquium at the end of 2023, it was highly unlikely that I would be able to attend, and so I declined. Luckily circumstances changed which enabled me to make the trip. So, I must give special thanks to Remigijus and the other organisers who graciously, and enthusiastically I might add, accepted my very late acceptance. Of course, as they say in English, there is no such thing as a free lunch, and I was asked to give a few opening remarks, which I am very happy to do.

Firstly, on behalf of President, Zeljko Heimer, FIAV President, and my fellow FIAV Board members, please accept our warmest greetings and every good wish for a successful Conference. During this time of increasing international tension, it is important for individuals who share an interest, or passion, to come together and enhance those common bonds for the mutual benefit of all. For FIAV, of course, it is all about flags and we hope to see some of you at the next International Congress of Vexillology in Beijing in August.

Our various disciplines overlap and in our increasingly interconnected world, it is events such as this which allows one to engage and broaden our horizons which is why FIAV is happy to give its support and encouragement. Indeed, we would like to see more of these events taking place.

So, it is indeed an honour for me to take this opportunity to thank the Lithuanian Institute of Genealogy, Heraldry and Vexillology for their on-going efforts in this regard and, in particular,

for organising this, the third, International Colloquium of Heraldry, Genealogy and Vexillology. Once again, from FIAV and the other delegates and presenters, a special thank you to the organisers.

I am delighted to be here and I wish everyone an enjoyable conference.

**Tarptautinės genealogijos ir heraldikos konfederacijos viceprezidento Dirk'o Weissleder'io sveikinimo žodis**

Dear members of the international community of genealogy, heraldry, and vexillology,  
dear colleagues, and friends,  
mieli kolegos ir draugai,  
my dear Remigijus,  
my dear Paulius,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Mesdames et Messieurs,

Hello again in this beautiful city of Vilnius, welcome at this special place. Most of us have come a long way to be with you all today. I am happy to be in Lithuania for the third time, and I am happy to be here.

A big thank you goes to the National Museum – Palace of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania for hosting us today. We will have a fantastic view up to the Gediminas tower, and beautiful weather! The history of Lithuania takes shape in this building here that used to be a ruin, just a sad artefact from history. But today it is a beautifully reconstructed palace defining national identity. In my eyes this also underlines the importance of our work: to deal with historical research on different fields, to document, and to preserve for coming generations.

We all thank the Institute of Genealogy, Heraldry, and Vexillology (IGHV), with which I feel such a strong and warm connection as Honorary Member, and we thank all who have again made possible this already 3<sup>rd</sup> International Colloquium of Genealogy, Heraldry, and Vexillology (ICGHV) here in Vilnius.

Today I am happy to represent both the *Confédération Internationale de Généalogie et d'Héraldique* (CIGH) as its Vice-President visiting an active member association here in Lithuania, and the *Académie Internationale de Généalogie* (AIG), as elected board member, visiting my dear colleague and friend Remigijus Bimba.

I can also send you the warmest greetings from my German colleagues at the board of DAGV as the umbrella association of more than 70 single association in genealogy, and heraldry, representing more than 25.000 single members. We are celebrating our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

To this may be added the best wishes from the board of the International German Genealogy Partnership (IGGP), our international umbrella of genealogical associations, and groups on German genealogy especially due to the fact that four of our international board members have Lithuanian ancestors.

Ladies and gentlemen, we live in a time in which we must foster common projects, cultural exchange, and to learn from each other, to come together in an atmosphere of respect and mutual esteem. For this reason last year in June 2023 we have signed the Declaration of Vilnius, and we have started a special research project on comparative Genealogy, Heraldry, and Vexillology. I will talk about it later.

Dear Remigijus, dear Paulius, and all dear colleagues of the institute, thank you for your great work, you all are superb representatives of your country. Last year's colloquium remains in our hearts, as this year's will remain definitely.

Tomorrow we will visit the Old Town of Vilnius that was been declared part of the UNESCO World Heritage in 1994, so already thirty years ago. As I said, most of us are very far away from home, but I must say that I feel at home here in Vilnius already. This is Europe in every single piece of present and past.

The motto of the Vilnius coat of arms says: Unitas, Justitia, Spes = Unity, Justice, and hope. Let us keep this in mind for the next two days. Our gathering here with all of you in Vilnius is a sign of friendship, and solidary in these challenging times.

Thank you very much! Merci beaucoup! Ačiū už viską!

Vive la Généalogie!

Vive l'Héraldique!

Vive la Vexillologie!

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**Terminai:**

Tarptautinė genealogijos ir heraldikos konfederacija

pranc. Confédération Internationale de Généalogie et d'Héraldique

Tarptautinės veksilologijos asociacijų federacija

pranc. Fédération internationale des associations vexillologiques

Tarptautinės genealogijos akademija

angl. *International Academy of Genealogy*

Tarptautinis genealogijos, heraldikos ir veksilologijos tyrimų institutas

angl. *International Research Project of Comparative Genealogy, Heraldry, and*

*Vexillology*