



HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING INSTITUTE

**ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT**  
2010

Vilnius  
2011

## ANUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2010

Human Rights Monitoring Institute (HRMI) was founded in 2003 with the aim to contribute to the development of an open and democratic society in Lithuania by consolidating human rights and freedoms. The strategic goal of the Institute is to develop a culture respectful of human rights in Lithuania by:

- Raising awareness of human rights violations, their causes and consequences;
- Encouraging Lithuanians to exercise their human rights and to assist in defending those rights;
- Integrating permanent civil society monitoring of government performance in protection of human rights into political discourse;
- Stimulating public discussions and dialog between civil society and state institutions of human rights concerns;
- Motivating state institutions and officials to bring about tangible improvements in legislation, programmes and services, intended to ensure and protect human dignity and human rights;
- Increasing government accountability in policies and practices affecting human rights.

HRMI monitors the work of governmental institutions, publicly reacts to potential and actual violations of human rights, engages in research, presents findings and recommendations, initiates strategic litigation cases, and presents alternative reports to international human rights bodies.

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HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING INSTITUTE

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# CONTENTS

<b>CONTENTS</b> .....	3
<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	5
<b>I. MONITORING OF HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN LITHUANIA AND RELATED ADVOCACY</b> .....	6
I.1. PUBLIC OPINION POLL.....	6
I.2. ALTERNATIVE REPORT TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE .....	6
I.3. PRESS CONFERENCE "WHY LITHUANIA CANNOT SECURE HUMAN RIGHTS?" .....	7
I.4. IN OPPOSITION TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OFFICE OF ETHICAL AND PROCEDURAL OMBUDSMAN OF THE ACADEMIA OF THE LITHUANIAN REPUBLIC.....	7
<b>II. THEMATIC ISSUES</b> .....	7
II.1. CIA PROGRAMME OF SECRET DETENTION AND EXTRAORDINARY RENDITIONS .....	7
II.1.1. <i>Requests to Investigate Lithuania's Participation in the Programme</i> .....	7
II.1.2. <i>International Conference on CIA Extraordinary Rendition Programme: What's Next for         Lithuania?</i> .....	8
II.1.3. <i>BBC Documentary</i> .....	8
II.2. FIGHTING AGAINST INCITEMENT OF HATRED AND DISCRIMINATION .....	9
II.2.1. <i>Complaints regarding Incitement of Hatred in Media</i> .....	9
II.2.2. <i>"March for Equality": Legal Aid and Advocacy</i> .....	9
II.2.3. <i>Comments on the Draft Amendments to the Administrative Code</i> .....	10
II.2.4. <i>Public Appeal in Response to Collective Roma Deportation</i> .....	10
II.2.5. <i>Press Conference on Fighting with All Forms of Intolerance</i> .....	10
II.2.6. <i>Legal Aid to Mother of a Discriminated Disabled Child</i> .....	10
II.2.7. <i>Legal Aid to a Discriminated Person with Disability</i> .....	11
II.3. RIGHTS OF THE CHILD .....	11
II.3.1. <i>Public Appeal concerning the Rejection of the Amendments to the Law on the Rights         of the Child</i> .....	11
II.3.2. <i>Press Conference on Violence against Children</i> .....	11
II.4. RIGHT TO RESPECT FOR PRIVATE LIFE.....	11
II.4.1. <i>Public Appeal on Protection of Privacy in Driving Schools</i> .....	11
II.4.2. <i>Social Experiment on Surveillance Systems</i> .....	12
II.5. RIGHT TO A FAIR TRIAL .....	12
II.5.1. <i>The Case of Egle Kusaite</i> .....	12
II.5.2. <i>Access to Secondary Legal Aid Case</i> .....	13
II.5.3. <i>The Gataev's Case</i> .....	13
II.6. RIGHT TO PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY .....	14
II.6.1. <i>Training Seminar on Freedom of Assembly</i> .....	14

II.6.2. March 11 Rally Case.....	14
<b>III. AWARENESS RISING AND HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION .....</b>	<b>14</b>
III.1. WEEK AGAINST RACISM AND OTHER FORMS OF INTOLERANCE .....	14
III.2. HUMAN RIGHTS SUMMER SCHOOL 2010.....	16
III.3. HUMAN RIGHTS AWARENESS MONTH 2010: RESPECT FOR YOU AND ME.....	16
III.4. INFO BULLETIN.....	18
III.5. HRMI IN MASS MEDIA .....	18
<b>IV. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.....</b>	<b>19</b>
IV.1. MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS.....	19
IV.2. MEMBERSHIP IN THE EU FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS PLATFORM.....	19
IV.3. VISIT OF DIRECTOR OF EUROPEAN AGENCY FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS (FRA) .....	19
IV.4. OSCE REVIEW CONFERENCE.....	20
IV.5. INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS HOUSE NETWORK CONFERENCE.....	20
IV.6. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NVO COOPERATION.....	20
IV.7. CHAIR OF THE HRMI BOARD AT THE UN COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD .....	20
<b>V. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND PEOPLE .....</b>	<b>21</b>
V.1. HRMI BOARD.....	21
V.2. STAFF MEMBERS.....	21
V.3. EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS .....	21
V.4. VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNS.....	22
<b>VI. FINANCIAL RESOURCES .....</b>	<b>23</b>

## INTRODUCTION

Year 2010 has been full of challenges for human rights protection in Lithuania. Although human rights condition has worsened, this has not led to increasing concern over such trends. Quite the opposite – a rather poorly concealed or even openly displayed hostility towards human rights became prevalent. Representatives of academia, political observers, politicians and their advisers spread the fear amongst the public that the promotion of human rights and equal opportunities was destroying traditional values and leading to a moral downfall or, in other words, threatening Lithuanian identity or even survival.

In 2010, Lithuania attracted world media's attention and international response for the stance of the state authorities in relation to Baltic Pride in Vilnius and for Lithuania's participation in CIA-run extraordinary rendition programme. The concern over human rights condition in Lithuania was also expressed by international institutions and officials, including Human Rights Commissioner of the Council of Europe.

Human Rights Monitoring Institute has emphasized continuously that the issues of human rights protection must appear on political agenda as well as election manifestos of political parties and policy documents of the Government. Also, HRMI stressed the need for a National Human Rights Institution, which would be responsible for the development and protection of human rights.

As long as such institution is non-existent in Lithuania, HRMI continues to monitor, on a daily basis, human rights situation in the country with a purpose to identify key human rights issues. Justice, equality and personal security are those broad categories under which the majority of the key human rights problems fall. In addressing these problems, HRMI undertook research and analytical work, engaged into legal advocacy by initiating strategic litigation, prepared alternative reports to international human rights bodies, and used targeted as well as public communication. As has become customary, HRMI led two educational and awareness raising campaigns, namely the Week against Racism and Other Forms of Intolerance and Human Rights Awareness Month.

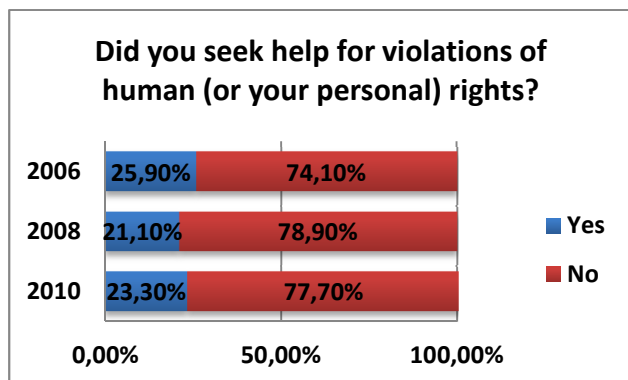
Every year, a number of requests and complaints concerning human rights breaches in various areas is increasing. Because of limited human recourses, HRMI is unable to give individual consultations, but in all cases it aims to provide necessary information and refer individuals to institutions where they could get the help needed. Often, the information supplied by individual complainants enables HRMI to better define key human rights problems as well as encourages a search for the ways to address them.

The Annual Activity Report aims to provide everyone interested into HRMI's activities with a detailed account of the works done by the Institute in 2010.

# I. MONITORING OF HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN LITHUANIA AND RELATED ADVOCACY

## I.1. Public Opinion Poll

On 3-15 November 2010, Market Research Centre *Vilmorus* conducted a public opinion poll on behalf of the Human Rights Monitoring Institute. The public opinion poll aimed to assess the awareness of Lithuanians on human rights issues, to ascertain what traditional social groups are perceived as the most discriminated against, what aspects of the private life people feel most sensitive about, and above all, to determine whether people trust the existing human rights protection mechanisms and if they are determined to protect their violated rights. The results of this third biannual analogous research poll showed an increase in awareness of information regarding human rights (about 11-12% increase from previous four years). Paradoxically however, the knowledge of where to seek help in the case of human rights violations did not see an increase. Thus, it appears that though the public appears increasingly satisfied with the amount of

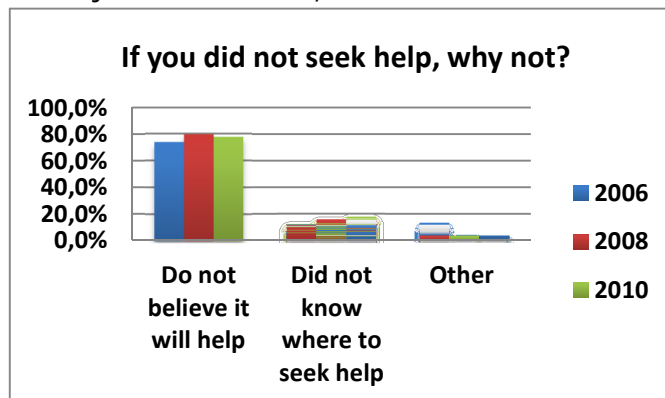


information regarding human rights (admittedly only 54%); they do not seem to be increasingly aware of the content of such information (such as where to seek help) that would be useful to them.

information regarding human rights (admittedly only 54%); they do not seem to be increasingly aware of the content of such information (such as where to seek help) that would be useful to them.

Additionally, of the respondents who agreed that their human rights had been violated, the majority – almost 78 % - did not seek aid, suggesting that an effective response is not possible to be the key reason. Thus, on the one hand, there is an increase of those who believe they are informed enough, whereas on the other hand, many do not know who to contact in the case of human rights violation. One might wonder whether people really understand the content of human rights and connection to their daily lives and injustices suffered, because when faced with the need to defend their rights – people do not know how to.

It may be significant to note that a 6% increase in distrust of the Prosecutor General and an overall increase in the belief that various government officials violate human rights laws were observed. The public distrust of the authorities is further reaffirmed by the increase in the belief that the institution violating human rights the most is the court. It is, therefore, not surprising that, as in previous years, of the listed political and civic rights (the right to a fair trial, the right to personal safety, the right to free speech, the right to participate in political life, the right to private property, and the right to privacy) the most violated right was reported as the right to a fair trial (the average in 2006 was 6.6, in 2008 it was 6.5, and in 2010 the average was 6.8).



There is an increasing belief among the respondents that elderly people are the most discriminated social group in Lithuania. Other social groups, that are consistently named as the most discriminated against, are mentally ill patients and persons with disability. According to 2010 opinion poll, children and ethnic minorities are considered as the least discriminated groups.

## I.2. Alternative Report to UN Human Rights Committee

In November 2010, the Human Rights Monitoring Institute submitted the Alternative report regarding the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in

Lithuania. The report was submitted to the United Nations Human Rights Committee, which will examine the third periodic report submitted by Lithuania under the Covenant.

The Alternative report provides information on the implementation of recommendations of the Committee in its concluding observations following the second periodic report of Lithuania and highlights problems related to selected Articles of the ICCPR. The Institute points to the lack of political will to ensure human rights and argues for the establishment of the National human rights institution in Lithuania. The Report, *inter alia*, emphasizes problems related to integration of Roma minority, obstacles to effective enjoyment of the right to freedom of assembly, and violations of the right to a fair trial.

### ***I.3. Press Conference "Why Lithuania Cannot Secure Human Rights?"***

On May 12 2010, HRMI together with Institute of Civil Society, Global Initiative in Psychiatry and member of European Parliament Leonidas Donskis organized press conference "Why Lithuania Cannot Secure Human Rights?". Dainius Pūras, Chair of the HRMI Board, Henrikas Mickevičius, Executive Director of HRMI, and Darius Kuolys, Director of the Civil Society Institute participated in the discussion on the recent developments in the state of human rights in Lithuania, focusing on the events that attracted high public interest on domestic as well as international level. The panellists discussed human rights violations in the cases of Egle Kusaitė, Gataevs and CIA Extraordinary Rendition Programme in Lithuania. Dainius Pūras stressed that human rights situation in Lithuania is deteriorating. According to him, in the first decade of the independence, the country showed a strong determination to make a progress in this field; later, human rights in Lithuania suffered stagnation, which is now leading to regress.

### ***I.4. In Opposition to the Establishment of the Office of Ethical and Procedural Ombudsman of the Academia of the Lithuanian Republic***

On 27 September 2010 HRMI appealed to members of the Parliament in opposition to the decision to establish and approve the office of Ethical and Procedural Ombudsman of Academia of Lithuanian Republic. HRMI urged MPs to consider whether the establishment of this narrowly-focused institution is necessary in the times of economic hardship. On 28 September 2010, the vote in Parliament did not approve the founding draft-law of the Ombudsman's Office. In 2009, HRMI has successfully advocated against the establishment of the Office of Small and Medium Business Ombudsman. In HRMI's view, multiplication of institutions of small size and narrow competence is not the most effective way of responding to human rights violations. Instead, the establishment of National human rights institution should be initiated.

## **II. THEMATIC ISSUES**

### ***II.1. CIA Programme of Secret Detention and Extraordinary Renditions***

#### ***II.1.1. Requests to Investigate Lithuania's Participation in the Programme***

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In 2010, Human Rights Monitoring Institute actively followed events related to Lithuania's participation in CIA's programme of secret detention and extraordinary rendition and urged the Office of the Prosecutor General to carry out a thorough investigation into this matter.

On 11 December 2009, HRMI appealed to the Prosecutor General requesting to initiate pretrial investigation into the alleged unlawful transportation of CIA's suspects across the state border, unlawful deprivation of liberty, and treatment of persons prohibited under international law. However, the investigation has not been opened. On 12 January 2010, the Institute issued a public appeal where it has expressed its concern about the lack of initiative from the Office of the Prosecutor General in investigating Lithuania's participation in the Extraordinary Rendition Programme and the alleged criminal acts committed in the territory of Lithuania while the country had taken part in the Programme. Stressing that the office of the Prosecutor General must, in fulfilment of its constitutional function, initiate investigation into alleged criminal acts, the

Institute prompted that in accordance with international legal obligations in the case of the well-founded presumption that a violation of fundamental human rights occurred, competent State institutions of Lithuania have to attempt to their positive duty to conduct an efficient pretrial investigation in order to identify perpetrators and determine the guilt.

On 20 September 2010, London-based NGO Reprieve called on Lithuanian authorities to investigate new allegations that torture victim Abu Zubaydah was illegally imprisoned at a CIA “black site” in Lithuania. It has become clear to Reprieve that at some point between his arrival in Morocco in 2004 and his arrival in Guantánamo in 2006, Mr. Zubaydah was detained in Lithuania. The intensity and frequency of Mr. Zubaydah’s torture make it vital that the sites of his abuse are exposed, if only to prevent it happening again. In their request to open a pretrial investigation into these allegations, Reprieve reminded Lithuania its obligation under the European Convention of Human Rights to perform an effective investigation into such serious allegations.

In November, HRMI’s Executive Director together with the representatives from partner organization Amnesty International met with the Chairman of the Committee for National Security and Defence, President’s adviser on national security and the officials from the Office of the Prosecutor General, and once again urged to take necessary steps in order to conduct a thorough investigation.

### ***II.1.2. International Conference on CIA Extraordinary Rendition Programme: What's Next for Lithuania?***

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On 22 March 2010, HRMI in cooperation with the Institute for International and EU Law, Faculty of Law, Vilnius University and European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights organized the International Conference on CIA—Extraordinary Rendition Programme: What’s Next for Lithuania? Speakers at the conference included Gavin Simpson, researcher for European Commission; Wolfgang Kaleck, Secretary General at European Constitutional and Human Rights Center; Amrit Singh, Senior Legal Officer at Open Society Justice Initiative; Clara Gutteridge, Assistant Director at Reprieve’s Secret Prisons and Renditions Department; Arvydas Anusauskas, Chairman of the parliamentary National Security and Defence Committee; Dainius Zalimas, Director of International and European Union Law Institute at Vilnius University Law Department; and Algimantas Cepas, Senior researcher at Law Institute. The conference was attended by politicians, diplomats, law enforcement officers, academia, NGOs and journalists.



In the 2006 report, prepared by Mr. Dick Marty, Chairman of the Committee of Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), Vilnius was not mentioned among the places where the operations of secret detention and rendition of the detainees were carried out. In the context of the rendition programme, Lithuania’s name was first mentioned in August 2009.

“In 2004-2006, Lithuania was one of three most important locations of detention to which high-value detainees were transferred for interrogation, and then transported to Guantanamo”, stated conference speaker Mr. Gavin Simpson, Investigator at the Council of Europe (CoE), who took part in the PACE study. Lithuania’s parliamentary inquiry into the issue, though swift, did not reveal all information, such as whether the U.S. aircrafts known to have landed in Lithuania carried detainees.

### ***II.1.3. BBC Documentary***

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In 2010, the HRMI has worked closely with the BBC News channel and BBC World in producing ‘Europe’s Secret Prisons’ - a documentary report on secret detention sites for terrorist suspects in Lithuania and Poland.

The investigative documentary was aired as an episode of “Our World” on BBC in October 2010. The episode focuses on the on-going investigation, which, in the authors’ view, should reveal whether there were criminal acts committed in the secret CIA prison. Arvydas Anusauskas, Chairman of the parliamentary inquiry commission, stressed that the information concealed by

the SSD officers as well as their abuse of office is a serious violation, however, no evidence has been obtained to support the allegation that persons were actually being held in the secret detention site in Antaviliai. At the end of the episode, the journalists emphasize the necessity to reveal the truth so that similar things would never happen again.

## **II.2. Fighting against Incitement of Hatred and Discrimination**

### **II.2.1. Complaints regarding Incitement of Hatred in Media**

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On the basis of media monitoring, HRMI has filed 22 requests to initiate pre-trial investigation under the Article 170 of the Criminal Code of Lithuania with regard to allegedly hateful comments placed in electronic media. The vast number of requests dealt with hate speech against LGBT community and Roma minority. Increased number of requests to investigate and prosecute hate speech against LGBT people has been related to the increasing attention to the issue of gay rights and public debate in the context of Baltic Pride 2010 parade, which took place at the beginning of May.

29 March 2010, HRMI addressed the Inspector of Journalists' Ethics with the request to assess a number of articles in electronic media and apply sanctions where appropriate for inciting hatred to Roma. The vast part of articles pictured Roma in negative manner associating them with committed or allegedly committed criminal offences of drug-dealing, thefts, pickpocketing, bribing, and acts of violence. In comparison with other ethnic minorities, the practice of constantly mentioning one's ethnic origin in articles applied generally for Roma. In HRMI's opinion, such practice constitutes a breach of law and professional ethics.

### **II.2.2. "March for Equality": Legal Aid and Advocacy**

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In early 2010, Lithuanian Gay League and Lithuanian Tolerant Youth Association notified Vilnius City Municipality of a planned *March for Equality*, requesting to issue a certificate for the organization of the event. The municipality issued the certificate, although designating a different location for the march than the one requested by the organizers. The event was scheduled to take place on 8 May 2010.

On 4 May 2010, Prosecutor General has requested revocation of the certificate, quoting security concerns, allegedly based on classified information, and claiming that the police will not be able to ensure the safety of the participants and onlookers. As a temporary measure, he requested to suspend the certificate until the Court reaches its decision. On 5 May 2010 Vilnius Regional Administrative Court has accepted the request for consideration and as an interim measure has suspended the certificate for the *March for Equality* until the Court's judgment on merits.

On 5 May 2010, HRMI on behalf of the organizers drafted an appeal challenging the Court's decision. HRMI addressed Lithuanian Supreme Administrative Court claiming that in the circumstances of the case interim measure *de facto* denies one of the fundamental human rights – the right to peaceful assembly protected by Article 12 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, Article 11 of the European Convention of Human Rights, Article 21 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Article 20 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. HRMI emphasized, that Article 11 of ECHR requires positive measures to be taken by State; therefore the State is obliged to effectively guarantee exercise of the right, not to deny it.

On 6 May, HRMI together with Lithuania Centre for Human Rights, Lithuanian Gay League and Lithuanian Tolerant Youth Association appealed to members of European Parliament urging not to stay indifferent and to take measures at their disposal, including expression of a view on the incident in Lithuania and drawing attention of respective Lithuanian authorities to the problem. On the same day the European Parliament's Intergroup on LGBT Rights issued media release in support of the march condemning decision adopted by Vilnius Regional Administrative Court. Later, the European Commission expressed concern about the events surrounding *Baltic Pride* events and recalled that respect for fundamental rights, including freedom of expression and

peaceful assembly is an obligation imposed on Member States by their own constitutional order and international obligations.

On 7 May, Lithuanian Supreme Administrative Court upheld HRMI's arguments and revoked interim measure. *March for Equality* took place in Vilnius on May 8, as scheduled.

### ***II.2.3. Comments on the Draft Amendments to the Administrative Code***

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On 3 December 2010, HRMI issued a response to the Committee on Legal Affairs commenting on the draft law of 19 November 2010 No. XIP-2595 amending the Administrative Code. The draft law specified that "Public promotion of homosexual relations is to be punished by a fine from two thousand to ten thousand Litas." HRMI submitted that, if enacted, this Law would severely infringe upon the freedoms of assembly and expression, and violate an individual's right to be free from discrimination based on sexual orientation.

### ***II.2.4. Public Appeal in Response to Collective Roma Deportation***

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On 6 September 2010, HRMI signed a public statement to the governments of France and Lithuania as well as to the European Union (EU) Justice Commissioner Viviane Reding urging the French government to stop collective deportations of Roma people and to examine each case on an individual basis. NGOs stressed in their appeal that "any European government criminalising the whole Roma Community and allegedly seeking to protect the public, incite racial hatred in the whole of Europe causing the risk of increase in racist violence incidents." The appeal was also signed by Lithuanian Roma Community "Čigonų laužas", the Roma Community Centre, Lithuanian Centre for Human Rights, the Center for Equality Advancement, Equal Rights and Social Development Centre, and the Lithuanian Young Falcons Union.

### ***II.2.5. Press Conference on Fighting with All Forms of Intolerance***

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In autumn 2010, the Representation of European Commission in Lithuania engaged in a campaign to reduce intolerance, aiming to promote the fight with all forms of intolerance and draw the public's attention to the importance of personal tolerance and openness. Dovile Sakaliene, Programme Director at HRMI, participated in a press conference held within the framework of the campaign.

Dovile Sakaliene expressed regret that intolerance is spreading in Lithuania as a virus. "If a couple of decades ago Lithuanians were unwilling to live in the neighbourhood with Roma or people released from prisons, now the list of intolerable neighbours and co-workers has expanded to include ethnic, religious, disability and many other grounds".

Dovile Sakaliene noted that intolerance is often a defensive reaction caused by fear and stereotypes. This defensive reaction is further aggravated by the fear of the "otherness" deeply rooted in public consciousness since soviet times when people with "defects" were isolated from the rest of the society. She stressed that the rejection of any differentiation of people is the most important condition for the actual freedom.

### ***II.2.6. Legal Aid to Mother of a Discriminated Disabled Child***

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On 22 April 2010, HRMI filed a complaint to the Ombudsperson on Equal Opportunities on behalf of the mother of a disabled child. The applicant has an 11-year-old daughter, who suffers from cerebral paralysis and symptomatic epilepsy. Due to her illnesses, she cannot walk and during regular monthly visits to neurologist and frequent visits to pediatrician and other specialists mother has to carry the girl. Offices of medical staff are situated in the old three-floor building in the centre of Vilnius. There is no parking yard next to clinic, parking place adjacent to the neighboring building does not designate places for disabled and during work hours is almost always occupied. The building is not equipped with elevator.

In the complaint it was claimed that limited access to healthcare facilities constitute indirect discrimination of the applicant and her daughter on the ground of physical disability. Having examined the complaint, the Ombudsperson recommended Vilnius Municipality administration to provide the clinic with premises adapted to the needs of the disabled. On 16 August, the Municipality replied it was not in a position to implement the recommendation.

### ***II.2.7. Legal Aid to a Discriminated Person with Disability***

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HRMI was approached for legal aid by R.U. - a person with severe physical disability. Due to a movement dysfunction caused by cerebral palsy, R.U.'s ability to move his hands is impaired. He performs most daily tasks by using his foot. Until this day, he had been carrying unsigned personal identification documents because he had not been provided with the opportunity to do so by the State. His rights were severely restricted, risking him for identity theft and infringing on his ability to manage bank accounts, obtain credit cards, file for taxes, etc.

On 27 July 2010, HRMI addressed Vilnius Migration Office petitioning on behalf of R.U., requesting that a new identification signed by foot be issued to him. On 5 August 2010, the request was granted and R. U. was issued personal identification documents signed by foot.

## ***II.3. Rights of the Child***

### ***II.3.1. Public Appeal concerning the Rejection of the Amendments to the Law on the Rights of the Child***

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On 8 April 2010, in response to the rejection of the amendments to the *Law on Fundamentals of Protection of the Rights of the Child*, HRMI, jointly with Nomeda Marčėnaitė, Goodwill Human Rights Ambassador, prepared a public statement in opposition to such action. Deeply disconcerted by the actions of parliamentarians, the majority of whom still consider corporal punishment to be an effective "educational measure", the public statement was signed by 58 signatories representing various social groups who act against violence mirroring the 58 parliamentarians who spoke in favor of violence. This public statement, actively supported by people from various social and professional groups, expressed the wish for all Lithuanian children to be brought up in a safe and respectful environment.

### ***II.3.2. Press Conference on Violence against Children***

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On the eve of the International Child Protection Day on 31 May 2010, HRMI held a press conference with experts and intellectuals, focusing on the issues of double standards reflected in legal regulation concerning violence against children. The lack of direct legal prohibition of corporal punishment is not only contrary to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child which Lithuania signed in 1995, but also reflects the prevailing attitudes of the public and rooted stereotypes, which were explored by the panellists.

The speakers at the conference included: Nomeda Marčėnaitė, first Good Will Human Rights Ambassador, artist; Steinar Gil, Norwegian ambassador to Lithuania; Edita Žiobienė, Child Rights Ombudsperson; Robertas Povilaitis, member of Physic Health Committee of the Lithuanian Psychic Health Association; Vytautas V. Landsbergis, children's writer and film director. The conference was chaired by Dovilė Šakalienė, Programme Director at HRMI.

## ***II.4. Right to Respect for Private Life***

### ***II.4.1. Public Appeal on Protection of Privacy in Driving Schools***

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On 6 October 2010 HRMI informed the Lithuanian Republic Minister of Transport on the deficiencies of the new procedural guidelines for driving schools that violated an individual's right

to privacy. According to these new procedures, beginning 1 January 2011 an audio and video recording will be taken during the final examination in driving school. These guidelines specify that the recording of the student and the examiner will be stored for up to a year and can be retrieved by the Department of Transport for inspection. HRMI noted the lack of procedural guidelines of who is able to view such information and the level of encryption of personal information.

Additionally, HRMI does not believe that many of the driving schools have the resources to properly handle such information. HRMI also stated that it is the responsibility of the Transport Ministry to prove that such a surveillance is motivated by a legal cause as specified by law and that other means are insufficient and/or inadequate for the purpose. HRMI hopes that the Lithuanian Republic Minister of Transport will further look at the presented concerns in order to better protect the privacy of the general public.

#### ***II.4.2. Social Experiment on Surveillance Systems***

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In late October, 2010, the Human Rights Monitoring Institute jointly with DelfiTV, with assistance from law students, conducted a social experiment which aimed to test the efficacy of the new trolleybus surveillance system. In the trolleybuses equipped with such a monitoring system, the driver can contact a dispatcher at the observance of illegal behaviour, which then launches a law enforcement response.

However, in both cases of violent behaviour as well as public consumption of alcohol, no response was initiated. Additionally, very few signs indicating that the trolleybus was under surveillance could significantly infringe on the rights of the passengers as the cameras, as reported by Vilnius municipality, have the precision to capture a person's identifying information and even documents. As exemplified by this experiment, the trolleybus surveillance system may be ineffective and may violate an individual's right to privacy.

### ***II.5. Right to a Fair Trial***

#### ***II.5.1. The Case of Egle Kusaite***

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On 24 October 2009, Egle Kusaite was arrested and detained by the State Security Department officers in Kaunas coach station. She was accused of a very serious crime – a conspiracy to commit an act of terrorism. In 2010, information appeared in public that she allegedly was interrogated by Russian Federal Security Service in April and coercion and violence may have been employed against her. Other human rights such as the right to counsel may have been violated also.

As a response, on 17 June 2010, Leonidas Donskis, MEP, Darius Kuolys, Director of the Civil Society Institute (CSI), and Henrikas Mickevičius, Executive Director of the HRMI, addressed Gediminas Grina, Head of the State Security Department (SSD) regarding the conduct of this case. In his reply, the SSD Director notified that the SSD is not in a position to investigate the actions of the prosecutors.

On 21 June 2010, in order to better inform Egle Kusaite of her human rights and to understand the situation from Ms. Kusaite's perspective, Executive Director of HRMI, Henrikas Mickevičius requested to meet with Ms. Kusaite on 10 July 2010. This request was denied by the state prosecutor assigned to the case, Justas Laucius, claiming that "these actions are regarded as attempts to interfere with the prosecutors' professional activities and are directly prohibited by law". However, Darius Valys, the Prosecutor General could not explain his subordinate's decision.

On 14 July 2010, Leonidas Donskis, MEP, Darius Kuolys, Director of the Civil Society Institute, and Henrikas Mickevičius, Executive Director of HRMI, addressed Darius Valys, the Prosecutor General in order to request the removal of prosecutor Justas Laucius from the investigation of Egle Kusaite case and an internal investigation into his activities. The group demanded that charges against prosecutor Laucius are brought in the case any violations of human rights

standards and/or professional ethics were found by this investigation. The Prosecutor General was also asked to investigate the circumstances of the interrogation of Egle Kusaite by Russian Federal Security Service, including alleged human rights violations of Egle Kusaite. On 22 July 2010, Prosecutor General Darius Valys issued a decision to remove prosecutor Laucius from the case.

On 5 August 2010, Egle Kusaite was released on bail by the order of the appellate court. The consideration on the merits of the case began in late 2010, the ruling is expected in 2011. HRMI continues to monitor the case.

### ***II.5.2. Access to Secondary Legal Aid Case***

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Lithuanian law accommodates secondary legal aid - drafting of documents, defence and representation in proceedings before the court, and representation in preliminary extrajudicial dispute settlements, where such a procedure has been laid down by laws or by a court decision. This legal aid also covers the litigation costs incurred in civil proceedings, administrative proceedings, and the costs related to the hearing of a civil action brought in a criminal case. State Guaranteed Legal Aid (SGLA) should be provided to any individual who falls within the range of incomes determined by the Republic of Lithuania and for those who prove that they are unable to pay the legal costs.

On 19 January 2010, the Panevėžys municipality refused to provide SGLA to A.A., because her monthly income was considered as not low enough to qualify for such aid. However, they did not note that bailiff fees caused her monthly income to drop to 130LT. The defendant was unable to pay the 50% cost of legal fees and was able to prove that 85% of her income was spent on bailiff fees.

Seeing the potential for a direct impact on a large number of people, HRMI provided consultation in this case. The court ruled that recovery of funds by the bailiffs should not be calculated as dispensable funds. Furthermore, only dispensable funds can be used to evaluate a person's eligibility to receive 100% coverage for legal fees. Respondent appealed the decision of the first instance court. The case is currently pending before the Supreme Administrative Court.

### ***II.5.3. The Gataev's Case***

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In autumn of 2007, Malik and Chadizat Gataevs, a couple of Chechen origin, were arrested in Lithuania on suspicion of physical abuse and extortion of money from their foster-children. Gataevs, founders of a foster care home for children "Rodnaja semja" (Native Family) registered in Chechnya, arrived to Lithuania with a group of foster-children ten years ago.

In June 2009, Kaunas district court ruled Gataevs guilty of unlawful use of force, threats and infliction of physical injuries, and sentenced to 10 months of imprisonment each. In August, Gataevs had served an initial sentence of 10 months but they were not released. Instead, upon request of the prosecutor the court extended Gataevs' detention pending an appeal on merits. This decision was annulled, Gataevs were released but, having lost any confidence in Lithuanian system of justice, they fled the country. In September 2009, the appeal court extended their sentences to 18 months of imprisonment.

In February 2010, HRMI prepared the application on behalf of Gataevs' to the Kaunas district court claiming pecuniary and non-pecuniary damages for the unlawful detention from August 14 to September 9 2009 spent at the pre-trial detention facility.

On 23 March 2010, Lithuanian Supreme Court revoked the decision of Kaunas district court and returned the case for re-examination to the appeal court. The Supreme Court noted that while examining the case in appeal instance, the rights of the defendants to a fair trial were violated.

## II.6. Right to Peaceful Assembly

### II.6.1. Training Seminar on Freedom of Assembly

On 2 July 2010, HRMI, having regard to the widespread practice among the public servants to restrict the right to free assembly on ill-founded grounds, organised a training seminar "The Right to Freedom of Peaceful Assembly: Legal Standards and Practical Implementation". The seminar was organized in cooperation with Vilnius City Municipality. Public servants and police officers were familiarized with the case-law, international standards, and Lithuanian legislation pertaining to the right for peaceful assembly. As a practical exercise, individual case-studies of the decisions taken by Commission for Events and Assemblies were analysed and evaluated.

### II.6.2. March 11 Rally Case

HRMI and the Center for Equality Advancement was denied the right to hold a peaceful rally for democracy and tolerance on 11 March 2009—Day of Regaining Independence of Lithuania. On 21 October 2009 Vilnius City Municipality refused to issue a certificate for the rally stating that the information gathered by surveillance allows them to believe that counter-demonstrations and the acts of violence are likely to occur which would violate public order, public safety and public health.

HRMI and LGPC have challenged this decision in court. Applicants submitted that formal arguments for rejection of request – that planned rally may violate public order and safety, as well as "public health and morality", and "freedoms and rights of others" - were not supported by any evidence. In addition, in violation of the Assembly Act, the decision by the Vilnius municipal administration was passed in less than 48 hours before the event.

In September 2009, Vilnius district court has rejected HRMI and LGPC claim. On 16 September 2010 the appeal was also rejected by Vilnius District Court. On 19 December 2010, HRMI appealed again and currently the case is pending before Lithuanian Supreme Court.

## III. AWARENESS RISING AND HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

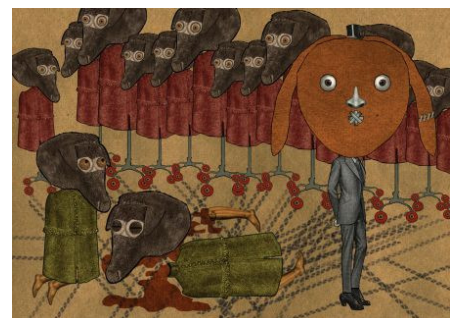
### III.1. Week Against Racism and Other Forms of Intolerance

In March 2010, HRMI organized its annual cycle of events – Week against Racism and Other Forms of Intolerance.

March 21 was declared the International Day for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination by the United Nations as a reaction to the murder of peaceful anti-apartheid demonstrators in South-Africa, in 1960. Human Rights Monitoring Institute joined the international UNITED network, the largest anti-racism network of more than 560 NGOs in 49 countries, in the annual European-wide Action Week to actively engage Lithuanians against racism and promotion of equality.

The campaign programme of Action Week against Racism 2010 included:

- *"Art Against Discrimination" Discussion Cycle: "Art against violence"*. Students and members of the community alike were invited to participate in a discussion that centered on violence against women and children. Questions such as, "Why do artists in Lithuania avoid this theme? Do all forms of visual art avoid exploring themes of violence (in the family)?" were asked.
- *Informal Lessons in Grade Schools: Multiculturalism*. HRMI representatives and volunteers taught lessons about racism, human rights,



tolerance, and today's problems through interactive games. After the games, a screening of *Vilnius Ghetto 2009* took place with the film's director Audrius Leikaitis present. Additionally, methodic material, "Convergence of Cultures—the basis of public safety" was distributed to schools that wished for it.

- "Art Against Discrimination" Discussion Cycle: "Art and Politics." Students and members of the community alike were invited to participate in a discussion that centered on the function of art as a vehicle for truth. Questions such as, „Does an art work enforce positively or negatively the realities/needs of politics? Can an art work reflect a truth important to the entire public? Can an art work be more effective than political truths or ideologies? Why are we sometimes afraid of political art?" were asked.
- *Screening of Vilnius Ghetto 2009 for ambassadors residing in Vilnius.* Documentary film, *Vilnius Ghetto 2009* (dir. A. Leikaitis, 2009, 40 min), was created for the European Community United Employment and Social Solidarity programme PROGRESS. This film reveals the daily existence and social separation problems of the Roma community in the "Vilnius gypsy encampment." However, this "encampment" is a community of voluntarily assembled and freely roaming Roma people. Today they are imprisoned, not by the harsh Soviet regime, but by the invisible isolating wall—hard to cross from both sides. The film was shown (with English subtitles) in conjunction with the Spanish Embassy in Vilnius and other EU ambassadors as well as those from other countries.
- "Art Against Discrimination" Discussion Cycle: "Art as a protest." Students and members of the community alike were invited to participate in a discussion that centered around an artist's protest against government's disregard for human rights, against bureaucracy and political leaders' indifference, against infringement of social rights, against the silencing of freedom of speech, against restrictions on fundamental human rights.
- *Film Cycle "What unites and divides" in Kaunas.* In conjunction with Kaunas Multicultural Centre (Šv. Gertrūdos 58, Kaunas, [www.minority.lt](http://www.minority.lt)), HRMI organized film screenings free and open to all. After the screenings, viewers had the opportunity to take part in a discussion with the film director and experts. *Vilnius Ghetto 2009* (dir. A. Leikaitis, 2009, 40 min.), *Lithuanian Moldovans* (dir. I. Bujor, 2009, 36 min.), and *Litvaks. From Vilnius to Jerusalem* (dir. L. Bartkiene and R. Razinskaite, 2009, 34 min.) were shown.
- *Discussion: "Are Lithuanian universities open to foreigners?"* In conjunction with HRMI, the Lithuanian Student Union took part in Action Week Against Racism 2010 by organizing the discussion "Are Lithuanian universities open to foreigners?" The discussion began with the Human Rights Film Festival "Ad Hoc: Uncomfortable Theater" film screening. The film revealed phobias of foreigners and manifestations of racism in foreign countries. After the screening, the discussion aimed to analyze manifestations of these problems in Lithuanian society.
- *Discussion in the Parliament: "European and Lithuanian values: same or different?"* Human Rights Monitoring Institute in collaboration with the Nordic Council of Ministers Office in Lithuania, Republic of Lithuania Human Rights Committee in the Parliament, Kingdom of Norway Embassy, Kingdom of Sweden Embassy, Finland Embassy, and Kingdom of Denmark Embassy hosted a discussion in the Lithuanian Parliament. The discussion was moderated by Leonidas Donskis, member of the European Parliament. This discussion brought about the paradoxes within the Lithuanian Parliament's lack of condemnation for the Neo-Nazi rally, while almost 50 members of Parliament worked to ban the Baltic Pride rally.
- *Discussion: "Where are the roots of radicalism?"* In conjunction with European Student Law Association Lithuanian national group, Vilnius affiliate (ESLA Vilnius), HRMI organized a round-table discussion where experts from various disciplines attempted to identify the origins of radicalism. In the past years, increasing incidents of xenophobia, homophobia, racism, and increasingly radical political speeches and news reporting leads to a serious concern—where is this leading? And why?

Among HRMI partners in the week-long campaign were Lithuanian National UNESCO Commission, BadDog, NORDEN Nordic Council of Ministers Office, Kingdom of Norway Embassy, Kingdom of Sweden Embassy, Kingdom of Denmark Embassy, Finland Embassy, Lithuanian Human Rights Parliamentary Committee, United Nations Growth Program, Institute for International Relations and Political Science, Office of Equal Rights Ombudsperson, Center for Equal Rights Advancement, Kaunas Multicultural Center, European Law Students' Association (ELSA), Lithuanian Chapter, Vilnius Affiliate, Lithuanian Young Falcons Union, Roma Community Centre, „Meno Avilyš“, „Vataitau“ Sound Recording Studio.

### III.2. Human Rights Summer School 2010



The first International Human Rights Summer school was organized on 23 July – 1 August, 2008. HRMI organized the Summer school in cooperation with the Mykolas Romeris University (Lithuania), Elon University (USA), European Humanities University (Belarusian University in Exile, Vilnius, Lithuania) and non-governmental organization Bring Human Rights Home, USA. The Patron of the Summer school was Česlovas Juršėnas, Speaker of the Seimas (Lithuanian Parliament).

Taking place this year from July 19-28, 2010 in Mykolas Romeris University, the programme provided a two-week intensive and comprehensive exposure to International Human Rights Law to international students.

This year 31 students and 18 lecturers from Belarus, Canada, France, United Kingdom, Georgia, Lithuania, Russia, and the United States participated in the programme. The programme featured intensive classroom instruction conducted by practitioners, professors, and experts in the fields of international and human rights law. Student's classroom learning was enhanced by experiential components such as workshops, field work, and site visits. The last two days were devoted to a moot court. The closing ceremony of the school was attended by Mr Remigijus Simasius, Minister of Justice.

### III.3. Human Rights Awareness Month 2010: respect for You and Me

For the sixth year in a row, HRMI organized the traditional human rights campaign series in celebration of the International Human Rights Day (December 10th). This day has been celebrated since 1950, commemorating the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on the same day in 1948. This year, HRMI chose to focus on themes of human dignity and respect. Among the commemorative events organized in cooperation with partners were: expert panel discussions, human rights film festival, photography and short film festival, and radio shows.

- *Art Auction and Virtual Gallery of Art.* On 6 December at the residence of the Kingdom of Netherlands ambassador, an art auction was organized by JE Joep Wjinands, Netherlands ambassador to Lithuania and Nomeda Marčėnaitė, the first Goodwill Ambassador of Human Rights. The proceeds of the auction were donated to benefit the human rights situation in Lithuania. The pieces of art were also photographed and compiled into a virtual gallery of art on the HRMI website.
- *Human Rights Photography Contest.* Instead of the traditional essay contest, this year HRMI organized a photography contest. Kristina Petrošienė's photo was selected as the expert panel's favourite, while Greta Vasiliauskaitė's photo was named as the most popular via the social networking portal *Facebook*. Both winners were awarded at the residence of





the Norway Ambassador to Lithuania, received a consultation session with president of Lithuanian Photographers Union, Jonas Straselis.

- *Short-film Contest.* Entitled "Like a fish in water," the Human Rights Awareness Month program was enhanced by a short film contest. The goal of the short-film contest initiated by Vilnius University Student Association Program "Without Labels" was to encourage tolerance in young people, spread awareness about society and human rights through art. During this inaugural year, the contest will take place until Spring of 2011 and the best short-films will be shown in various Lithuanian cities during the Human Rights Awareness Month in 2011.
- *Radio Talk-Shows.* Covering all areas of Lithuania, radio broadcasts of interactive radio shows were prepared throughout the month. During these interactive radio shows, listeners were invited to share ideas about the current situation of human rights in Lithuania. Listeners were also provided with the opportunity to report known violations and were given information about where to turn when their rights are violated. As in 2009, an expert group travelled around Lithuania lead by a professional journalist.
- *Human Rights Film Festival.* HRMI continued to organize screenings of human rights films. This year, from December 12-18, anyone and everyone were invited to free screenings in Vilnius, Panevėžys, Ukmergė, Alytus, and Palanga. Human Rights Film Festival partners were: Lithuanian human rights center (program Ad Hoc: Uncomfortable Theater), Northern Ministry Service Office in Lithuania (Northern country film program), Vilnius International Children and Youth Film Festival, movie theater „Pasaka" (Vilnius), TSPMI corporation RePublica and Student Learning Cooperative, VU SA program „Without Labels," G.Petkevičaitės-Bitės library (Panevėžys), Alytus Public Library, Ukmergė Public Library, Club „Ramybė" (Palanga).
- *Discussion: "Is a family member—a human being?"* The discussion continued the HRMI tradition of collaborating with law students as well as VU ESLA. Focusing on family violence, the discussion aimed to address the passivity of the Lithuanian Parliament on the issue. For ten years Lithuanian Parliament has been unable to create effective legislation to protect from violence in the private sphere. Children remain the most vulnerable in these situations because their ability to defend themselves practically does not exist; additionally women's abilities remain limited. Despite the fact that Lithuania is among the first in violence measures in the EU, Lithuanian parliamentarians allow themselves to publicly justify violence or avoid concrete steps by claiming to be "improving" legislation.
- *Discussion: "European radicalism: Will it threaten human rights?"* HRMI along with VU TSPMI Corporation RePublica, Student Organization ELSA Vilnius, EP Information office in Lithuania is organized a discussion about radical tendencies in EU politics, using the mass deportations of Roma people from France as an illustration of the aggressive nationalist politics. Students raised the question: What do these European leaders' actions mean and how will they change EU promoted ideas of freedom and unity? The discussion aimed to analyze from the human rights perspective the events that caused great resonance in Europe: deportation of Roma people in France, declarations of failed multiculturalism, growing voter sympathies with far right platforms in tolerance deprived countries. Event partners were: VU IIRPS Student Organization and Corporation "RePublica," ELSA Vilnius, European Parliament Information Office in Lithuania.
- *Human Rights Goodwill Ambassador of the Year Award.* In 2009, the Human Rights Monitoring Institute began the Goodwill Ambassadors programme with the goal of promoting human rights advocacy and raising public awareness. The programme hopes to invite renowned representatives of artistic, political, and business



spheres. This year, HRMI continued this tradition by announcing Maestro Vytautas Juozapaitis as the new Goodwill Ambassador for Human Rights. V. Juozapaitis is an honoured musician— in 2003 he was presented with Lithuanian National Culture and Art Prize for his recent roles as an opera singer (as Don Juan, Rigoletto, Count Shemeto, Zygimantas Augustas, Renato, and Zilvinas) and for spreading Lithuanian music.



- *Human Rights Champion of the Year Award.* Annual award is given to a person, who has made significant contribution to the promotion and protection of human rights during the current year or lifetime. The Human Rights Champion Award was given Kestutis Cilinskas. Kestutis Cilinskas is a lawyer, human rights defender, public activist, who energetically fights for enforcement of democratic and legal principles in Lithuania. Mr. Cilinskas is distinguished for January 13, 1991 events, when he lead negotiations with the Soviet

Army and the OMON force for the cessation of aggression and the Soviet Army's withdrawal to Russia. He was elected to the Republic of Lithuania's Seimas; he has worked as the Government's Chancellor; has been the Chief Official of the Ethics Commission as well as the Parliamentary Committee for Human Rights Advisor. Mr. Cilinskas is the founder of the Nonparty Democratic Movement and the Legal Projects and Research Center. HRMI has awarded this honor since 2006.

- *Presentation of the Human Rights Situation Evaluation.* This year, during the Human Rights Awareness Month, in collaboration with the public opinion and market research firm VILMORUS, HRMI again presented the periodic human rights situation assessment according to the public, based on the representative survey of Lithuanian residents in November 2010. On the International Human Rights Day on December 10 in the BNS Press Conference Room (Jogailos g. 9/1, Vilnius, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor) the results as well as new trends in the human rights situation were discussed.

### III.4. Info Bulletin

HRMI continued to distribute Info Bulletin on important human rights topics. The info bulletin reaches over 2500 registered recipients. Among the main topics addressed through the Info Bulletin were: an overview of human rights protections guaranteed under the 1 December, 2009 Lisbon Treaty, an analysis of the CIA Extraordinary Rendition and Secret Detention program in light of human rights and international law, a summary of changes of the conventional system as a result of *Protocol 14 to the European Convention of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms*.

### III.5. HRMI in Mass Media

In 2010, HRMI continued to share its views on acute human rights issues with Lithuanian as well as international media. This year, the representatives of HRMI appeared on more than 40 radio and TV shows, and were quoted by online and printed media for more than 70 times.

Among the media outlets that invited the HRMI representatives to voice their opinions were: National Television and Radio, Free and Independent Channel, TV3, Lietuvos Rytas Television, Baltic Television, Polish TV Polonia, Russian Pervyj baltijskij kanal, News Radio, M-1 Radio, Radiocentras Radio, Znad Willi Radio, BBC TV, European Radio Network, Deutsche Welle, Deutschland Radio; national, regional and foreign newspapers „Lietuvos Rytas“, „Kauno diena“, „Lietuvos Žinios“, „Vakarų ekspresas“, „Klaipėda“, „Sekundė“, „Dienraštis L.T.“, Berliner Zeitung, „Litnews“; weeklies „Veidas“, „Laikas“, „Kontrastai“; National News Agency BNS; online news portals Delfi.lt, Balsas.lt, Lrytas.lt, Bernardinai.lt, LRT.lt, Infolix.lt, Alfa.lt, 15min.lt and others.

## **IV. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

### ***IV.1. Ministerial Conference on the Future of the European Court of Human Rights***

On 18 February, member states of the Council of Europe made decisions to bring reform to relieve the European Court of Human Rights of backlog of cases. Prior to the conference, 156 organizations from 36 CoE member states, including HRMI, issued a joint appeal in which they prompted States to inform the public about the debates and consult civil society in the lead-up to the Conference and throughout the reform process which follows it.

### ***IV.2. Membership in the EU Fundamental Rights Platform***



HRMI's Executive Director Henrikas Mickevicius participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Fundamental Rights Platform Meeting on 14-15 April along with 150 other representatives from non-governmental organizations dealing with human rights, trade unions, religious associations, employer associations, professional unions, academic and other qualified experts of European and international bodies and organizations. The meeting focused on the human rights dimension of poverty and social exclusion, and the Lisbon Treaty and its implications for the protection of fundamental rights. The participants also discussed the Agency's Work Programme for the year 2012.

HRMI became a member of the Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP) in early 2010. The platform unites civil society organizations, working in the human rights field, especially with people who need human rights protection most. Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) seeks to engage civil society actors as key partners in Agency's research, human rights education, awareness raising and other activities. To serve this purpose in 2008 Agency launched the Platform, a network for cooperation and information exchange between the Fundamental Rights Agency and civil society, thus creating the opportunity for civil society to have a say on Agency's activities and thereby influence fundamental rights policies on the EU level.

### ***IV.3. Visit of Director of European Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)***

On 17 May, HRMI hosted a meeting of Lithuanian human rights NGOs with the Director of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) Morten Kjaerum. For the Agency's Director, who has worked in the non-governmental sector for a number of years himself, the meeting was the first item on his agenda of working visit in Lithuania. Before meeting with Lithuanian politicians and State officials, Morten Kjaerum wanted to introduce the Agency to non-State human rights actors and to get first-hand information about the problems Lithuania is facing in the area of human rights. Representatives of Lithuanian NGOs raised a number of topical issues, including systematic violations of the rights of people with mental disabilities and related problem of flawed regulation and practice for stripping a person of his/her legal capacity; legislative gaps in regulating the protection of victims of domestic violence; inconsistencies in ethnic minority integration; lack of effectiveness in counteracting hatred in the media; unjustified obstacles for the enjoyment of the right to assembly; and others. The meeting was attended by representatives of Lithuanian Centre for Human Rights, Lithuanian Gay League, Centre for Equality Advancement, Centre of Ethnic Studies, Tolerant Youth Association, Institute for Social Integration, SOPA, Lithuanian Human Rights Association, Foundation for Support of Citizen



Protection, Global Initiative in Psychiatry Vilnius Office, Transparency International Lithuanian Chapter, Roma Community Centre and the Jewish Community Association.

#### ***IV.4. OSCE Review Conference***

Henrikas Mickevičius, HRMI Executive Director, took part in the OSCE Review Conference 2010 in Warsaw, 30 September - 08 October 2010. During his intervention at the Plenary Session, Henrikas Mickevičius emphasized the necessity to deliver on the OSCE pledge to facilitate establishment and strengthening of national human rights institutions.

Representatives of the 56 OSCE participating States have gathered in Warsaw to review the progress they have made in implementing commitments relating to human rights and fundamental freedoms, the rule of law, democracy, and tolerance and non-discrimination. The Warsaw segment, which ended 8 October, was the first phase of a 17-day review process leading up to the OSCE Summit in Astana on 1-2 December, also attended by Henrikas Mickevičius.

#### ***IV.5. International Human Rights House Network Conference***

On 24 September, HRMI's Executive Director Henrikas Mickevičius delivered a speech on human rights condition in Lithuania at the conference, organised by the International Human Rights House Network.

The conference was attended by politicians, state officials, and representatives from international and non-governmental organisations from the Baltic and Northern States (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden and Finland), also Belarus, Russia, Poland, Ukraine, Moldova, South Caucasus, the Western Balkans and Western Europe.

In his speech, HRMI's Director noted that although Lithuania has achieved a considerable progress in consolidating democracy, the rule of law and the protection of human rights since regaining its independence in 1990, unfortunately, Lithuanians do not feel secure and do not believe that their rights are effectively safeguarded, and also distrust the state authorities responsible for the protection of these rights.

#### ***IV.6. International Conference on NVO Cooperation***

On 22-26 November, Natalija Bitiukova, Legal Director at HRMI, took part in the international UNITED conference on the activities of NGOs in initiating and developing intercultural cooperation. The interactive conference held in Moscow was attended by more than 80 NGO representatives from various European and Middle Eastern countries. Natalija Bitiukova coordinated the workshops, focusing on strategic litigation in discrimination cases and the application of the situation testing method. The workshops attracted representatives of human rights organisations from Germany, Great Britain, Ukraine, Armenia, Russia, Switzerland and other states.

#### ***IV.7. Chair of the HRMI Board at the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child***

In 2010, Dainius Pūras, Chair of the Board of Human Rights Monitoring Institute, continued his work at the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. Dainius Pūras is the first representative from Lithuania elected to one of the UN expert committees that monitor implementation of human rights conventions in the UN member states.

## V. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND PEOPLE

### V.1. HRMI Board

*Dainius Pūras* – Chair of the Board

Associate Professor at Vilnius University Medical Faculty, Member of UN Committee on the Rights of the Child

*Henrikas Mickevičius* – Board Member

Executive Director at HRMI

*Arūnas Pemkus* – Board Member

Chair of the Board of public relations company „Integrity“

*Tadas Vizgirda* – Board Member

Vice President at and Representative of the „AirBaltic“ company in Lithuania

### V.2. Staff Members

#### Until August 2010

*Henrikas Mickevičius*, Director

*Jolanta Samuolytė*, Research Director

*Dovilė Šakalienė*, Programme Director

*Natalija Bitiukova*, Programme Coordinator

#### From August 2010

*Henrikas Mickevičius*, Director

*Dovilė Šakalienė*, Programme Director

*Natalija Bitiukova*, Legal Director

*Jūratė Guzevičiūtė*, Programme Coordinator

### V.3. Experts and Consultants

Daiva Brogienė, PhD Student at Vilnius University

Deividas Velkas, Adviser to Inspector of Journalist Ethics

Dovilė Juodkaitė, Director at „Global Initiative in Psychiatry“

Gintautas Sakalauskas, Research Fellow at Law Institute

Inga Abramavičiūtė, Attorney in Law

Eglė Kavoliūnaitė-Ragauskienė, Head of Legal System Research Department at Law Institute

Margarita Jankauskaitė, Project Director at the Centre for the Development of Equal Opportunities

Vida Beresnevičiūtė, Director of Ethnic Research Institute at the Social Research Centre of Lithuania

Vita Petrušauskaitė, Researcher at Ethnic Research Institute at the Social Research Centre of Lithuania

Laima Vengalė, Office of Equal Opportunities Ombudsman

Vladimiras Simonko, President of Lithuanian Gay League

Dainiaus Radzevičiaus, Chairman of Lithuanian Journalist Association

Jolanta Aleknavičienė, Project Director at Transparency International Lithuania

Regina Valutytė, PhD Student at Mykolas Romeris University

Indrė Isokaitė, Lecturer at Vilnius University

Dainius Žalimas, Director of International and EU Law Institute at Vilnius University

Algimantas Čepas, Director of Law Institute

#### ***V.4. Volunteers and Interns***

Aistė Petuškaitė

Svetlana Kulikovskaja

Katrin Workert

Donata Mitkutė

Kamilė Mikalauskaitė

Rūta Smalakytė

Vaida Nedzinskaitė

Milda Šabūnaitė

Jūratė Guzevičiūtė

Emanuele Anceschi

Viktoras Jurša

Marija Makariūnaitė

Guoda Dziugaite

Maxime Chervaux

Aurelija Mineikaitė

Justina Ivanauskaitė

Jelena Žuravliova

Fallone Mabungu

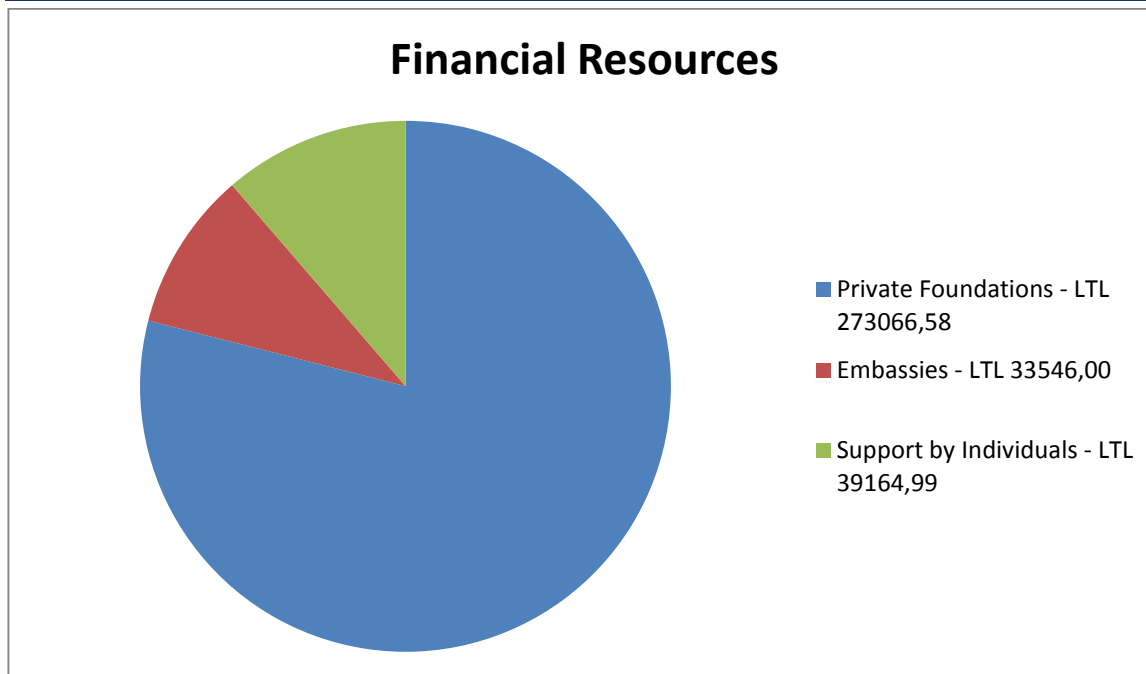
Edita Būtėnaitė

Karolis Kaminskas

Edvinas Naraškevičius

Malgožata Neverovič

## VI. FINANCIAL RESOURCES



<b>Funding sources:</b>	<b>Total, LTL</b>
Private Foundations	273 066,58
Embassies	33 546,00
Support by Individuals	39 164,99
<b>Total:</b>	<b>345 777,57</b>