

COUNTRY REPORT

Social Sciences and Humanities in

Lithuania

2012 Report

The Social Sciences and Humanities are influential for all Member States and for the European Commission. Thousands of researchers carry out research in a vast array of themes of national and international interest. They do so taking into account their organizational structures, framework conditions, as well as cultural preferences and political priorities in their countries.

METRIS is an initiative of the Directorate-General for Research (DG RTD) that aims to become an entry and reference point for the social sciences and humanities landscapes in Europe. Commissioned by the ERA Directorate of DG RTD and performed via the Metris-Network, it pursues the collection, regular updating, and analysis of information on the social sciences and humanities at national and European levels.

METRIS products

All products are brought together under the website www.metrisnet.eu. It provides METRIS country profiles for all EU-27 countries, plus another 15 European and non-European countries, most of them Associated countries to the European Union's Research Framework Programme. The website provides access to the following services and publications, as they become available:

- regularly updated country profiles of SSH systems in 42 countries;
- a news service;
- annual monitoring reports for all countries covered;
- synthesis reports bringing together key points;
- links to relevant reports and websites.

This document has been prepared within the framework of an initiative of the European Commission's Research Directorate-General, addressing the ERAWATCH Network asbl. The METRIS network is managed by Technopolis Consulting Group. The project manager is Viola Peter (viola.peter@technopolis-group.com).

The present report was prepared by dr. Saule Maciukaite-Zviniene (saule.maciukaite-zviniene@mosta.lt), Vaida Saukeckiene, Kristina Maseviciute, dr. Rimantas Skirmantas, dr. Vidimantas Bumelis from MOSTA (Research and Higher Education Monitoring and Analysis Centre). The contents and views expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Member States or the European Commission.

The report covers the period from July 2011 to December 2012.

Copyright of the document belongs to the European Commission. Neither the European Commission, nor any person acting on its behalf, may be held responsible for the use to which information contained in this document may be put, or for any errors which, despite careful preparation and checking, may appear.

1. Country page	5
1.1 Overview of SSH System	5
1.1.1 Overview of structure	5
1.1.2 Recent changes	6
1.2 Policy challenges and developments	6
1.2.1 Main societal challenges translated into SSH research	6
1.2.2 New SSH policy developments	8
<hr/>	
2. Policy Setting System	10
2.1 Government policy making and coordination	10
2.1.1 Policy formulation and coordination	10
2.1.2 SSH policy advice	10
2.1.3 Main implementing bodies	12
2.2 Impacting factors	13
2.2.1 Policy fields influencing SSH policies	13
2.2.2 Influence of European and International Developments	13
2.2.3 Relevance of European and International SSH research	13
2.2.4 Impact of evaluations	14
2.2.5 Impact of other factors	17
2.3 Important policy documents	17
2.4 Thematic priorities	18
2.5 Important research programmes	19
2.6 SSH research infrastructures	22
2.6.1 National infrastructures	22
2.6.2 International infrastructures	23
<hr/>	
3. Funding System	24
3.1 Overview of funding flows	24
3.2 National public SSH research funding	26
3.2.1 Overview of funding importance	26

3.2.2 Institutional funding	26
3.2.3 Individual funding	27
3.2.4 Programme Funding	28
3.3 Private research funding	29
3.4 Foundations/ not-for-profit funding	29
3.5 European and international funding	30
<hr/>	
4. Performing System	30
4.1 Overview of the performers	30
4.2 Higher Education Institutions	30
4.2.1 HEIs as education performers	30
4.2.2 HEIs as research performers	32
4.3 Public Research Organisations	33
4.4 Private research performers	35
4.5 Research performance	36
4.5.1 Scientific publications	36
4.5.2 Interdisciplinarity	36
4.5.3 International Cooperation	37
References	38

1. Country page

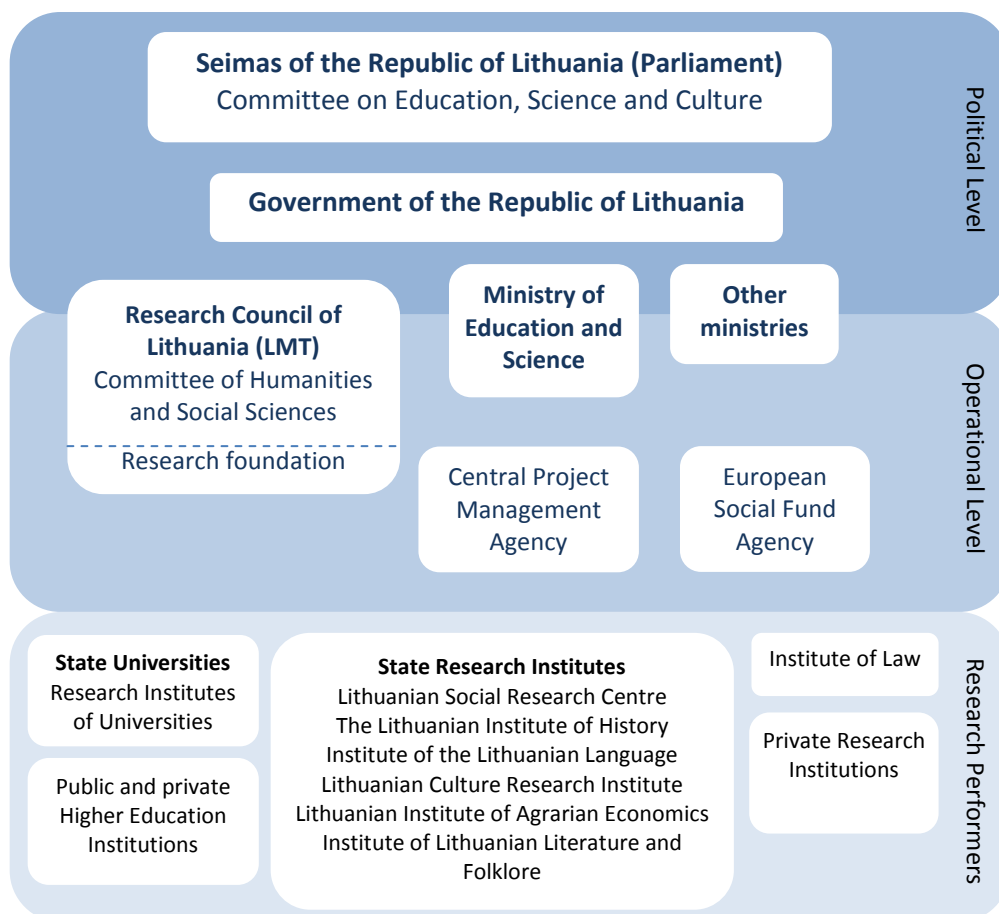
1.1 Overview of SSH System

1.1.1 Overview of structure

The key research policy development and implementation bodies in Lithuania are the Seimas (Parliament) and the Government. The responsibility for implementing SSH policies falls under the Ministry of Education and Science. It implements state R&D and higher education policy, coordinates activities of research and higher education institutions and is responsible for encouraging excellence in the public research sector. Several other ministries participate to some extent in setting the SSH research agenda.

The Research Council of Lithuania (Council) is a specific institution with a dual function: it serves as a scientific adviser to the Seimas and the Government and at the same time is one of the policy implementing institutions. The Council makes proposals on the implementation of research policy, evaluates research activities, research efficiency and compatibility with the state needs. It also carries out institutional assessment of research institutes and evaluates scientific production. Aside from its advisory and expert functions, the Council administers competitive funding schemes for research activities financed from the national budget as well as from the Structural Funds. It is composed of the Board, two expert committees – the Committee of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Committee of Natural and Technical Sciences, and the Research Foundation that carries on the administration duties.

Central Project Management Agency and European Social Fund Agency are responsible for the administration of operational programmes.



1.1.2 Recent changes

There were no specific changes related only to SSH. The Council continues conducting the programme based on competitive R&D funding, focusing on financing high-level research projects. Half of the allocations for science in Lithuania are distributed via competitive funding programmes, with the other half remaining as the base funding. Since the start of these activities in 2010 the Council has drawn up more than 30 descriptions of the procedures, regulating specific procedures of programmes funding. To help with administrative aspects of project proposal submission and subsequent project management, an online informational system is being maintained as well. At present the Council manages about 20 programmes for research and other scientific activities, funded by national budget, EU structural funds and contracts, and about 15–20 calls for research funding and roughly 20 calls for other scientific activities funding are announced annually.

1.2 Policy challenges and developments

1.2.1 Main societal challenges translated into SSH research

Most prominent SSH research that tackles recent and persistent societal challenges is performed in frame with 3 major research programmes:

- National Research Programme “Social Challenges to National Security” (2010-2013). The programme investigates the origin, contents, scope and tendencies of social phenomena posing threat to national security. It seeks to make strategic decisions and to foresee measures and recommendations to overcome threats to national security;
- National Research Programme “The State and the Nation: Heritage and Identity” (2010-2014). The aim of the NRP “State and Nation: Heritage and Identity” is to formulate the general theoretical concept of social and cultural identity, to examine and evaluate the development of specific identity forms in the aspects of heritage, contemporary state of identity and impacts of the modern world challenges;
- National Development Program for Lithuanian studies 2009-2015. The Programme enables Lithuanian and foreign scholars to develop Lithuanian studies, disseminate its results, identify and launch new research themes, and continue fundamental academic research. A special focus of the Programme is the promotion of innovative interdisciplinary research and the dissemination of its findings among the academic community and the society.

Some societal problems were identified in the Lithuania’s Progress Strategy “Lithuania 2030”, approved in 2012. SSH plays a major role in the Foresight as it is perceived as integrating factor of research system and society. Each ministry or government agency will be directly involved in the implementation of the Strategy. The authorities will have to follow the provisions of the Strategy in drafting their individual strategic plans, and ensure the achievement of the goals set forth in the National Progress Programme. Therefore, the provisions of the Strategy will have a direct influence on institutional actions. Later 2012 saw the approval of 2013-2020 Development Program for State Higher Education, Research and Experimental (Social, Cultural) Development, which is consistent with the Lithuania’s Progress Strategy “Lithuania 2030”.

Some of specific societal problems such as structural changes of human resources from the economical point of view will be tackled in long-term institutional research programme “Lithuanian Economy Long-Term Competitiveness Challenges”, initiated by the Ministry of Education and Science and launched in 2012.

In addition, researchers may apply for the funding and initiate projects based on individual ideas – the bottom-up approach (state-funded individual projects and the Global Grants). The bottom-up funding is implemented by the Council. SSH projects are evaluated by the expert groups appointed by the Committee of Humanities and Social Sciences. The Global Grants are funded mainly by European Structural Funds.

The national research priorities in SSH were widely discussed in the Lithuanian research community and the Council while the two National Research Programmes for SSH research were developed. The discussions identified key challenges related to the impact of cultural and linguistic influence from other countries, insufficient knowledge about the national heritage, a rather unqualified use of obtained research knowledge for public needs, which adds up to causing the public identity issues and impacts the sustainable development of the state. Needs to strengthen the social cohesion and the national identity, the development of ethno cultural communities and even the survival of the State and nation themselves were mentioned.

The following broad challenges for SSH research programmes were formulated:

- 1) National identity and public power change in the globalizing environment;
- 2) Fading boundaries between the fields and areas of science causing increased interdisciplinary connections between sciences;
- 3) A changing environment for the dissemination of scientific results;
- 4) Development of digital technologies;
- 5) Strengthening of SSH research in order to increase the state cohesion;
- 6) Analysis of social processes related to national security.

The SSH research priorities set in the Programmes correspond to the demographic, social and economic challenges defined in National Security Strategy (renewed version approved by Resolution of Seimas, 26 June 2012 No XI-2131) and research development priorities set in the Strategy for Developing The Social Sciences and The Humanities in Lithuania (2004).

The Law on Higher Education and Research re-established the principle of priority for Lithuanian studies in research and higher education. In 2009, a more elaborated version National Development Program for Lithuanian studies 2009-2015 was established by the Government (National Development Program for Lithuanian studies 2009-2015, 15 April 2009 No 306). The programme is implemented by the Council. The programme aims to develop and promote research in Lithuanistics, to implement the research priority of Lithuanistics by providing additional funding, to strengthen the input of research results into the development of humanities, to provide a scientific basis for the cultivation of national consciousness and Lithuanian heritage as well as to coordinate and integrate the most important research in Lithuanistics.

1.2.2 New SSH policy developments

The country continues to implement the Research and Higher Education reform, which was launched in 2009 after the Law on Higher Education and Research was approved. Since then major changes occurred in the country's R&D system in general.

The Research Council of Lithuania started conducting the programme based competitive research funding in 2009, focusing on financing high-level research projects. The period of 2011-2012 was of high importance for the establishment of a new model of funding granted by the Council. Every year the Council carries out over 17 000 evaluations per year. The National Development Programme for Lithuanian Studies 2009-2015 was the first programme administered by the Council. It aims the promotion of innovative interdisciplinary research and the dissemination of its findings among the academic community and the society. Since 2010 the Research Council implements competitive funding model of individual research projects (bottom-up project funding by state budget and Global Grants, funded by European Structural Funds, which comprise a significant part of research funding in Lithuania). The projects funding data for 2010-2011 show that on average one of four submitted proposals was granted funding. From 2010 the Council has coordinated six National Research Programmes, two of them are related to SSH: Social Challenges to National Security, The State and the Nation: Heritage and Identity. Hereafter, in the period 2010-2012 the Council received 279 proposals and 105 projects were funded. The Global grant measure is implemented by the Council as well, and is designed to support world-class scientists and researcher's projects, in 2012 the Council awarded 35 grants of almost LTL 42 mil. Furthermore, the Council continues to implement competitive funding of postdoctoral fellowships, by 2015, 150 young scientists will have accomplished postdoctoral fellowships, in 2012, 25 fellowships out of 50 were awarded to SSH researchers.

In 2011, the Council began the implementation of the Lithuanian-Swiss cooperation programme "Research and Development". It is a constituent part of the cooperation programme of the Republic of Lithuania and the Confederation of Switzerland, which aims to reduce economic and social disparities within the enlarged European Union. The call for proposals of the research and institutional partnership projects based on the programme was launched in 2012. The projects will be implemented during 2013-2016. The Council continues implementing five international partnership programmes, where one is devoted to SSH, i.e. the Lithuanian-French Programme "Gilibert", in 2012, 10 projects received allocation of LT 126 thousands. The Council has continued administrating the part of EU 7 FP from 2010:

- Fields of "Environment (including climate change)" and „Socio-economic sciences and Humanities of the specific programme "Cooperation-Collaborative research";
- The fields of "Research Infrastructures", "Research Potential", "Science in Society", "Support to the Coherent Development of Research Policies", "Specific activities of international cooperation " of the specific programme "Capacities-Research Capacities";
- Specific programme "People - Human Potential, Marie Curie actions";
- Specific programme "Ideas - European Research Council";
- The activities of the Joint Research Centre.

Moreover, the Council together with partner countries continues administrating other programmes related to SSH:

- COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology);

- BONUS (Joint Baltic Sea Research and Development Programme);
- HERA (Humanities in the European Research Area) Network Programme on Cultural Encounters;
- LILAN (Nordic Baltic Programme on Living Labs).

In 2012 the Council approved the Commission of Research Infrastructure, which consists of nine high-level experts. In 2011 Lithuania prepared the second Roadmap for National Research Infrastructure, where the most important goal is to identify the directions of research infrastructure development for the next 10–15 years. The three projects of research infrastructure in the area of SSH were approved: LiDa, E-Lingua, PITA (see 2.6).

2012 Lithuania saw the emergence of State Progress Strategy “Lithuania 2030”, which aims at a creative empowerment of each and every member of the society, focusing on ideas that would help Lithuania to become a modern, energetic country, embracing differences, and with a strong sense of national identity. In 2012 the foresight for research and education “Learning Lithuania 2030” was prepared, which concluded that science and education in Lithuania in 2030 are at the core of the learning society. (see 2.1.2)

22 long-term R&D institutional programmes in SSH was prepared by state research institutes after procedure for long-term institutional research and experimental (social, cultural) development initialization, validation, implementation and evaluation was approved by the order of the Minister of Education and Science, 31 January 2011 No V-153:

- Effective Development of Lithuanian Agriculture;
- Lithuanian Rural Development;
- Fundamental and Applied Research of Lithuanian and Bolts Names;
- Fundamental and Applied Research of the Lithuanian Language Lexis, Semantic and Terminology;
- Language History and Contacts: Fundamental and Applied Research of Language Development;
- Types of Language: Fundamental and Applied Research of Geolinguistics, Sociolinguistics;
- Demographic Downturn and its Influence to Social Security and Economic Changes;
- Employability and its Influence to the Living Conditions;
- Lithuanian Groups of Citizens in the Changing Social Area (2012-2016);
- Lithuanian Certificates and other Historical Sources;
- Lithuanian Philosophy: Past and Present;
- Development of Lithuanian Culture 20-21st Centuries: Identities and Memories;
- Lithuanian Music and Theatre: People, Identities, Contexts (19-21st Centuries);
- Mythology of Bolts and Lithuanian Verbal Folklore;
- Research and Sources of Songs;
- Maironis and His Century: The Change of Literary Canon;
- Research of Lithuanian and Prussian Literature and Manuscripts;
- Research of Historiographical Soviet Literature.

2. Policy Setting System

2.1 Government policy making and coordination

2.1.1 Policy formulation and coordination

Lithuania has no separate framework for policy making for SSH; this lies within the general policy making framework that applies for all research disciplines. The research and development (R&D) policy is set by the Lithuanian Seimas (Parliament) and the Government. The main committee coordinating R&D policy in the Seimas is the Committee for Education, Research and Culture, and the Government has a commission partly related to SSH: Commission for the Development of Lituaniatics. The Ministry of Education and Science is in charge of development and implementation of the R&D policy. The Research Council of Lithuania also contributes to the R&D policy development.

2.1.2 SSH policy advice

The Government emphasises the importance of scientific advice for policy making. Policy advice is provided to the Seimas or the Government from a wide network of formal institutions and advisory boards, also by independent experts. As stated before, it must be emphasised once more that due to the nature of SSH issues it is not possible to make a distinction between advisory bodies that have strong SSH focus and those which do not.

Formally instituted bodies

- The Research Council of Lithuania is a state budget institution that acts as a main expert on science policy and as an advisory body to the Parliament of Lithuania (Seimas) and the Government on strategic issues of research and higher education. The Committee of Humanities and Social Sciences of Research Council of Lithuania is directly acting on SSH.
- Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania includes R&D policy making in the mission statement, and also it preforms an advisory function.
- The Research and Higher Education Monitoring and Analysis Centre (MOSTA) is a state budgetary institution, an analytical and advisory body.
- The Lithuanian Academy of Sciences. The part of Academy's activities is related to its expert and advisory function. The Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences of Academy is directly acting on SSH.

Other support and advisory bodies

- The Lithuanian University Rectors' Conference is an association composed of rectors of universities in Lithuania. The Conference according to their competence accepts decisions, express opinion or put forward suggestions to responsible authorities.
- The Lithuanian Higher Education Council is strategic adviser to the Ministry of Education and Science in higher education development and quality improvement issues.
- The Lithuanian Catholic Academy of Science, beside other activities especially in the humanities, was involved in research and higher education reform.

Other relevant bodies

Other sources of advice include international bodies, professional associations, and stakeholders groups.

- The Knowledge Economy Forum mission is to promote knowledge economy in Lithuania relying on the development and introduction of science-based technologies and innovations. Therefore, members of Knowledge Economy Forum play a proactive role in cluster-based economic policy-making and legislative initiatives, organise various conferences, workshops and roundtable discussions.
- The Lithuanian Researchers Association is a non-governmental association of scientists and their various organisations. It also publishes newspaper “Research Lithuania”, and is the establisher of Researchers Association Institute and Research Foundation.
- The Lithuanian Association of Junior Researchers is a non-governmental institution of junior researchers. Its activities are also related to advice provision to governmental institutions, interest representation of junior researchers.
- Agency for Science, Innovation and Technology (MITA) is the governmental institution, responsible for implementation of innovation policy in Lithuania, however, as her main activity is the coordination of national (high-tech, biotechnology) and international programmes (FP7, EUREKA, EUROSTRAS, CIP), it also provides national financial support for projects participants. Therefore her activity results are partly related to SSH as well.

The most active representatives from private sector are the Lithuanian Confederation of Industrials and the Association of Lithuanian Trade Enterprises, however, even their participation is more noticeable only during the discussions or conferences.

The issues presented further on are not SSH specific, but rather common for all scientific areas.

In 2012 Lithuania saw the emergence of State Progress Strategy “Lithuania 2030”, which aims at a creative empowerment of each and every member of the society, focusing on ideas that would help Lithuania to become a modern, dynamic country, embracing differences, and with a strong sense of national identity. One of the key initiatives of the strategy in the research framework is to create environment favourable for science and research, ensuring Lithuania's appeal for top researchers and scientists, create a world-class studies and research centre, with a view to strengthening the existing national infrastructure and mobilizing the best scientific and teaching potential.

Every year since 2012 MOSTA presents “Research State Analysis”, which aims to show the development and tendencies of R&D in Lithuania making comparative analysis across time and space (within the EU), and provide recommendations where applicable for further policy implementation. From 2013 MOSTA will be responsible for progress analysis of higher education institutions, the main goal is not only to evaluate the progress of higher education institutions, but also to map the state progress in the system of research and higher education, and among analysed progress factors there are those related to SSH.

In 2012 MOSTA presented the foresight for research and education “Learning Lithuania 2030”. More than a year 120 experts, society representatives, other stakeholders were working in five expert panels: Lithuanian system of research and higher education, its participants, management and financing, Lithuanian higher education and research in the international context; Lithuanian system of higher

education and research and knowledge flows; Higher education, research, lifelong learning and human capital in Lithuania; Higher education, research and society in Lithuania. They concluded that science and education in Lithuania in 2030 are at the core of the learning society. They focus on the values of sustainable development and the creation of a social, economic, ecological and personal harmony. Science and education develop integral, enterprising and creative individuals with a broad cultural orientation, attitudes of partnership and a healthy lifestyle. A universally accessible higher education together with the integral and purposefully formed research system represent the major driving force of society's cultural, social and technological progress, and the basis for the attractiveness of the country and the welfare of its citizens.

2.1.3 Main implementing bodies

The main actor implementing research policy in Lithuania is the Ministry of Education and Science. Since all the ministries have some funds allocated for research, there are other ministries involved in SSH research policy development.

The governmental agencies responsible for policy implementation that report directly to ministries also have the capacity to influence policy. Some of these agencies are regularly commissioned to carry out studies for the government, thus further enhancing their capacity to influence policy (for example, MOSTA).

In addition, the Council, Agency for Science, Innovation and Technology have implementation functions. In this area of functions in comparison with the other European countries, the SSH share of the total R&D is smaller, as well as funding per researcher. The main funding body is the Council.

The Research Council of Lithuania administrates research programmes (the major ones are national research programmes, global grant scheme, researchers' initiated project scheme, postdoc's programme), and research mobility grants are partially funded by the EU structural funds for the period of 2007-2013. The Council is also responsible for the administration of specific research programmes related to national research priorities and targeted public R&D programmes. Council also is responsible for the administration and coordination of several FP7 thematic priorities and activities, including SSH thematic priorities (see 1.2.2).

Agency for Science, Innovation and Technology (MITA) is the main governmental institution, responsible for implementation of innovation policy in Lithuania. MITA is also responsible for coordination and implementation of national and international research, technological development programmes, but mainly covers technological areas.

MOSTA develops recommendations on the development of the national research and higher education (HE) system, organizes research and HE monitoring, analyses the conditions of Lithuanian research and HE system and participates in the development and implementation of research and higher education policy. MOSTA also implements policy planning projects and prepares feasibility studies.

Some SSH policies are implemented by separate bodies subordinated directly to Seimas, e.g. the State Commission on the Lithuanian Language, Seimas Commission on Traditions and Heritage of Lituaniatics. Indirect relations to SSH has The Information Society Development Committee under the Ministry of Transport and Communications (ISDC) coordinating and monitoring implementation of the information society development policy.

2.2 Impacting factors

2.2.1 Policy fields influencing SSH policies

It is first and foremost the Ministry of Education and Research that sets relevant SSH policy. Other relevant ministries include:

- Ministry of Economy and The Ministry of Social Security and Labour contracts a number of scientific and applied studies, which could be assigned to social sciences.
- The Ministry of Justice of Republic of Lithuania has the Institute of Law with research on legal system improvement as main area of activity.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs contracts research and studies assigned to humanities and social sciences.
- The Ministry of Culture perform applied heritage preservation studies, also supports publishing.
- The Ministry of Environment promotes sustainable development. The areas of responsibility include environment, climate, housing and construction. Research is an important tool in this area as well.
- The Ministry of Energy promotes long term energy security and competitive energy, contracts research on renewable energy sources, implementation on energy policy, local energy production.

2.2.2 Influence of European and International Developments

European level initiatives, such as the implementation of the Lisbon strategy the development of the European Research Area and Bologna process, influence the Lithuanian research policy development. SSH policy at European level is still not prominent, the influence for SSH in Lithuania is comparatively lower than in other research areas. The thematic areas identified in the Framework Programmes, Horizon 2020 have also influenced national research priorities. Also, in the EU context general EU RD policy processes such as ESFRI, HERA, joint programming made influence on SSH.

With the approach of the new Multiannual Financial Framework (2014-2020) Lithuania was obligated to formulate Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialization (RIS3) which will guide further R&D and innovation system development. Lithuania has already implemented the first steps in drawing up RIS3. In September 2012 the "Review of Science, Studies and Innovations" was prepared by MOSTA, and on the basis of this document a group of international independent experts prepared "A Contribution to Priority Setting for Future Research, Studies and Innovation in Lithuania" – guided analysis for the future priority setting steps.

2.2.3 Relevance of European and International SSH research

During the period of 7FP, 279 Lithuanian researchers participated in 220 projects (success rate-20,8%), Lithuania Submitted 166 proposals in Socio-economic sciences and Humanities, 9 financed proposals. Lithuanian participants' budget - €57million, including -€42,1 million EC contribution. Lithuania's participation is the highest in Information and Communication Technologies, but still the success rate is low here as well.

As it was stated in the previous report during the period of FP6, 17 partners from Lithuanian participated in 12 SSH related projects under Priority 7. EC grant for Lithuania was 1,58 mil €. Despite Lithuania's low success rate in this priority – 16 per cent (average 22.2 per cent for all FP6), EC grant for Lithuania amounted to 0.67

per cent from distributed to this priority budget (0.15 per cent for Lithuania in all FP6). Lithuania participated in 4 IP, 2 NoE and 6 STREP projects.

In 2009 the Research Council of Lithuania became an associated member to the ERA-NET „HERA“ and in 2012 – Science Europe.

European research developments influence Lithuanian SSH research landscapes not only by providing possibilities to join European research teams by participation in FP and in future in Horizon 2020 projects, but also by influencing discussions on shaping national SSH research priorities. It is mainly the universities participating in different European research programmes. In 2010 the Ministry of Science and Education approved six national research programs, which were influenced not only by national, but also European developments, and two of them as mentioned before are related to SSH: “Social Challenges to National Security” and “State and Nation: Heritage and Identity”.

Furthermore, each year Lithuanian institutions join 18 COST actions per average. In 2012 twelve Lithuanian science and education institutions joined 25 COST actions, nominating 31 representatives. The most popular activities remains “Food and Agriculture” (14 actions) and “Materials, Physics and Nano sciences” (14 actions), still those related to SSH covers 9 actions of participation in “Individuals, Societies, Cultures and Health”.

2.2.4 Impact of evaluations

Lithuania is at its early stage of systematic reviews, evaluations and assessments as tools for strategic planning and evidence-based research policy making, but still the existing culture of systematic evaluations and reviews is not different for SSH.

The evaluation is used for governance issues in few cases: the evaluation of research results is used for allocation of state R&D institutional funding to state HE and research institutions; the evaluation of HEIs is used for accreditation of institutions; the evaluation of study programmes is used for accreditation of study programmes; the evaluation of feasibility studies of research programmes is used for initiation of the programme; the annual evaluation of research programmes may be used for termination of particular research programme. The Government and the ministries initiate case studies, feasibility studies or working groups to provide recommendations on relevant governance issues.

The 2011 saw the beginning of the external evaluation of higher education institutions, which main purpose is quality assurance of studies and research activities of higher education and research institutions (HERI). The group of experts together with the representatives from HERI prepared the methodology of evaluation. The external institutional evaluation is performed by Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education, and MOSTA evaluates resources for qualitative education and research. According to the result of external evaluation of HE institution, the decision on its accreditation is being made. Research Council of Lithuania also provides formal (and peer-review) evaluation of research results (scientific, art production) every three years, the results are incorporated into the external institutional evaluation. The Council is responsible for external evaluation of state research institutes, the Council states that such evaluation was performed in 2010, however, the results are not publicly announced.

In 2011 feasibility, effectiveness and results of innovation policy were evaluated, including the new innovative measures for economic development. In 2011 the Seimas presented their evaluation of Government activities from 2008 till 2010. In 2012 Lithuanian Confederation of Industrialists prepared evaluation of the Government’s programme. Those mentioned covered field of interest of SSH partly, while analysing societal and cultural issues.

Evaluation of Priorities of Operational Programmes 2007-2013, administrated by the Ministry of Education and Science, and Ministry's Implementation Programmes was carried out by independent experts in 2011. Recently, Evaluations of European Union Structural Assistance, the on-going strategic evaluation of priorities of EU structural assistance 2014-2020 to education and science sector has been started; the first mid-term report has been already presented. Despite intense SSH activity of Lithuanian institutions in EU research framework this does not receive a high profile in the general media.

2.2.4.1 Project evaluation

Peer-review evaluation of project proposals and ex-post project evaluation is widely used, especially in case of competitive funding. Project proposal evaluation by peer-review is a common procedure during the implementation of research programme based on competitive funding (open calls). Project proposals are evaluated by independent expert groups (in SSH case, normally may involve foreign experts; in other scientific fields established procedures normally require international experts) that are appointed by programme administrating/ funding organisations like the Research Council of Lithuania, MITA. Generally, projects are annually and post evaluated. So far, ex-post evaluations are not comprehensive of all projects, but random-like, usually on the initiative of the Research Council. Usually the ex-post evaluation functions as an internal follow up procedure to control if the aim to support academic excellence is achieved.

In 2012 sixty five SSH project proposals were submitted for the national research programmes administered by the Research Council of Lithuania, after evaluation performed by independent experts 25 projects were approved.

2.2.4.2 Programme evaluation

The Research Council, ministries, MITA etc. initiate evaluations of their own programmes on a regular basis. It is common that larger programmes include ex ante, mid-term and ex post evaluations. Evaluations of research programmes often include peer reviews to assess scientific quality and international experts are often appointed to this task.

Evaluation title	<i>Mid-Term Evaluation</i>
Programme title	<i>Operational Programme for Development of Human Resources; Operational Programme for Economic Growth; Operational Programme for Social Cohesion Enhancement</i>
Type of programme	<i>The Implementation of Operational Programmes' Priorities carried out by the Ministry of Science and Education</i>
Type of evaluation	<i>Mid-Term Evaluation</i>
Period covered	<i>2007-2013</i>
Objectives	<i>Improve the implementation quality of EU structural assistance within education and research framework</i>
Approaches	<i>Quantitative analysis, interviews, discussions with focus groups, analysis of primary and secondary sources.</i>
Key results and recommendations	<i>The implementation of programmes started later due to the realisation of external contractors, the application of funding is slower than expected. There is still too little empirical information for final conclusions.</i>
Availability	<i>http://www.esparama.lt/vertinimo-ataskaitos#6 soc politika</i>
Tags	<i>Research, education, policy priorities, evaluation</i>

Moreover, the Research Council of Lithuania administered ex-ante evaluation of two national research programmes: “Social Challenges to National Security”, “State and Nation: Heritage and Identity”, carried out by independent experts in 2010. The annual evaluation of national research programmes is prepared by the Council and announced publicly.

2.2.4.3 Institutional evaluation

There are initiatives of external institutional evaluation. Only the whole institution is evaluated. The evaluation is not SSH-specific. Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education (SKVC) performs evaluation of universities and colleges, MOSTA evaluates the state of resources (material and human resources) for qualitative education and research. According to the Law on Research and Higher Education, the ultimate purpose of external evaluation of HE and research institutions is quality assurance of research and higher education activities. In 2012 MOSTA carried out evaluation of material and human resources of 23 higher education institutions, and later after SKVC evaluated thirteen higher education institutions: eight received accreditation for six years, five - 3 years. Newly established HE institution is evaluated in two years after the establishment.

The Council is responsible for external evaluation of state research institutes. However, no routine external evaluation of research institutes has been performed so far. In March, 2011 the Government approved the methodology for external evaluation of state research institutes. The non-state research institutes themselves initiate, carry out and finance external evaluation.

Another trend is that universities initiate their own evaluations. In 2011 Vilnius University and in 2012 Mykolas Romeris University requested that European University Association carry follow up evaluation, earlier Vilnius Gediminas Technical University and Vytautas Magnus University participated in the Institutional Evaluation Programme of European University Association, as well as Vilnius University (2004) and Mykolas Romeris University (2006).

Organisation	Vilnius University, Vilnius
Type of evaluation	<i>External follow up institutional evaluation</i>
Period covered	<i>2004-2011</i>
Objectives	<i>The aim of the follow-up process is to identify the impact that the initial evaluation has had on the institution’s development, investigate the experiences gained from changes implemented after the initial evaluation, and give further impetus for change.</i>
Approaches	<i>peer review, interviews</i>
Key results and recommendations	<i>The follow-up Self-Evaluation Report of Vilnius University, together with its 23 appendices, was sent to the team on January 18, 2011. The SER gave a clear account of the developments in the university since the IEP report in 2004, and the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in the report. In general the university accepted the main recommendations to a greater or lesser degree, and has tackled them with varying levels of success. In the area of research management VU has made important advances.</i>
Availability	<i>http://www.eua.be/Libraries/IEP/Vilnius_University_follow-up_Final_report.sflb.ashx</i>
Tags	<i>follow-up evaluation, progress, implementation, teaching, research, study process, management</i>

2.2.5 Impact of other factors

Education Information Management System (EIMS) was uploaded with Student Registration Base in 2010, in 2011 with data sets for material and human resources. It is planned that indicators for career development will be uploaded into EIMS in 2013 as well. It is an innovative instrument for monitoring and policy evaluation. Despite the fact that this initiative has not been fully uploaded yet, it is just the question of time when this system becomes a qualitative tool for evidence based policy making.

2.3 Important policy documents

SSH specific documents

- Feasibility Study: International Data Base Lituanistica (Lithuanian Philology) (2007) http://www.minfolit.lt/files/TM_DB_Lituanistika.pdf
- Feasibility Study: Lithuanian Creative and Cultural Industries (2008) http://koperator.lt/failai/Lietuvos_kurybines_ir_kulturines_industrijos_galimybiu_studija.pdf
- The Research Council of Lithuania (2009): Lithuanian SSH Research institutes development and consolidation feasibility study (In Lithuanian) http://www.smm.lt/smt/docs/eksp_stud/HSM%20GS%20tekstas%20090615%20-%20visas.pdf
- Feasibility Study: Integrated Research, Study and Business National Complex Programme for Humanities and Social Sciences (2009) [http://www.smm.lt/smt/nkp_rengimas/Teises%20aktai/Gstudijos_2\(HSM,%20GAN\)/1.HSM_GSt_VDU.pdf](http://www.smm.lt/smt/nkp_rengimas/Teises%20aktai/Gstudijos_2(HSM,%20GAN)/1.HSM_GSt_VDU.pdf)
- The Order of Minister of Education and Science: Long-Term Institutional Research and Experimental (social, cultural) Development Programmes No V-153. <http://www.smm.lt/smt/mtep/docs/patvirt.isak.V-323.pdf>; <http://www.smm.lt/smt/mtep/docs/isakymas2012-03-14.pdf>
- The Government of Lithuania (2012): 2012-2020 Development Trends for Research of Lithuanian Philology No.1372, 2012 November 14. <http://tar.tic.lt/Default.aspx?id=2&item=results&aktoid=154E94D9-2D59-497B-BAAD-6B690AD4390E>
- The Government of Lithuania: National Studies, Research and Experimental (Social and Cultural) Development Programme for 2013-2020, No 1207, 5 December 2012 http://www.lrv.lt/Posed_medz/2012/121205/35.pdf

Further important documents

- The Government of the Republic of Lithuania (2010): Classification of Research Areas, Trends and Branches No.1840 of 29 December 2010
- The Government of the Republic of Lithuania (2010): Resolution on Approval Research Doctoral Regulation No. 561 of 12 May 2010 http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=372908
- Feasibility Study: eLABA Data Base Development (2008) http://senas.labt.lt/naujienos/eLABa_pletros_galimybiu_studija_v_2_1.pdf
- Feasibility study on Life Long Learning in Lithuanian Museums, 2010. http://www.museums.lt/projektai/galimybiu_studija.htm
- The Roadmap of Lithuanian Research and Development Infrastructures (2011) www.lmt.lt/download/1366/2011_kelrodis_lmtik-b5-lt-spreads.pdf
- The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania Committee on European Affairs and Committee on Foreign Affairs (2012), Conclusion on the Priorities of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania in Accordance with the Work Programme 2013 of the European Commission (no es-12-126) No. 100-P-5/105-P-7 of 23 January 2013

- http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_e?p_id=442492&p_query=research&p_tr2=2
- The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania (2011), Resolution on the Approval of the Charter of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences No. XI-1397 of 19 May, 2011.
http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_e?p_id=411847&p_query=research&p_tr2=2
 - The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania (2011), Law on Amending the Law on Education, No XI-1281 of 17 March 2011.
http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_e?p_id=407836&p_query=research&p_tr2=2
 - The Government of the Republic of Lithuania (2011): Approving the Lithuanian Information Society Development Programme 2011-20149 and Repealing Certain Resolutions of the Government of the Republic Lithuania, No 301 of 16 March 2011
http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_e?p_id=425996&p_query=research&p_tr2=2
 - The Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Final Evaluation Report on Lithuanian Participation in the European Research Area: Strengths and Enhancements' Instruments for Private Investments into R&D (2011)
<http://www.urm.lt/index.php?3399196704>
 - The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania (2012): State Progress Strategy "Lithuania 2030" No. 61-3050, 2012 May 15.
<http://tar.tic.lt/Default.aspx?id=2&item=results&aktoid=457531FD-584C-4AD7-BC7C-5EE74F9648A5>
 - The Government of Lithuania (2012): Recommendations for Classification of Research and Development Phases No.650, 2012 June 6.
<http://tar.tic.lt/Default.aspx?id=2&item=results&aktoid=A337FE5E-22D5-4B77-8943-2512A4C0E864>
 - The Government of Lithuania (2012), 2013-2020 State Study, Research and Experimental (Social, Cultural) Development Programme 2012 December 05.
http://www.lrv.lt/Posed_medz/2012/121205/35.pdf
 - The Foresight "Learning Lithuania 2030" (2012) <http://www.moksliojilietuva.lt/en/>

2.4 Thematic priorities

Priorities

Behaviour, cognition,

Competitiveness, Innovation

Conflicts, peace, security and human rights within the EU and beyond

x Crime and Crime prevention (including drugs, organised crime etc.)

x Cultural heritage (including preservation and conservation)

Democracy, governance, accountability and responsibility

x Demography (Ageing, Fertility)

Economy and finance

Education, skills, knowledge and life-long learning

x Employment, Work, Working conditions

Ethics

Families, life-styles and well-being

- Gender, gender equality
- x Globalisation
- x Health and Health systems
- x Identity, religion, language, multiculturalism
- International relations
- Migration
- x Social cohesion, exclusion, inequalities, poverty
- Sustainable development
- Urban and rural development
- x Others

Seeking to initiate scientific research for definite problems, concentrating national research potential and fuelling it with appropriate funding, the above mentioned priorities were set in National Research Programmes (NRP). Since year 2010 there are 6 approved NRP in total: Future Energy (2010-2014), Chronic Non-Infectious Diseases (2010-2014); Ecosystems in Lithuania: Climate Change and Human Impact (2010-2014); Social Challenges to National Security (2010-2013); Healthy and Safe Food (2011-2015), The State and the Nation: Heritage and Identity (2010-2014).

2.5 Important research programmes

Programme title	<i>Social Challenges to National Security</i>
Start date	2011
Planned end date	2013
Planned total budget	€ 91*
Budget 2011/2012	€ 2,8 mil
Implementing organisation	<i>Research Council of Lithuania</i>
Target group	<i>Research community; policy makers; general public. To provide valuable new evidence to inform research on issues of importance to a wide scientific community of interest. Researchers and higher education/research institutions, eligible for the Research Council funding.</i>
Key goals	<i>Collect research-based knowledge about the threats to national security, such as negative demographic changes (depopulation), emigration and aging society, low economic activity of in the population, the spread of the destructive behaviour (suicides, addictions, violence and crime), low social activity of the citizens, lack of personal and corporate responsibility, slow growth of the social welfare, unequal opportunities and other processes of unsustainable development</i>
Website	<i>http://www.lmt.lt/en/rnd/nrp.html</i>
Tags	<i>Demographical development, human resources, labour market policy and employment, social welfare, personal and societal safety, psychosocial interactions and subjective wellness</i>

*Total amount for 5 national research programmes

Programme title	<i>State and Nation: Heritage and Identity</i>
Start date	2010
Planned end date	2014
Planned total budget	€91*
Budget 2011/2012	€2,9 mil
Implementing organisation	Research Council of Lithuania
Target group	<i>Research community; policy makers; general public. To provide valuable new evidence to inform research on issues of importance to a wide scientific community of interest. Researchers and higher education/research institutions, eligible for the Research Council funding.</i>
Key goals	<i>The objective of the programme is to concentrate scientific potential and financial resources to initiate research into the areas of national identity, protection and dissemination of the national heritage, coherence of the state and the nation, historical and cultural memory, functioning of the Lithuanian language in the multilingual and multicultural contexts</i>
Website	http://www.lmt.lt/en/rnd/nrp.html
Tags	<i>Social and cultural identity, historical memory, cultural heritage and society, global challenges, infrastructure for heritage and identity research</i>

*Total amount for 5 national research programmes

Programme title	<i>National Development Programme for Lithuanian studies</i>
Start date	2009
Planned end date	2015
Planned total budget	€9,69 mil
Budget 2011/2012	€5,2
Implementing organisation	Research Council of Lithuania
Target group	<i>Research community; policy makers; general public. To provide valuable new evidence to inform research on issues of importance to a wide scientific community of interest. Researchers and higher education/research institutions, eligible for the Research Council funding.</i>
Key goals	<i>Programme deals with Lithuanistics specifically, focused on research in different fields of Lithuanian studies, dissemination of the results of such research and enhancement of researcher qualification, development and monitoring of digital information resources in Lithuanian studies, national and international dissemination of studies of Lithuanian philology, promotion of international relations and international recognition as well as publishing of works in Lithuanian philology.</i>
Website	http://www.lmt.lt/en/rnd/lith.html
Tags	<i>Philology, information resources</i>

Programme title	<i>Global Grant Programme</i>
Start date	<i>2009</i>
Planned end date	<i>2015</i>
Planned total budget	<i>€120 mil</i>
Budget 2011/2012	<i>Not known</i>
Implementing organisation	<i>Research Council of Lithuania</i>
Target group	<i>Research community; general public. Domestic and international researchers are eligible for the Research Council funding.</i>
Key goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To promote scientific research and its mobility at international level for both experienced and inexperienced scientists alike;</i> • <i>To stimulate high level foreign scientists interest in Lithuanian research areas;</i> • <i>To stimulate progress and competitiveness of Lithuanian research activities.</i>
Website	<i>http://www.lmt.lt/en/rnd/grant.html</i>
Tags	<i>Human resources, research projects, interdisciplinary research, promotion</i>

Programme title	<i>Cooperation Programme</i>
Start date	<i>2011</i>
Planned end date	<i>2015</i>
Planned total budget	<i>Not known</i>
Budget 2011/2012	<i>€0,741</i>
Implementing organisation	<i>Research Council of Lithuania</i>
Target group	<i>Research community; general public.</i>
Key goals	<p><i>the four cooperation programmes in the area of research and development implemented according to intergovernmental treaties and agreements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>the cooperation co-funding programme between the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania, the National Research Council of China (Taiwan) and the Ministry of Education and Science of Latvia</i> • <i>the programme on cooperation in research and technologies between the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania and the State Research and Technology Committee of the Republic of Belarus</i> • <i>the programme on cooperation in research and technologies between the Ministry of Education and</i>

Programme title	<i>Cooperation Programme</i>
	<p><i>Science of the Republic of Lithuania and the State Science, Innovations and Informatisation Agency of Ukraine for 2011-2015</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>the bilateral Lithuanian-French integrated activity cooperation programme in research and development "Gilibert"</i>
Website	<i>http://www.lmt.lt/en</i>
Tags	<i>research projects, interdisciplinary research</i>

2.6 SSH research infrastructures

2.6.1 National infrastructures

The nature of SSH research is such that it does not require the provision of large scale equipment or technical facilities as used in disciplinary areas associated with the natural and physical sciences. However, "Roadmap for R&D Infrastructure" (2011) states that establishment of scientific infrastructure should be done in relation with technological, social and cultural development.

Aiming to assure greater openness and effectiveness of what? the Ministry of Education and Science in 2009 invited academic institutions and high technology enterprises to cooperate with the working group in determining the most important RIs for Lithuania. Up to late 2009 twenty project proposals were received: three from SSH, seven from biomedical science and ten from physical sciences and technologies. Three project proposals were approved in the field of SSH. Two of them (E-lingua and LiDA) were assessed by foreign experts as mature, one proposal (PITI) was included in the class of promising projects. Today there are two major acting groups of humanities within scientific and technological infrastructure: the Lithuanian language resources and cultural heritage of Lithuania. The first group encompasses digital sources of the Lithuanian language, analytical software, for example Institute of the Lithuanian Language accumulates data base, archive, corpus on geo-information of Lithuanian place names, old manuscripts, develops digital vocabulary of the Lithuanian language, processes other data. Vytautas Magnus University established corpus of contemporary Lithuanian, comparative corpus of Lithuanian and other languages, vocabulary of Lithuanian manuscript, corpus of spoken Lithuanian and hearing framework. Vilnius University established Latin-Lithuanian digital vocabulary, Old Greek-Lithuanian digital vocabulary, corpus of scientific Lithuanian, and database of Lithuanian Slang.

The second group involves resources of Lithuanian folklore, literature, historical heritage. Lithuanian folklore subgroup encompasses data base of old sound records, songs, folklore manuscripts, proverbs, tales, incantations and riddles. Lithuanian heritage is digitalized through database "Aruodai", which involves database of Lithuanian Philology, sound and view archives, thesaurus of Lithuanian, bank of geographical and individual issues, electronic catalogues of Lithuanian singing and speaking folklore. Lithuanian database of heritage "ePaveldas" is established by Lithuanian museums and libraries, there are almost 4 m. objects. One more valuable database BARIS is related to church documentation information system.

Infrastructure of social sciences has been developing slower than in humanities. Since 2006 Lithuanian Data Archive of Social Sciences and Humanities (LiDa) has been developed. It provides access to researchers for national empirical data, and in cooperation with other institutions worldwide exchanges European and international data, methodologies of data promotion and process. It aims to create optimal

infrastructure for Lithuanian and international researchers of social sciences and humanities. It is now encompassed into Open Access Infrastructure for Research in Europe, and involves 200 quantitative data sets. Since 2009 students and researchers of seven Lithuanian research and higher education institutions (Kaunas Technology University, Vilnius University, Mykolas Romeris University, Vytautas Magnus University, Klaipeda University, Siauliai University, and Lithuanian Social Research Centre) have had access to the largest international database "Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research" (ICPSR). To make the results of Lithuanian research accessible in the Internet, the Lituanistika Database (LMBA) was designed with the assistance from the EU Structural Funds, it was founded in 2001, now it unites 54 members. On 30 May 2012 the Agreement on the implementation of the project *eMoDB.LT2: Opening of the Online Research Databases for Lithuania – Stage 2* was signed between the European Social Fund Agency and the LMBA. It contains a selection of outstanding SSH research papers and monographs dealing with the topics of the statehood, society, history, ethnic groups, languages and literature of Lithuania.

The Lithuanian Academic e-Library (eLABa) was founded in 2006, now more the 41 institution use this database and 14 institutions submit e-publications, furthermore, around 20,52 thousand e-documents are accumulated in eLABa. Vilnius University and Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore have developed database of Heritage and History Research Infrastructure (PITI). The main objective of PITI is to enable the use of digital information in cultural heritage and history research. Since 2010 the Research Council has been providing funding for the development of the project "Creation of Network: Infrastructure of Research and Heritage in the Framework of Lithuanian Philology".

2.6.2 International infrastructures

In 2011 Lithuania prepared the second report "Roadmap for National Research Infrastructure", where the most important goal is to identify the directions of research infrastructure development for the next 10–15 years. For a long time SSH was considered to be able to function without any research infrastructure, but nowadays SSH research is inconceivable without digital resources, databases, software tools and computer networks, therefore modern humanists and social scientists need infrastructure not only within home country but also internationally.

Lithuanian parallel and distributed computing and e-services network (LitGrid) is a national grid in e-Infrastructure Reflection Group. It has over 100 users, about 490 processors, and provides its users with computing and e-services capabilities.

LiDA (see 2.6.1) is member of the Council of European Social Science Data Archives. Since 2008 LiDA has been coordinating the implementation of European Social Survey (ESS) in Lithuania. Policy and Public Administration Institute participates in the implementation of the International Social Survey Programme. In Lithuania PITI has adhered to the principles and policies of Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities (DARIAH) and is making efforts to join it. Vilnius University is already a member.

European Election Studies has been carried out in Lithuania from 2004. The national coordinator for EES in Lithuania is professor Algis Krupavičius. Lithuania is also an active member in CLARIN, Vytautas Magnus University is one of the partners in this Infrastructure.

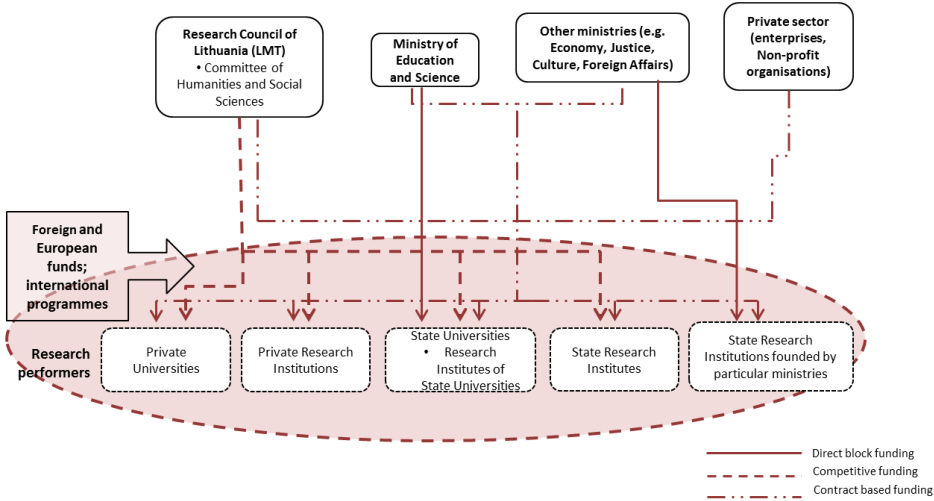
In 2012 the group of independent experts prepared feasibility study regarding Lithuanian participation in international research infrastructure. Experts suggested that while developing research infrastructure in SSH the potentials should be taken into consideration, and concluded that the best results were achieved in

management and administration, economics, sociology, psychology and educology; the highest citation index is in econometrics and finance research; the general indices of humanities are good, but still they are lower in comparison with social sciences.

3. Funding System

3.1 Overview of funding flows

Figure 3-1 Funding flows of the SSH Research sector in Lithuania



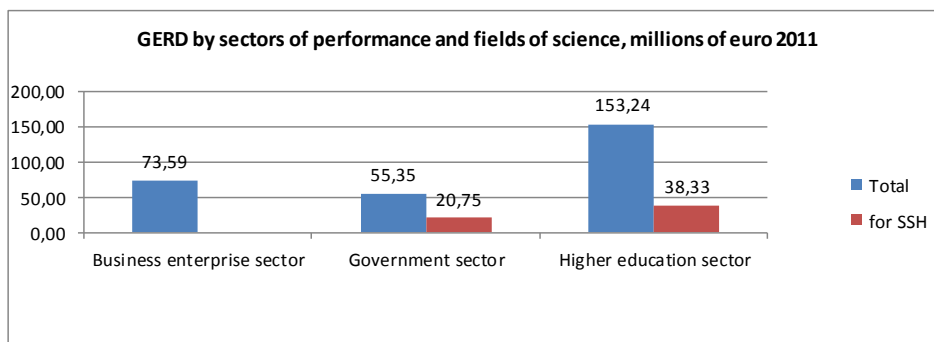
Source: compiled by authors

The figure above illustrates possible funding flows for SSH R&D in Lithuania.

In general, the major part of R&D in Lithuania is performed by the higher education sector (54.3% of total R&D or €153.24m in 2011), while another major performer of R&D are governmental institutions (19.6% of total R&D or €55.35m in 2011). Business sector carried out 26.1% (€73.59m) of all R&D in 2011.

Data on R&D expenditure by the fields of science is available only in higher education and government sectors in Lithuania. In Figure 3-2 the distribution of GERD by sector of performance (HERD and GOVERD only) and by fields of science shows that R&D expenditure for SSH constitutes about 28% and this share meets the target set in the National Studies, Research and Experimental (Social and Cultural) Development Programme for 2013-2020, publicly announced on the 5th of December 2012 by the Lithuanian Government.

Figure 3-2



However, the share of SSH in R&D expenditure (excluding the business sector) has slightly decreased from 29% of total R&D in 2009 to 28% of total R&D in 2011, and in the international context this percentage is very high. It should be noted that expenditure on R&D in SSH in absolute terms has however increased from €46.34m in 2010 to €59.08m in 2011.

Public R&D funding in Lithuania is allocated via three major streams:

- Institutional block funding (national budget);
- Competition based programme funding (national budget and European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)/European Social Fund (ESF));
- Targeted, customer-oriented R&D and public R&D procurement funding.

Institutional block funding from the national budget is allocated for public higher education and research institutions and competitive programme funding mainly from EU Structural Funds constitute the two main sources of general funding for R&D. International programmes, for example FP7, is one additional source given on the competitive basis for development of R&D activities. The steady growth of funding from the international projects for SSH is observed in higher education and research institutions from €604.97 thousand in 2009 to €1658.76 thousand in 2011 (see Table 3-1).

Table 3-1 Income from participation in the international programmes in SSH

Years/ Thousands, €.	2009	2010	2011
Total for SSH	604.97	1110.77	1658.76
Social sciences	562.23	562.39	767.65
Humanities	42.74	548.39	891.11

Source: Research Council of Lithuania

There is a growing increase in the amount of funding from private business to higher education and research institutions via private contracts. SSH R&D funding from private sector has increased from €932 thousand in 2009 to €2294 thousand in 2011 (see table Table 3-2).

Table 3-2 R&D Projects in SSH financed by Private entities

Years/ Thousands, €.	2009	2010	2011
Total for SSH	932.13	1703.16	2293.86
Social sciences	223.25	693.13	513.77
Humanities	708.87	1010.03	1780.09

Source: Research Council of Lithuania

3.2 National public SSH research funding

3.2.1 Overview of funding importance

According to 2011 Statistics Lithuania data, the largest share of R&D expenditure by source of funds is provided by the government sector funds (42.3%), while funds of business enterprises accounted for 28.1%, foreign funds – 28.4%, higher education and non-profit institutions – 1.2%. Over the year, the funding of R&D from government funds grew by 18.1% (€18.28m), from business funds – by 11.5% (€8,17m). A significant increase is observed in the funding of R&D from abroad (from €43.76m in 2010 to €80.28m in 2011). The major portion of foreign funds allocated for R&D came from the EU Structural Funds, redistributed through the State budget, – €49.58m (61.8% of all foreign funds) and the great share of this amount was allocated to fund country’s higher education sector’s R&D projects.

As it was mentioned, institutional ‘block’ funding for research and assistance from the EU Structural Funds (SF) for the programming period 2007-2013 constitutes the two most important financial resources for total R&D and for SSH research as well.

For the period of 2007-2013 Lithuania decided to allocate a significant share of the EU Structural Funds to support research. The researchers’ career programme (€120m) is supporting measures aimed at raising the number and competence of researchers and doctoral students, increasing their mobility, improving age balance, promotion of S&T among youth and general society. The national integrated framework programme and the national R&D and business collaboration framework programme (€677.5m) is providing support for researchers’ training, knowledge transfer, improvement of research infrastructure and means to strengthen collaboration between business and research. According to approximate estimation, EU structural funds constitute up to 80% of total R&D funding. Institutional ‘block’ funding for R&D is allocated only to state higher education and research institutions by the Ministry of Education and Science.

After extensive public research and education funding and governance reforms carried out in 2008-2011, the share of competitive funding of research has significantly increased. The competitive funding model is funded mainly from EU Structural funds and to some extent from the national budget. Programme based competitive research funding is administered by the Research Council of Lithuania. Contract research is performed both within the public research institutions (universities, research institutes, ministerial research institutes) and the private sector.

3.2.2 Institutional funding

Institutional ‘block’ funding is remaining as one of important sources for maintaining existing staff, facilities and equipment of public higher education and research institutions.

Budget assignments (excluding funds from special programmes) to public research and higher education institutions (universities, colleges, research institutes, expert institutions) reached €253.237m (LTL874.376m) in 2010 and €262.986m (LTL 908.049m) in 2011. Roughly one fourth is dedicated to research, and this sum is distributed accordingly:

- direct assignments to maintain existing staff, facilities, and equipment;
- allocated for public research institutions according to the results of the assessment of their scientific performance, i.e. the attracted number of scientific publications, patents, international and private R&D funds.

The allocation rules for R&D have undergone significant changes in the recent years. Greater emphasis was placed on performance based research funding and this reflects in the proportion of funding formula which consists of input and output based components. In 2010, 60% of the allocation amount depended on the number of employed researchers and 40% depended on the results achieved (bibliometric indicators and peer-review-based evaluation applied) and in 2011 the proportion shifted to 50%/50%.

The majority of research expenditure is spent to cover labour costs (see Table 3-3).

Table 3-3 R&D expenditure by type of costs in 2011, millions of euro

	Total	Higher education sector	Government sector	Business enterprise sector
Labour costs	€282.18m	€153.24m	€55.35m	€73.59m
Other costs	€133.72m	€79.15m	€26.67m	€27.89m
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	€65.16 m	€35.28m	€10.22m	€19.67m
Total	€83.29 m	€38.81m	€18.45m	€26.04m

Higher education and research institutions are able to increase their annual budget on the contract based activities. Projects of SSH applied research, R&D studies are launched and financed by the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Social Security and Labour and others. Here public R&D institutions and private R&D performers compete on the basis of public procurement rules.

3.2.3 Individual funding

Individual funding comes from several schemes, administered by the Research Council of Lithuania and Agency for Science, Innovation and Technology (MITA). It includes support of scientific publishing, support for researcher’s mobility, post-doc internships, provision of grants for doctoral students, etc. (see also 1.2.2)

Research Council of Lithuania (LMT) administrates a vast range of the funding measures on the competitive basis targeted to individual researchers or group of researchers:

- Support for researcher teams projects to implement research of their interest. In 2012, 348 proposals were submitted, and 74 were financed. About 90

proposals were from SSH researchers, and 21 were financed. The funding granted for this measure reached €5.8m in 2012.

- Support for researcher travel to promote researchers to develop their professional qualification, enhance mobility of researchers, and support the international dissemination of results of research activities in Lithuania. In 2011 €303 thousand were allocated under this measure.

- Researcher internship programme. In 2007-2009, the programme was managed by the former State Studies Foundation of Lithuania, and since 2010 the function was delegated to the Council. In 2011, the Council was evaluating the annual and final reports on internship assignments of researchers. During the period 9 internship assignments were continued and supported with a grant of €55 thousand.

- Grants to doctoral students and support to their academic trips. In 2011, the Council published one call for proposals under the programme. In 2012 €778 thousand were allocated for doctoral grants (€261 thousand for SSH students) and €32 thousand for funding study trips.

- Support for the Lithuanian researchers to drawing up research papers. In 2011, the support was awarded to the drawing up of one research work only. Following the positive assessment of manuscripts by the experts, the group of authors was awarded support in the amount of €1.737.

- The Global Grant measure is implemented under EU Structural Funds programme and designed to support world-class scientists and researchers' projects. The Grant can be awarded for research projects of 2-4 years in duration and is intended to cover all expenses related to the implementation of the project. Global Grant support is open to domestic and foreign scientists for implementation of their research projects in any field of science. Total sum of about €35m is assigned for the implementation of Global Grant measure for the period of years 2009–2015. In 2011 funding was granted to 33 research projects implemented by world-class researchers. Funding was granted to 12 projects in the areas of SSH, and 21 projects in natural and technical sciences.

- Agency of Research, Technology and Innovation (MITA) funded 31 researchers' visits to targeted international partner search activities under the project financed from EU Structural Funds "Researchers' International Excellence Training "(TYKU).

Lithuanian researchers individually can compete for research funding according to bilateral or multilateral agreements.

3.2.4 Programme Funding

The recent reform and new trends in higher education and research governance have led to a new scheme for competitive research funding. The main R&D funding body distributing competitive funding is the Research Council of Lithuania and Agency of Research, Technology and Innovation. One of the main programme-based competitive research funding model measures is the National Research Programmes, two of six programmes are directly connected to the SSH. National research programmes are funded from national budget.

Another measure for programme-based and competitive financing is the National Lithuanian Studies Development Programme for 2009-2015. It should be noted that Lithuanian studies are national priority embedded in the Law of Higher Education and Research. The distribution of allocation for both programmes is provided in

Table 3-4.

Table 3-4 Programme-based competitive funding for SSH supported by LMT

National research programmes:					
		Total	2010	2011	
State and Nation: Heritage and Identity, Duration 2010-2015	Budget	€5.47m (LTL18.88m)	€0.47m (LTL1.63m)	€0.86m (LTL2.95m)	
	Number of participants funded	10	10	9	
	Number of projects funded	29	29	21	
Social Challenges to National Security, Duration 2010-2013	Budget	€3.16m (LTL10.9m)	€0.37m (LTL1.28m)	€0.82m (LTL2.82m)	
	Number of participants funded	12	10	12	
	Number of projects funded	25	20	22	
		Total	2009	2010	2011
National Lithuanian studies Development programme, Duration 2009-2015	Budget	€9.7m (LTL33.4m)	€0.33m (LTL1.14m)	€1.37m (LTL4.73m)	€ 1.5m (LTL5.18m)
	Number of participants funded	20	11	18	12
	Number of projects funded	205	40	135	122

3.3 Private research funding

BERD has increased by 11.5% from 2010 to 2011. Although further breakdown of BERD according to the fields of science is not available, the growing demand for public SSH R&D services from private entities could be observed at the institutional level. Higher education and research institutions receive greater share of income from private contracts with private entities for providing SSH research (see Table 3-2 R&D Projects in SSH financed by Private entities).

3.4 Foundations/ not-for-profit funding

At the moment there are no not-for-profit foundations to support SSH research in Lithuania though it has to be noticed that on the governmental level there were research funding activities until 2009 carried out by former Lithuanian State Science and Studies Foundation (LVMSF). Since January 2010 this governmental institution was reorganized to State Studies Foundation and now only funds doctoral grants and provides loans for students. Several research programmes that it has administered earlier are now passed to the Research Council of Lithuania, which currently offers different funding measures on competitive basis for researcher and

teams of researchers of all disciplines including SSH and acts as the main SSH funding agency.

3.5 European and international funding

Funding of R&D from foreign sources is crucial for Lithuanian R&D system development. Despite of economic crisis Lithuanian R&D funding measures were secured due to the fact that they are mainly funded from EU Structural Funds. Participation in international programmes is also one of the important aids not only for increasing the budget for R&D activities, but also for fostering quality of Lithuanian R&D. The budget from participation 7FP has reached €50.4m (€37.6m European Commission grant) in 2012. SSH researchers mainly participate in Socio-economic sciences and Humanities and Science in Society activities. The total budget for the mentioned themes is €3m.

1. Performing System

1.1 Overview of the performers

The higher education institutions (HEIs) and research institutes in Lithuania are the main performers of education and research in SSH-related fields. There are 47 HEIs in Lithuania: 23 universities (14 of them are state universities, 9 – private) and 24 colleges (13 state colleges, 11 private colleges). Most of them organize SSH field studies, although the field of humanities is more broadly explored in universities. The SSH research area also includes a number of research institutes, where a significant part of SSH fundamental and applied research is carried out. Private SSH research in Lithuania is performed by a few private research institutes and few private institutions, mainly specialising in consultancy. They mostly perform applied research directed to the demand of the client, be it public or private.

1.2 Higher Education Institutions

1.2.1 HEIs as education performers

There are four main groups of higher education institutions in Lithuania – state universities, private universities, state colleges and private colleges.

14 state universities:

- Aleksandras Stulginskis University – 5518 students;
- The General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania – 318 students;
- Kaunas University of Technology – 13206 students;
- Klaipėda University – 6843;
- Lithuanian Sports University – 2297 students;
- Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre – 937 students;
- Lithuanian University of Health Sciences – 7239 students;
- Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences – 9008 students;
- Mykolas Romeris University – 19318 students;
- Šiauliai University – 7198 students;
- Vilnius Academy of Arts – 1871;
- Vilnius Gediminas Technical University – 13073 students;
- Vilnius University – 21562 students;
- Vytautas Magnus University – 9409 students.

The total number of students at state universities during the academic year 2011–2012 was 117797.

9 private universities:

- LCC International University – 562 students;
- ISM University of Management and Economics – 1829 students;
- International Business School at Vilnius University – 1667 students;
- Business and Management Academy*;
- Bishop Vincentas Borisevičius Seminary of Telšiai*;
- European Humanities University*;
- St. Joseph Seminary*;
- Kazimieras Simonavičius University*;
- University of Bialystok Department of Economic and Information Technology in Vilnius*.

* – Number of students in marked entities – 3191.

The total number of students at private universities during the academic year 2011-2012 was 7249.

There are 13 state colleges:

- Alytus College – 1106 students;
- Kaunas College – 7668 students;
- Kaunas Technical College – 1656 students;
- Kaunas College of Forestry and Environmental Engineering – 1090 students;
- Klaipėda State College – 4128 students;
- Lithuanian Maritime Academy – 1280 students;
- Marijampolė College – 1459 students;
- Panevėžys College – 2175 students;
- Žemaitija College – 1228 students;
- Šiauliai College – 2781 students;
- Utena College – 2398 students;
- Vilnius College – 8001 students;
- Vilnius College of Technologies and Design – 3082 students.

The total number of student at state colleges during the academic year 2011–2012 m. was 38052.

There are 11 private colleges:

- V.A.Graičiūnas School of Management*;
- Kolping College – 403 students;
- Klaipėda Business School*;
- College of Social Sciences – 1990 students;
- West Lithuania Business College – 722 students;
- Northern Lithuania College*;
- International School of Law and Business – 3852 students;
- Vilnius Business College – 446 students;
- Vilnius College of Design – 604 students;
- Vilnius Cooperative College – 1255 students;
- St. Ignatius of Loyola College*.

* – Number of students in marked entities – 2386.

The total number of students at private colleges during the academic year 2011–2012 was 11658.

The total public expenditure on tertiary level of education was €308.1m (LTL 1 063.6 m) and in terms of share of GDP this was 1.0 % in 2011. The total expenditure per student was €2.230 (LTL7700) in 2011. According to the statistical data, provided by the Statistics Lithuania, at the beginning of the academic year 2011-2012 there were 82.366 students enrolled in social sciences, humanities and arts (in the state and private universities). It constitutes circa 67% of all the students at the state and private universities. The total number of students enrolled in social sciences and humanities at state and private colleges at the beginning of the academic year 2011-

2012 was 30835. It constitutes circa 62% of all the students at state and private colleges.

The total number of students taking part in the EU exchange programmes was 3548 in 2011-2012, 65% of them were SSH students.

The Statistical data on tertiary graduates from EUROSTAT, gives the ratio of tertiary graduates in SSH fields. The share of graduates in the field of humanities and arts constitute 4.0% (a total of 3.066 graduates) while the share of graduates in the fields of social sciences, business and law was 46.4% (19.884 graduates) in 2011. Since 2000, the ratio of tertiary graduates in the field of social sciences, business and law has significantly increased – from 29.4% in 2000 to 46.4% in 2011, while the share of students in the field of humanities and arts decreased from 9.3% to 4.0% between 2000 and 2011.

13% (342) of total 2632 doctoral students studied in humanities and 32% (840) in social sciences in 2011-2012. Compared to the year 2000 total number of doctoral students have increased in 22%, while the number of doctoral students in humanities during 11 year period decreased by 6%. The number of doctoral students in social sciences showed significant increase in 20%.

In terms of lecturers (with PhD) working full time at HEIs, there were 1363 (30% of all academic staff) lecturers employed in the social sciences, while 690 (15 % of all academic staff) were working in the humanities in 2011.

1.2.2 HEIs as research performers

Research activities in the field of SSH in Lithuania are mainly carried out by the public research sector. In 2011 researchers in the humanities made 25%, in the social sciences – 36% of all the researchers working in the public sector. There were 6 public (state) research institutes, 13 state universities and 3 private universities actively engaged in SSH research in 2011, the data shows that all institutions have different strategies of participation in SSH activities

Since 2009 results of the research production (once in three years) are assessed by the Research Council of Lithuania. According to the results of the recent assessment of research activities carried out in Lithuania (for the period of 2009–2011), the leading research and higher education institutions in the field of social sciences were: Vilnius University, Vytautas Magnus University and Mykolas Romeris University, the last one takes the first place in scientific production of SSH. The most productive HEIs in the research of humanities were: Vilnius University and Vytautas Magnus University.

The largest amount of grants for implementation of international research projects in social sciences and humanities during the period of 2009–2011 were received by Vilnius University, Kaunas University of Technology, Mykolas Romeris University and Vytautas Magnus University.

According to the information provided in the annual reports of the state research and higher education institutions on research and research related activities, the main priorities of research in humanities and arts declared in 2011 were:

- History of Philosophy and Modern Philosophy Research in Lithuania;
- Comparative Cultural Studies;
- Philological and Interdisciplinary Aspects of Lithuanistics;
- Gender Studies;
- Development of Multilingual Competences;
- Interdisciplinary Research of Lithuanian Culture.

The Main Priorities of Research in Social Sciences in 2011 were:

- Educational Studies, Teaching Methods;
- Economics of Energy Industries;
- Studies of National identity;
- Ethno-Social Studies.

Since 2004, the total amount of expenditure for R&D in the higher education sector (HERD) has increased almost twice – from €73.8m (LTL254.9m), or 0.41% of GDP, to €153.2m (LTL529.1m) in 2011 (0.5% of GDP).

The composition of HERD according to the source of funds in 2011 is as following: government funds – €89.1m (LTL307.8m), or 58% of all allocations; funds from abroad – €43.2m (LTL149.2m) or 28.2%; higher education sector – circa €2.5m (LTL8.8m), or 1.6%; business enterprises – €18.1m (LTL62.8m), or 11.8%, and private non-profit sector funds – circa €0.14m (LTL0.5m), or 0.09%.

The support for research activities in the higher education institutions is still dominated by the state budget allocations. In total numbers, the state budget allocations since 2004 increased from €58.8m (LTL202.9m) to €89.1m (LTL307.8m) in 2011. But as a percentage of all the allocations, government funds have decreased quite significantly – from 79.6% (2004) to 58% (2011) due to significant raise of funds from abroad and business enterprises.

According to the statistics, business enterprises are getting more active in supporting research activities in the higher education sector. In comparison to 2004, business enterprises funds in 2011 have increased from €3.0m (LTL10.7m) to €18.1m (LTL 62.8m), ratio of HERD increased from 4.2% to 11.8%.

Since 2004 funds from abroad in the total numbers have increased almost twelve times from €3.6m (LTL12.5m) to €43.2m (LTL149.2m) in 2011, as percentage of HERD it increased from 4.9% (2004) to 28.2% (2011).

By the field of science HERD is distributed accordingly (2011): humanities – 11.5% (12.2% in 2010) of all the expenditures, social sciences – 20.6% (19.7% in 2010), technological sciences – 24.8% (26.1% in 2010), biomedical sciences – 23.5% (26.1% in 2010), physical sciences – 17.8% (16.1% in 2010).

The representative body for the universities in Lithuania is the Lithuanian Universities Rectors' Conference. The main objectives of the conference are to promote Lithuanian scientific, educational, cultural and economic development, co-operation between higher education institutions and international networking as well as cooperation with governmental authorities and local self-government bodies. More information about the representative body for the universities in Lithuania can be found: <http://lurk.lt/>.

The list of all HEIs in Lithuania (with the access to the websites and other detailed information) can be found in the central database AIKOS owned by the Ministry of Education and Sciences: <http://www.aikos.smm.lt/aikos/institutions.htm>

1.3 Public Research Organisations

Besides the research performed at the state and private universities, a significant part of SSH fundamental and applied research is carried out at the 6 State research institutes and 1 State research institution. The majority of the state research institutes work in the field of humanities. State research institutes are established for carrying out long-term research of international quality, important for the Lithuanian science, economy, culture and international cooperation.

The list of state institutes conducting research in SHH related fields:

- Lithuanian Culture Research Institute. There are 40 researchers (full time equivalent) performing research in Lithuanian culture, development of art and philosophy, their peculiarities and links with presence and contemporary world cultural changes. Institute arrays Lithuanian culture and its constituent parts: fine art, music, theatre, philosophy, analyses their links with political and social state development.
- The Institute of the Lithuanian Language. There are about 58 researchers (full time equivalent) performing research in lexicology, lexicography, grammatical structure of the Lithuanian language. As well as research into the history and dialects of the Lithuanian language, sociolinguistic research, research into the operation of the Lithuanian language in society.
- The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore. There are 61 researchers (full time equivalent) performing research in history of Lithuanian literature, contemporary processes in literature and literary theories, historical and theoretical issues of Lithuanian folklore, typological categorisation and process variations.
- The Lithuanian Institute of History. There are 65 researchers (full time equivalent) performing research in development of the Lithuanian nation and state up to the beginning of the 21st century, Lithuanian archaeology and prehistory, ethnology: cultural, social and territorial identity, research and publication of the Lithuanian Metrica and other historical sources pertaining to Lithuania, research into the formation, development and significance of Lithuanian towns, etc.
- Lithuanian Social Research Centre. In the beginning of 2010 Institute for Social Research and Institute of Labour and Social Research were merged into the state research institute Lithuanian Social Research Centre, it also encompasses Institute of Demographic Research, Institute of Ethnical Research, Institute of Sociology. Main fields of research of the centre: theory and methodology of social science, social welfare, social stratification, demographic processes and ethnic studies. The Institute is an independent public institution provided basic funding by the government and earning part of its budget through the commissioned research. Currently with 20 researchers (full time equivalent) working in five departments of the Institute, there are a number of projects running that range from statistical analysis of large data sets to qualitative research, from academic analysis of social theory to applied studies and policy analysis. The issues of labour (industrial) relations and remuneration, labour market, employment and unemployment, development of human resources, labour market vocational training and guidance, occupational activities, safety and health at work, social insurance, social assistance and other social issues are analysed, as well as recommendations on these issues in the spheres of social policy formation and implementation are developed.
- The Lithuanian Institute of Agrarian Economics. The Lithuanian Institute of Agrarian Economics was founded in 1990 by the Ministry of Agriculture. Number of researchers – 36. Main fields of research: national policy of agrarian economics, market regulation of agricultural and food products, regional, economic, social and environmental development in the countryside.
- The Institute of Law. The Institute was established by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania. Number of researchers working full time – 24. The main aims of the Institute are: to contribute to the formation of the scientific basis for the reform of the Lithuanian law and legal system as well as its separate elements based on the precedent in national law experience and the legal advantages of the European Law development; to contribute to the safeguarding of human rights and freedoms by elaborating national scientific studies as well as applied scientific researches in the field of law and legal system; to the formation of favourable conditions for business by means of legal measures. Main fields of research: public law (paying most attention to the problems of constitutional law and criminal justice) and criminology (paying most attention to the problems of the rights of children and youth).

1.4 Private research performers

SSH fundamental and applied research is also carried out in private research institutes and centres: 5 institutes, however, only one is acknowledged by the state - the Public Policy and Management Institute.

Non-state research institutes:

- The Public Policy and Management Institute. The institute performs applied SSH research (policy analysis, studies, and evaluations), provides assistance for institutional development and institutional capacities strengthening. Its main areas of research are related to public policy analysis and research, evaluation and analysis of the value of public policy with the view to improve public policies and their better management.
- The Lithuanian Free Market Institute. The institute is a private non-profit non-partisan organisation established in 1990, involved in research on key economic and economic policy issues, development of conceptual reform packages, drafts and evaluation of legislative proposals and aids government institutions by advising how to better implement the principles of free market in Lithuania. The institute also conducts sociological surveys, issues economic literature and organizes conferences, workshops, and lectures.
- The Civil Society Institute. The institute works in the field of analysis of public policy, for the dissemination of information relevant to public policy issues, and for the implementation of educational projects. The Civil Society Institute was founded by the Open Society Fund-Lithuania in July 2004.
- Social Innovation Institute (SII). The institute is a public not-profit organisation established in 2006. The Institute unites a group of researchers and scientists working in policy research, applied scientific and interdisciplinary researches, develops and implements projects, carry-out studies and expert evaluations, provides advice and recommendations for civil servants involved in policy development processes as well as to NGOs and businesses.

Private SSH research is expanding in Lithuania and successfully competing with public SSH research performers. Most private companies usually involve foreign experts in the applied research they undertake. Due to the significant number of performers in this sector and the broad spectre of research they perform, only the most specialized and experienced consulting companies are listed below:

1. National Development Institute. The firm provides impact analysis of social services, and forecasting concerning labour force demand.
2. EKT Group. It provides feasibility studies and studies on econometric modelling, strategic management, marketing management, evaluation of management and risk management, public sector planning, research of human resources and labour force demand, small and medium business research and monitoring system development, economic indicators of business modelling and forecasting.
3. Social and Economic Development Centre. The Centre provides regional development policies and strategic planning, business and human resources development, cultural tourism, and heritage development, project management.
4. BGI Consulting. The company specialises in research on regional and national planning, evaluation of programmes/projects and provides research in fields related to public policy and administration.

1.5 Research performance

1.5.1 Scientific publications

Nearly 150 scientific journals were published in Lithuania in 2011. 31 Lithuanian scientific journals are referenced in the Thomson Reuters Web of science, 20 of which have the citation index Impact Factor. Additionally, 36 scientific journals of Lithuania are indexed by Scopus, 28 of which have the SJR (SCImago Journal Rank).

The information about 14 peer-reviewed scientific journals for Humanities and 34 peer-reviewed scientific journals for Social Sciences is provided in catalogue "The Lithuanian Scientific Journals 2012" published by the Association of Lithuanian Serials.

According to the Scopus bibliographic database there were 465 publications in SSH related fields assigned to Lithuanian researchers in 2011, with an annual growth rate of almost 15%.

In the period 2005-2011 637 Lithuanian scientists publications were co-published with foreign researchers in SSH. Mostly co-authors were scientists from United States, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Netherlands and Poland.

Academic texts of Lithuanian researchers within the country and abroad are accumulated in the Lithuanian Academic Electronic Library (eLABa). It serves the need of various researchers and research communities. Another special database, called Lituanistika, contains a selection of outstanding SSH research papers and monographs dealing with the topics of the statehood, society, history, ethnic groups, languages and literatures of Lithuania.

In 2011, 13 Lithuanian SSH scientific journals had Scopus SJR (SCImago Journal Rank).

Since 2009 Research Council of Lithuania is responsible for the evaluation of higher education and research institutions' data of scientific production. Evaluation is performed every 3 years and the scores of evaluation are used for allocation of budget funding for state institutions. In 2012 the evaluation of scientific production by the fields of sciences for the period of 2009-2011 was conducted. According to the results of evaluation the most productive higher education and research institutions in the field of SSH could be identified.

1.5.2 Interdisciplinarity

Political discussion concerning development of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research, and the use of interdisciplinary methodologies started in Lithuania in 2002-2004 (1). At this time idea of establishing an interdisciplinary Institute for Advanced Studies has been raised and actively discussed between scientific community and Ministry of Education and Science. Such Institute was not established, but some real movement towards programming of interdisciplinary research has been made.

The Research Council of Lithuania now is financing five National Research Programmes (NRP) dedicated to initiate scientific research for definite problems, concentrating national research potential. Each Programme is a sum of research, methodologies and measures all tailored to a specific theme, providing most optimal conditions for a country to solve strategically important problems. Two of national research programmes related to SSH requesting cooperation between SSH disciplines (see 1 and 2 sections).

At individual institutional level interdisciplinary research programmes and projects are running in most of research based universities. Leading universities in interdisciplinary research are Mykolas Romeris University and Vytautas Magnus University. For example, interdisciplinary research priority "Social innovation global

development” of Mykolas Romeris University has been declared as main direction for the period 2010-2014. Its research and outputs (scientific events, publications, science popularization), doctoral studies and research and training of researchers, scientific activities carried out in the allocation of resources for five interdisciplinary programs: Justice, Security and Human Rights; Social Technologies; Sustainable Development of the State under Globalisation Conditions; Improving Life Quality and Enhancing Employment Possibilities; Continuation and Change of Values in Global Society.

Furthermore, Interdisciplinary Research Studies Centre for Cultural Studies has been established at Vytautas Magnus University. The following are just few of research thematic of Vytautas Magnus University:

- Interdisciplinary Research of Lithuanian Cities,
- Research of Multiculturalism and Language Change in the Context of Globalization,
- Psychosocial Functioning of an Individual and Psychological Possibilities of Its Improvement in Organizations and Institutions of Education and Health,
- Digital Research of Text and Voice,
- Development and Application of Resources and Technologies, Connections Between Texts of Literature and Culture Processes.

Multidisciplinary research in Lithuania indeed is rare. Just few multidisciplinary research projects are running mostly financed by international programmes.

1.5.3 International Cooperation

The Ministry of Education and Science has signed bilateral or trilateral agreements for research cooperation with the Belarus, France, Latvia, Ukraine and Taiwan. The research programmes initiated under the bilateral or trilateral agreements, from 2010 are managed by the Research Foundation of the Research Council of Lithuania. These programmes covers SSH related fields as well, but not in a significant part.

Table Bilateral and trilateral agreements:

Programme	Projects in SSH
Lithuania- France Integrated Bilateral Collaboration Programme “Gillibert”	1 (of 10 in total) (2011-2012)
Bilateral Belarusian-Lithuanian Programme of Cooperation in Science and Technology	3 (of 20 in total) (2011-2012)
Lithuania – Ukraine Bilateral Programme in Science and Technology	1 (of 12in total) (2012-2013)
Trilateral Lithuania-Latvia-China (Taiwan) Trilateral Cooperative Research Programme	1 (2008-2011)
Scientific Exchange Programme NMS-CH	3 (of 8 in total) (2011)

References

- Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania. Available at <http://www.smm.lt/en/index.htm>
- Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Lithuania. Available at: <http://www.ukmin.lt/web/en/>
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania. Available at <http://www.urm.lt/index.php?782551536>
- Research Council of Lithuania. Available at: <http://lmt.lt/en/en.html>
- Lithuanian Academy of Sciences. Available at: <http://lma.lt/index.php?lang=en>
- Lithuanian University Rectors' Conference. Available at: <http://lurk.lt/en/>
- Research And Higher Education Monitoring And Analysis Centre. Available at: <http://www.mosta.lt/en/>
- Agency for Science, Innovation and Technology. Available at: <http://www.mita.lt/en>
- Statistics Lithuania. Available at: <http://www.stat.gov.lt/en/>
- Eurostat. Available at: <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/eurostat/home>
- SCImago Journal & Country Rank. Available at: <http://www.scimagojr.com/>
- Lithuanian Academic e-Library (eLABa). Available at: <http://www.elaba.lt/eng/>
- AIKOS central database: <http://www.aikos.smm.lt/aikos/lang.do?language=en>
- Lithuanian Data Archive for Social Science and Humanities (LiDa). Available at: http://www.lidata.eu/en/index.php?file=files/eng/lida_en/about.html
- Lithuanian Academy of Sciences. Available at: <http://lma.lt/index.php?lang=en>
- Feasibility Study: International Data Base Lituania (Lithuanian Philology) (2007) Available at: http://www.minfolit.lt/files/TM_DB_Lituanistika.pdf
- Feasibility Study: Lithuanian Creative and Cultural Industries (2008) Available at: http://koperator.lt/failai/Lietuvos_kurybines_ir_kulturines_industrijos_galimybiu_studija.pdf
- Lithuanian SSH Research institutes development and consolidation feasibility study (In Lithuanian) Available at: http://www.smm.lt/smt/docs/eksp_stud/HSM%20GS%20tekstas%20090615%20-%20visas.pdf
- Feasibility Study: Integrated Research, Study and Business National Complex Programme of Humanities and Social Sciences (2009) Available at: [http://www.smm.lt/smt/nkp_rengimas/Teises%20aktai/GStudijos_2\(HSM,%20TGAN\)/1.HSM_GSt_VDU.pdf](http://www.smm.lt/smt/nkp_rengimas/Teises%20aktai/GStudijos_2(HSM,%20TGAN)/1.HSM_GSt_VDU.pdf)
- The Order of Minister of Education and Science: Long-Term Institutional Research and Experimental (social, cultural) Development Programmes No V-153. Available at: <http://www.smm.lt/smt/mtep/docs/patvirt.isak.V-323.pdf>; <http://www.smm.lt/smt/mtep/docs/isakymas2012-03-14.pdf>
- The Government of Lithuania (2012): 2012-2020 Development Trends for Research of Lithuanian Philology No.1372, 2012 November 14. Available at: <http://tar.tic.lt/Default.aspx?id=2&item=results&aktoid=154E94D9-2D59-497B-BAAD-6B690AD4390E>
- The Government of Lithuania: National Studies, Research and Experimental (Social and Cultural) Development Programme for 2013-2020, No 1207, 5 December 2012. Available at: http://www.lrv.lt/Posed_medz/2012/121205/35.pdf
- The Government of the Republic of Lithuania (2010): Resolution on Approval Research Doctoral Regulation No. 561 of 12 May 2010. Available at: http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=372908
- Feasibility Study: eLABa Data Base Development (2008). Available at: http://senas.labt.lt/naujienos/eLABa_pletros_galimybiu_studija_v_2_1.pdf
- Feasibility study on Life Long Learning in Lithuanian Museums, 2010. Available at: http://www.museums.lt/projektai/galimybiu_studija.htm
- The Roadmap of Lithuanian Research and Development Infrastructures (2011). Available at: www.lmt.lt/download/1366/2011_kelrodis_lmtik-b5-lt-spreads.pdf
- The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania (2011), Law on Amending the Law on Education, No XI-1281 of 17 March 2011. Available at: http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_e?p_id=407836&p_query=research&p_r2=2

- The Government of the Republic of Lithuania (2011): Approving the Lithuanian Information Society Development Programme 2011-20149 and Repealing Certain Resolutions of the Government of the Republic Lithuania, No 301 of 16 March 2011 Available at: http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_e?p_id=425996&p_query=research&p_tr2=2
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Final Evaluation Report on Lithuanian Participation in the European Research Area: Strengths and Enhancements' Instruments for Private Investments into R&D (2011). Available at: <http://www.urm.lt/index.php?3399196704>
- The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania (2012): State Progress Strategy "Lithuania 2030" No. 61-3050, 2012 May 15. Available at: <http://tar.tic.lt/Default.aspx?id=2&item=results&aktoid=457531FD-584C-4AD7-BC7C-5EE74F9648A5>
- The Government of Lithuania (2012): Recommendations for Classification of Research and Development Phases No.650, 2012 June 6. Available at: <http://tar.tic.lt/Default.aspx?id=2&item=results&aktoid=A337FE5E-22D5-4B77-8943-2512A4C0E864>
- The Government of Lithuania (2012), 2013-2020 State Study, Research and Experimental (Social, Cultural) Development Programme 2012 December 05. Available at: http://www.lrv.lt/Posed_medz/2012/121205/35.pdf
- The Foresight "Learning Lithuania 2030" (2012) Available at: <http://www.mokslislijetuva.lt/en/>

Data sources: Statistics Lithuania; Eurostat; SCImago Journal & Country Rank; AIKOS central database; the Research Council of Lithuania.