

## INTERNATIONAL STAFF WEEK AGENDA

# FUTURE-READY UNIVERSITIES: CHALLENGES, RESPONSES, AND SHARED LEARNING

11 – 14 November 2025 | SMK College of Applied Sciences, Vilnius, Lithuania

[Kalvariju street 137E, 08211 Vilnius](#)

### DAY 1: Tuesday, 11 November. WELCOME TO SMK: from Challenges to Opportunities Kalvariju street 137E, Vilnius

- 10:00 – 10:15** Morning Coffee and Registration of Participants
- 10:15 – 11:15** **Opening Session and getting to know each other**  
**Welcome Word** by SMK director Ms. Viktorija Palubinskiene.  
**Family photo** of ISW participants.
- 11:15 – 12:30** **OPEN LECTURE:** Challenges affecting Higher Education
- 12:30 – 13:30** LUNCH BREAK
- 13:30 – 15:00** Free time
- 15:00 – 17:00** **Discovering Vilnius:** guided tour.
- 19:00 – 21:00** **Experiencing Lithuanian cuisine:** dinner in Vilnius Old Town

### DAY 2: Wednesday, 12 November. How Universities Are Responding to Challenges: Practical Approaches Kalvariju street 137E, Vilnius

- 10:00 – 11:00** SMK College of Applied Sciences campus tour.
- 11:00 – 12:30** **OPEN LECTURE: Real Case Studies from Lithuanian Universities – Navigating Digital Change, Changing Student Expectations, and Financial Pressures**  
The open lecture will focus on real-life examples of how Lithuanian universities are tackling today's pressing challenges. From advancing digital transformation, adoption of AI, responding to rapidly changing student needs, to managing funding unpredictability.
- 12:30 – 13:30** LUNCH BREAK
- 13:30 – 15:00** **Shared Learning Session: Participants Practices for Addressing University Challenges.**
- 15:00** Free time

### DAY 3: Thursday, 13 November. The International Scientific Symposium "Navigating Volatility with Mindfulness: From Individual Practices to Organizational Strategies" Kalvariju street 137E, Vilnius

- 09:00 – 16:00** **Participation in the International Scientific symposium "Navigating Volatility with Mindfulness: From Individual Practices to Organizational Strategies"**  
The theme of the 2025 Symposium is dedicated to addressing the challenges that arise in our rapidly changing world. The symposium focuses on the difficulties individuals, organizations and communities face in building resilience. We encourage discussions on mindful living, education and employment in the face of volatility, uncertainty, and the complexities and ambiguities of modern life:
  - ➡ **Mindful Living:** Nurturing Resilience in a Dynamic World.
  - ➡ **Mindful Education:** Nurturing Positive Learning Environments.
  - ➡ **Mindful Employment:** Building Resilient Workplaces by Creating Meaningful and Caring Environments.

**DAY 4: Friday, 14 November. Exploring surroundings**  
**Kalvariju street 137E, Vilnius**

**09:45 - 10:00**

**Meeting point** at SMK College of Applied Sciences.

**10:00 – 15:00**

**Trip to Trakai** the former capital of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Built in the 14th century, the impressive Trakai Castle sits on an island in the middle of Lake Galvė. A historical town, the castle and the beautiful natural surroundings are what makes Trakai one of the most popular tourist attractions in the country.

**#smklife**