



THE COUNCIL FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF ETHNIC CULTURE

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Duomenys kaupiami ir saugomi Juridinių asmenų registre, kodas 188756614.

Dear Mr. Beshta Petro
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of Ukraine to the Republic of Lithuania

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ON THE EDUCATION OF PATRIOTISM IN UKRAINE

The Council for the Safeguarding of Ethnic Culture (abbreviated as Council) is an expert institution accountable to the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania (Seimas). One of Council's main areas of interest is to ensure the continuity of national self-awareness and the living tradition of ethnic culture and the development of ethno-cultural education in Lithuania.

We follow the news from Ukraine with sincere concern and compassion, and we appreciate with great respect the steadfastness of the Ukrainian people in the face of a terrible war and their determination to preserve the inherent human right to be free. Patriotism and unconditional love of one's homeland do not come from nothing, but are fostered in the family, in school, through the songs of one's mother tongue, and through the continuation of customs and traditions inherited from one's ancestors.

Could you share your experience of how Ukraine has managed to develop such patriotic young people? What was special about the Ukrainian education system before the war? How are traditions and customs passed on to children in educational institutions? What attention is paid to folklore and customs in the development of patriotism?

As far as we know, an education reform has been implemented in Ukraine for the period 2020-2021. Non-formal extracurricular education is included in general education, which includes, among other things, military-patriotic education, local history, ethnographic and folklore clubs or centres, small art academies, etc. We have also heard that a project is currently under way in Ukraine to introduce a folklore specialisation in all music schools.

We kindly ask you to clarify, correct and supplement this information.

President of the Council

Dalia Urbanavičienė