

“Horizons for Social Sciences and Humanities”

**Closing speech of prof. Dainius Pavalkis, Minister of Education and
Science of the Republic of Lithuania**

24 September 2013, Vilnius

9 val. Iš tribūnos: Ministras pasako „labas rytas“ ir pakviečiama Komisarė ant scenos

17 val. Helga Nowotny įteikia deklaraciją G. Viliūnui. Jis perskaito iš tribūnos ir tada įteikia Ministrui.

Ministras taria baigiamąjį žodį:

**Commissioner, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and
Gentlemen,**

Let me express sincere thanks to all of you who have come to the conference. Especially I would like to thank those who made this conference so valuable – Mykolas Romeris University, Research Council of Lithuania and European Commission.

Now I have the pleasure of sharing with you some thoughts on the main messages that have emerged in those two days of very interesting discussions.

Innovation is a change driven not only by technological progress, but also by societal expectations, values and demands. We all understand that the existing societal challenges can not be solved only by technological advancements.

We all agreed on the significance and need of social innovations and social technologies that stimulate new ways of communication, new forms of social and cultural life, creation of new business models, spread of democracy.

There is a shared understanding that European Social Sciences and Humanities are world class and are ready to contribute to addressing current and future societal challenges. Interdisciplinarity and an integrated scientific approach needs to be highlighted and practically implemented through Horizon 2020.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again I would like to thank you for your beneficial insights at this conference.

I do hope and expect that not only the participants of this event, but also everyone who cares about united, strong and open Europe will hear the ideas included in the Vilnius Declaration.

Thank you.