

## **Why arts funding is the business of humanities: theatre under neoliberalism**

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The presentation shows how neoliberalism affects performing arts by focusing on theatre system in Lithuania. It is based on thorough study of organizational structures and processes to fund, produce and distribute theatrical productions. Neoliberalism is seen as the dominant ideology in the policy making that promotes competition and influences performing arts environment in recent 30 years. Special attention is paid to different models for financing cultural institutions and keeping artistic autonomy.

The talk serves to get understanding how ideological shift changed performing arts ecology in the country of former Eastern Bloc, explains challenges of independent theatre makers, and suggests an important role for articulated cultural values.