We can promise that individuals or organizations contributing EUR 5,000 or more will be commemorated in the monument stone at the location designated by the sculptor.

We kindly request the transfer of any donations for the development and construction of the monument to the following special bank account:

**Recipient:** Lietuvos Reformacijos istorijos ir kulturos draugija (Historical and Cultural Society of the Reformation in Lithuania)

IBAN: LT69 7044 0600 0090 8619

SEB bank AB, Vilnius, SWIFT code (BIC): CBVI LT 2X **Purpose:** For the monument to the pioneers of the Reformation and Lithuanian writing

Note: For transfers from non-EU countries please indicate correspondent bank:

(USD) Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, New York,

**SWIFT BKTR US 33** 

(EUR) SEB, Stockholm, SWIFT ESSE SE SS



## The board of the Historical and Cultural Society of the Reformation in Lithuania

E-Mail: ReformacijosDraugija@gmail.com, tel. +370 698 76500, +370 613 09542 **Monument Building Committee Fund** 

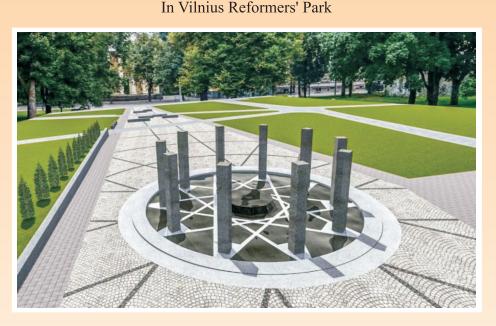
## More information about the project at:

http://reformacija.lt/wordpress/parama/paminklas-reformacijos-pradininkams/

Dear patrons of culture,
we invite you to contribute to the building of the monument

O PIONEERS OF THE REFORMATION AND

LITHUANIAN WRITING



The Reformation, whose 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary was celebrated globally a couple of years ago, reached Lithuania relatively rapidly. The construction of protestant churches started only a few decades after Martin Luther's theses had been proclaimed. It spread instantly in our small country and had a positive impact: in addition to the modernization of the Roman Catholic church it gave the possibility for small nations to have the liturgy in their own languages. It was very important for the Lithuanian people with their archaic language. In Lithuania the Reformation flourished for one hundred and fifty years. In the Lithuanian ethnic territories many people were born who made a huge impact on the culture of Lithuanians and Poles and of neighbouring nationalities, including in Prussia. In Vilnius, the centre of Protestantism was in and around the modern-day Pylimo street, with its church which sheltered both Reformed and Lutherans in difficult times and hosted the Synod, the library, Reformed and Lutheran graveyards, etc.

All of this was destroyed during Soviet rule. In 1992, after Lithuania regained its independence, the protestant confessions in Vilnius were restored. The Historical and Cultural Society of the Reformation in Lithuania was established to foster the history and culture of the Reformation. It is a public, non-confessional, non-political organization, whose members are scholars and other intellectuals. They foster the heritage and ideas of the Reformation in Lithuania, perform research into Protestantism, publish books, etc. One of the main goals of the organization now is to build a monument in Vilnius where the Reformed cemetery and the remains of sacral buildings where totally destroyed in the 1960s, to properly commemorate and convey the memory of the pioneers of the Reformation Movement and Lithuanian writing.

The society has formulated the vision of the historical park containing the monument opposite the Evangelical Reformed Church, and has started to raise the necessary funds. In 2017 while celebrating the 500th

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VARIANTA PATS
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ETUVĄ ATRIBOI JO ATALIKIŠKOS anniversary of Reformation, the society initiated an open competition for sculptural and architectural ideas to commemorate the pioneers of the Reformation and Lithuanian writing in Reformers' park in Vilnius. The competition was organized by the Lithuanian Artists Association in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania. Prof. Dalia Matulaitė and architect prof. Jūras Balkevičius were the successful bidders with their project STELOS (Stelae). The planned monument not only honours our history, but also provides the evident strengthening of the modern democratic state and continuing development of its culture.

With the support of Vilnius City Municipality, the monument to the pioneers of the Reformation and Lithuanian writing should appear in the renewed historical Reformers' park by 2020. However, a substantial amount of EUR 230,000 must be

raised for this purpose. In order to collect these funds, the society has opened a special bank account and established the Monument Building Committee Fund.

10 famous individuals will be commemorated in the 10 stelae, including noblemen of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania Mikalojus Radvila (*Nicholas Radziwill*) the Black and Mikalojus Radvila (*Nicholas Radziwill*) the Brown, also intellectuals whose lives and activities were strongly linked to Lithuanian and Polish cultures, and from the Duchy of Prussia and Königsberg University: Martynas Mažvydas (*Martinus Mossuid*), Lutheran pastor and author of the first Lithuanian book; Abraomas Kulvietis (*Abraham Culvensis*), the first rector of the Particular on which the Albertina University of Königsberg was founded 2 years later; Stanislovas Rapolionis (*Stanislaus Rapagellanus*), the first professor and Head of the Theology Department at Königsberg University; Baltramiejus Vilentas (*Bartolomeus Villentatius*), publisher and pastor of the Lithuanian

Lutheran parish in Königsberg; Jonas Bretkūnas (Johannes Bretke), Lutheran pastor and translator of the Bible into Lithuanian; Andrius Volanas (Andreas Volanus), Polish-Lithuanian reformer and diplomat; Merkelis Petkevičius (Melchior Pietkiewicz), editor and publisher of the first Protestant book (Polish-Lithuanian catechism) in the territory of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania; Jokūbas Morkūnas (Jakub Markowicz), prominent printer and one of the most active personalities in the Evangelical Reformed community of Vilnius, publisher of the first Reformed "Postil" in the Lithuanian language.

These distinguished personalities were and are extremely important for our ancient language and for the history and culture of this part of Europe. If you think so as well, dear patron, we would like to invite you to contribute financially to the realization of our monument idea.



