

**Nordic Association of Agriculture Science (NJF)**  
**Continuous international scientific conference**  
**“Challengers of Economics, Education and Society Development in the Nordic – Baltic Countries and beyond” organised by Section of Economy, Education and Society Programme for the virtual seminar on **November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (Wednesday)****  
**13:00 to 14:30 Eastern European time (12:00 to 13:30 Central European time)**  
*The link for joining the conference event presented at the end of this programme*

### **Presentation 1**

**Title: Involvement of Local Communities for preservation of religious heritage in rural areas**

**Speaker: Dace Strautkalne, Zemgale Planning Region**

**Author: Dace Strautkalne, Zemgale Planning Region**

**Annotation:** Religious buildings are losing their original purpose due to social and demographic changes. Religious sites become underutilized, empty or even in ruins. Most critical situation can be observed in rural areas, as the preservation of religious heritage is not a priority. Solving the issue requires a targeted approach at all levels of planning to preserve both tangible and intangible values. Local communities have potential to facilitate changes.

**Keywords:** Religious heritage, rural development, local communities.

Link to Google Meet platform:

**[meet.google.com/xqg-bnak-gae](https://meet.google.com/xqg-bnak-gae)**