

## Dr. Inese Šūpule

Presentation

### „Constructions of National and Ethnic Identity in Discussions on Ethnic Issues in Latvia”

#### **About the presentation:**

In the context of the complex ethnic relations between ethnic Latvians and ethnic Russians living in Latvia, the categorization between those who are included and those who are excluded from in-group raises a number of important issues. Do representatives of the two largest language communities in Latvia – Latvians and Russians – discursively construct each other as two competing and conflicting groups, or are there alternative discourses that offer alternatives for discursively constructing the ethnic and national identities? The presentation provides the analysis of social construction of ethnic and national identity, particularly analysing how Latvians and Russians construct themselves and others when speaking about ethnic issues in Latvia.

#### **About the speaker:**

Dr. Inese Šūpule is a sociologist and researcher at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology at the University of Latvia. Her fields of expertise are ethnic studies, migration, society integration, education, language use and knowledge, and ethnic politics.



#### **Recommended reading list:**

1. Anderson, B. (2006/1983). *Imagined Communities. Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. London: Verso.
2. Kalmus, V. (2003). „Is Interethnic Integration Possible in Estonia?": Ethno-Political Discourse of Two Ethnic Groups. In: *Discourse and Society*. Vol. 14 (6). London: Sage Publications. pp. 667-697.
3. Schöpflin, G. (2000). *Nations. Identity. Power. The New Politics of Europe*. London: Hurst&Company.
4. van Dijk, T. A. (2000). Ideologies, Racism, Discourse: Debates on Immigration and Ethnic Issues. In: Ter Wal, J., Verkuyten, M. (eds.). *Comparative Perspectives on Racism*. Ashgate. pp. 91-116.
5. Wodak, R., de Cillia, R., Reisigl, M., Liebhart, K. (1999). *The Discursive Construction of National Identity*. Edinburgh University Press.