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# SEMINAR ON SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION.



MONDAY  
09 MARCH 2026



14H35 -16H00  
(SAST)



LT 12  
EDGEWOOD  
CAMPUS

The seminar aims to explore specialised education practices, including speech therapy, support for language barriers, and other inclusive strategies. Discussions will focus on successes, challenges, lessons learned, and best practices that can be shared and adopted from both Latvia and South Africa.

TO RSVP

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## SPEAKERS

**Zane Tumševica:** Lecturer at RTU Liepāja Academy, Centre of Pedagogy and Social Work.

**Field of expertise:** Speech and Language Therapy (Logopedics), Early Childhood Development, Special Education, Early Intervention. Zane is a certified speech and language therapist whose work focuses on early childhood speech and language development, early intervention, and inclusive education. In 2024, she co-authored the book “Bērns mācās runāt ģimenē” (“The Child Learns to Speak in the Family”) and received the Latvian Association of Speech and Language Therapists’ Annual Award “Speech and Language Therapist of the Year” for her contribution to the development of the field in Latvia.

**Baiba Trīnīte:** Professor at RTU Liepāja Academy, Centre of Pedagogy and Social Work.

**Field of expertise:** Speech and Language Therapy (Audiologopedics), occupational voice disorders, voice ergonomics, and vocal health. Professor Trīnīte is also an audiologopedist at Liepāja Regional Hospital, where she works with specially developed audiologopedic equipment. Among the university’s researchers, she has repeatedly received the highest evaluation for research excellence, including in 2025.

**Gundega Tomele:** Professor of Speech and Language Therapy and Director of the study programme, Speech Therapy at RTU Liepāja Academy, Centre of Pedagogy and Social Work.

**Field of expertise:** Speech and Language Therapy and Pedagogy, with a focus on Montessori pedagogy and Montessori-based therapeutic approaches. She was awarded Speech and Language Therapist of the Year 2023. Her doctoral research (2022) highlights the integration of pedagogical and speech therapy approaches to support child development and the correction of developmental disorders.

**Agata Babina:** Professor and Study Programme Director at RTU Liepāja Academy, Centre of Humanities and Arts.

**Field of expertise:** Spanish Language Studies, Foreign Language Didactics, Intercultural Communication, and Multilingual Education. Professor Babina delivers interactive lectures, seminars, and workshops on language, identity, and multilingualism, combining theoretical discussions with creative writing and micro-narrative techniques, multilingual practices (code-switching and translanguaging), and an introduction to Latin American literature.