

EDITORIAL



Honoring the 100th Anniversary of His Excellency Dr. Valdas Adamkus

**dr. Jolita Kruopienė¹,
Prof. dr. hab. Jurgis Kazimieras Staniškis^{2,3}**

¹ Editor-in-Chief of "Environmental Research, Engineering and Management", Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania

² Honorary Emeritus Editor of "Environmental Research, Engineering and Management", ³ Member of Lithuania Academy of Sciences, Lithuania

<https://doi.org/10.5755/j01.erem.82.3.45980>

This issue is special because it is dedicated to a very important milestone. Our Member of Honour, Dr. Valdas Adamkus, President of the Republic of Lithuania, is celebrating his 100th birthday. That is a good occasion to express gratitude to him for his lifetime dedication to environmental protection and his long support for our journal.

Dr. Valdas Adamkus has been a member of the editorial board from the very beginning of the journal "Environmental Research, Engineering and Management" (EREM). He showed great faith in our vision by writing the Editorial for our very first issue in 1995, where he also published an article titled "Pollution Prevention Makes Good Sense". At that time, he held a high position at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the USA. As a Regional Administrator, he was responsible for protecting the Great Lakes, one of the largest freshwater systems in the world.

His work in the USA perfectly matched the main ideas of our journal. He understood very well that to protect nature, we need good environmental research to find the problems, practical engineering to solve them, and strong management to make the right decisions. We are very proud that even with his important duties in the USA, he found time to share his expertise with us. His presence on the editorial board was a very big help for Lithuanian scientists. He helped to build a bridge between our researchers and the international community during a time when our country was rebuilding.

Meanwhile, the journal has grown and strengthened its position in recent years. When Dr. Valdas Adamkus first joined the board, we were just starting. Today, the journal is a platform for academics and practitioners to share and discuss insights related to sustainable development. EREM is included in the SCOPUS database since 2016. Also, geography of the published papers spans over all the continents. We publish many articles about climate change, circular economy, and sustainable technologies. The journal's growth into an international publication mirrors the exact vision Dr. Valdas Adamkus had for our science.

Later, Dr. Valdas Adamkus returned to a newly independent Lithuania and was twice elected as President. He brought his environmental knowledge to the highest political level. He always supported ecological ideas and proved that a country's success and a healthy environment are very closely connected. The environmental challenges we face today need exactly the kind of understanding and leadership that he has shown for many decades.

Special thanks goes to Dr. Valdas Adamkus for his lifetime of work and his dedication to this journal. On behalf of the editorial board, we wish His Excellency Dr. Valdas Adamkus a very happy 100th birthday. We hope that his example will continue to inspire all the authors who decide to publish their research in EREM and everyone who works for a healthier environment.