

Telsiai/Lithuania historically connected with Constance/Germany!

We three ladies from *Sprachendienst Konstanz* set out from idyllic Constance to small Telsiai, about 2000 kilometers away. We all have been round the world, but Lithuania? - a blind spot on our travel map. How is the landscape look like? How is the food? The language? We all knew that Lithuania is one of the Baltic states, was part of the USSR, became independent and member of the EU in spring 2004. Vilnius is its capital, but Telsiai?

„There is a story between Telsiai and Constance“, we learnt from our Lithuanian giude, when he took us to the door of Telsiai Cathedral and pointed at the little bronze relief with Constančia/Constance shown as it looked in a former century .



What kind of story? I must confess I only caught a few words ...and decided to ask the internet when I am back home.

The keyword is „Council of Constance“ (1414 - 1418). A resolution has been passed to free Lithuania from the rule of the „Deutschorden“ and to found the independent diocese Varniai. Today the diocese is located in Telsiai. As I know that in 2014 Constance will celebrate the 600-year-jubilee with lots of activities I contacted the responsible department of Constance. They told me that a delegation from Telsiai visited

Constance in 2008, in order to collaborate concerning the jubilee. And at last: Constance is interested to get further information about our EU-Project „Folk without Book“. Good news!