

**The 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Economics and Social Sciences**  
**Exploring Global Perspectives:**  
**The Future of Economics and Social Sciences**  
**June 13-14, 2024**  
**Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania**

## **Foreword**

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*The International Conference on Economics and Social Sciences (ICESS) represents the largest and the most prestigious research event organised by the Bucharest University of Economic Studies, proving the collaborative efforts and academic excellence of each faculty within the university, based on international collaboration with academic and business partners.*

*By fostering communication and collaboration among relevant stakeholders, the main goal of the event is to identify intelligent tools and instruments that stimulate economic development, social equity, and sustainable growth. The conference showcases the interconnected economic and social dimensions and emphasises the importance of interdisciplinary approaches in driving impactful and sustainable change.*

The opening ceremony took place on 13<sup>th</sup> June, having some special invited guests in the plenary session, such as Cristian Badarinza, professor at Singapore National University, alumnus ASE, with the keynote speech *Real estate sustainability: Taking stock or going with the flow?*, Suman Mishra, professor at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, United States of America with the keynote speech *Media Industries and AI: The Changing Landscape of Business and Communication* and also Sorin Nastasia, professor at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, SUA with the keynote speech *Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Practices for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Businesses*. Every year, the conference benefits from prestigious invited professors who can inspire academics and students in their professional career.

*The conference has grown every year both in quantitative and in qualitative terms. Thus, Friday, June 14, 2024, researchers and academics from all over the world presented over 270 papers within the 12 parallel sessions, the topics being related to: sustainability within the 17 SDGs, experimental economics, challenges and opportunities connected with artificial intelligence, taxation impact on business,*

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digitalisation and economic competitiveness, technological development and digital performance, entrepreneurship challenges in the digital era, blockchain and financial innovation, the economic impact of energy crises, and other topics with practical implications.

Also, the conference hosted for the first time in 2024 the workshops: *SDG: Integrating Sustainable Development Goals into Real World: Challenges and Opportunities*, *Workshop for Young Researchers* and *Experimental economics, application for innovation economy*, which reunited the specialists from the academic area jointly with the economic and social environment to debate the real challenges faced by private and public institutions within the dynamic and uncertain international framework.

The conference has offered networking opportunities for national and international specialists from different partner institutions and academics, researchers and PhD students from universities of various countries such as USA, Germany, France, Greece, Spain, Italy, Japan, Poland, Portugal, UK, Slovakia, Bulgaria, etc. and a great part of the scientific papers are the result of the joint collaboration between national and international professors or representatives of the socioeconomic environment.

The conference used the platform ScholarOne (Clarivate) for the submissions and review process and has relevant partners such as the international network of universities HERMES, EM Strasbourg Business School, the Economic Forecasting Institute of the Romanian Academy, the National Institute of Scientific Research in the field of Labour and Social Protection, Enformation, and United Media Services.

Given the large variety of participants, ICESS could be considered an international forum for debate, a research platform, a very important tool for the dissemination of research and more importantly, a very useful and learning experience for PhD students who can use this opportunity to improve their research in progress.

The publication opportunities of the conference are considered major assets and we expect them to expand in the future. The proceedings volumes along with some journals indexed in Web of Science offer to the participants wide opportunities for publication to get validation for the research outcomes, but also to meet the criteria for promotion or evaluation.

The sustainable partnership with university business partners is definitely another competitive advantage. Based on a selection made by the members of the international scientific committee, two best papers receive an award supported by our business partners in order to stimulate competition and performance in terms of scientific research, but also international collaboration based on co-authorship.

„The collaboration between academia and the socio-business environment is a very important dimension of the university research and we aim to create a sustainable partnership to produce effects in the long run. The outcomes of the academic research should strongly contribute to the *identification of the relevant and practical solutions for the business environment.*”