

Conference Announcement

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN ECONOMICS, BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT - EBM 2026

December 16-17, 2026, Faculty of Economics, University of Kragujevac

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The International Scientific Conference *Contemporary Issues in Economics, Business and Management – EBM 2026* will be held on 16th and 17th December, 2026, at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Kragujevac. Since 2010, the Conference has been held biannually, and this year marks its ninth edition, bringing together researchers from the region and European higher education institutions to analyze and exchange insights on current issues and challenges in the fields of economics, business and management.

Contemporary trends in the global environment are characterized by an unprecedented pace of change, generating challenges that call for a re-examination of key assumptions and a transformation of existing research directions, alongside the redefinition of fundamental economic paradigms. EBM 2026 Conference covers a broad range of thematic areas, enabling interdisciplinary and creative debate among researchers from various economic disciplines. In recognition of the significance of the identified challenges in economics, business, and management, and with the aim of indicating directions for further

development and problem-solving, the Conference will feature research presentations within the following four thematic areas:

- Globalization and regionalization,
- The key issues and challenges in management and marketing,
- Accounting and business finance, and
- Applied informatics and quantitative methods in economics and management.

The thematic areas are defined comprehensively and encompass numerous and diverse subtopics, allowing researchers to present a wide spectrum of research achievements and findings. The first day of the Conference is dedicated to the plenary session and the four parallel sessions, while the second day is intended for the continuation of discussions, synthesis and critical reflection on the achieved results, as well as the identification of future research directions.

A distinctive feature of EBM 2026 Conference is a special session dedicated to a decade-long collaboration within the framework of an international four-party agreement between the Faculty of Economics, University of Kragujevac, and

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partner universities in Poland (Cracow University of Economics), Italy (University of Messina), and Ukraine (Kyiv National University of Trade and Economics).

The plenary session on the first day of the Conference will be opened by keynote speakers, distinguished researchers from European universities:

- *Jörn Kleinert*, Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz, Austria; and
- *Viktorija Skvarciany*, Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, Lithuania.

We invite participants to contribute to the Conference by submitting original, unpublished theoretical and empirical research conducted in the recent period. All submissions will undergo a double-blind peer review process, and accepted papers will be published in the Conference Proceedings. On the day of the Conference, all participants will receive the Book of Abstracts, as well as certificates of participation. Authors of selected papers distinguished by their originality and quality will be given the opportunity, following the standard double-blind review procedure, to publish their research in the following reputable journals:

Economic Horizons – the journal published by the Faculty of Economics, University of Kragujevac, indexed in several relevant databases, including SCOPUS (Q3), ProQuest/ABI/INFORM, Cabell's Directories, Index Copernicus Journals Master List, EconLit, EBSCO, and Ulrich's Web.

Naše gospodarstvo/Our Economy – the journal published by the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Maribor, indexed, among others, in DOAJ, ERIH Plus, Dimensions, EBSCO, ECONIS, and EconLit.

The following important dates should be noted by participants:

- 15th September 2026 – the abstract submission deadline
- 1st October 2026 – the notification of the acceptance of the abstract
- 15th October 2026 – early registration deadline
- 31st October 2026 – full paper submission deadline
- 15th November 2026 – the notification of the paper acceptance.

Information in detail about the Conference can also be found on the official website of the EBM 2026 Conference: <https://ebm.ekf.rs/>.

At the Conference, researchers will have the opportunity not only to present the results of their work, but also to engage in open dialogue with other participants, overcome methodological challenges, clarify research dilemmas, and acquire new knowledge.

As the President of the Program Board, I anticipate a significant number of high-quality contributions from participants both from the country and abroad, presenting ideas and offering partial solutions to some of the key challenges in contemporary economics and business management. The purpose and objective of the Conference is to strengthen communication among participants in the region and across Europe, thereby creating a platform for new forms of collaboration within future scientific research projects and initiatives.

Received on 19th March 2026,
after revision,
accepted for publication on 31st March 2026.
Published online on 24th April 2026.

Jelena Erić Nielsen is a Full Professor of Entrepreneurship and Management at the Faculty of Economics, University of Kragujevac, where she obtained her PhD in 2013. Her research interests include corporate and green entrepreneurship, management, leadership, strategic management, organizational transformation and behavior, and corporate governance. She has undertaken advanced academic training at European and American universities through various mobility programs.