

Key note speakers



Soumodip Sarkar, Professor at the Department of Management, University of Évora, Portugal, researcher at CEFAGE-UE

Prof. Sarkar is an Associate at the Asia Center, Harvard University. He received his PhD in economics from Northeastern University, Boston, in 1995. He is currently President of the Portuguese Evaluation Commission A3ES (responsible for university evaluations in the management field).

His research interests are innovation, entrepreneurship and international business. He has published papers in numerous scientific journals and is on the editorial board of four international scientific journals. His recent research has been published in high impact journals such as Technology Forecasting and Social Change and Journal of Business Research. He has published four books on entrepreneurship and innovation, and his most recent book, EntreSutra, is scheduled to be published in June 2017 by Bloomsbury.



Helle Neergaard, Professor of Entrepreneurship at Aarhus University, Denmark

Prof. Neergaard's present research interests include entrepreneurship education, existential learning, effectuation, entrepreneurial identity, gender and narratives. She is also the lead editor of two Handbooks in Qualitative Research Methods/Research Techniques, both published by Edward Elgar. She has received several awards for her work on female entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship education. Since 2008, Prof. Neergaard has been a board member of the European Council for Small Business (ECSB), responsible for the Doctorial Programme, and she was president of the organization from 2013-2015. She has organized numerous PhD courses.



Daniels Pavluts is a multi-sector management and consulting professional from Latvia

In parallel to consulting and training activities as well as advisory roles in Latvia, Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia and Kosovo, Mr. Pavluts has held a number of high-level executive positions in the public, private and NGO sectors: he has served as Minister of Economics of Latvia (2011-2014), and State Secretary at the Ministry of Culture of Latvia. He enjoys teaching at the SSE Riga. Mr. Pavluts sees his professional future in investment management with interests in private equity and venture capital. He is one of the founders and board members of the Latvian Startup Association, established in February 2016. He holds a Master in Public Administration degree from Harvard Kennedy School (2007).

Speakers



Dr. oec. Andra Feldmane, Adviser on Entrepreneurship Issues, Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments (LALRG)

Dr. Feldmane obtained her doctor of economics degree with the thesis "Public investment project management improvement and innovative solutions".

Dr. Feldmane's professional experience in economics is related to public sector financial instruments and investment justification for investment projects at international financial institutions, such as the Nordic Investment Bank and the European Investment Bank. She has also worked at JSC Latvian Mortgage and Land Bank.



Dace Helmane, Chief Executive Officer, Institute for Corporate Sustainability and Responsibility

The Institute for Corporate Sustainability and Responsibility aims to build awareness of responsible business approaches and raise discussions about future trends and challenges. One of the Institute's core initiatives is the Sustainability Index – an evaluation tool which helps to identify companies' strengths and weaknesses in order to support effective and sustainable business approaches. Ms. Helmane has extensive professional experience in different sectors.



Ina Gudele has a master's degree in engineering and is working on her doctoral thesis "E-commerce tools for SME development".

She is the Director of the "Business Development in a Digital Environment" program at RISEBA University and a business consultant at her own company.

She has considerable experience in Internet, e-commerce and e-government development. She was active in information society policy development in the EU and the UN.

She established the professional non-governmental organization "Latvian Internet Association" and still works at this organization as a Board Member consulting governmental institutions on better governance of the virtual environment.



Tālavis Jundzis, Dr. habil. sc. pol., Dr. iur., Professor, University of Latvia

Prof. Jundzis is Foreign Secretary of the LAS, Chairman of the Board of the Baltic Centre for Strategic Studies of the LAS, a Member of the European Academy of Art and Science, and Director of the College of Law. He has also been Deputy (1990-1993) of the Supreme Council, Republic of Latvia, Chairman (1990-1991) of its Defence and Internal Affairs Commission, Deputy Director of its Defence Headquarters (January 1991), and the first Defence Minister of the restored Republic of Latvia (1991-1993). He is the author of more than 200 scholarly articles as well as the author or co-author of several monographs.



Agrita Kiopa, Deputy State Secretary, Director of the Higher Education, Science and Innovation Department at the Ministry of Education and Science of Latvia

Dr. Kiopa leads the structural reform program with a focus on establishing core institutions that foster excellence and relevance of research and higher education. She has been involved in the design of the Latvian Smart Specialization Strategy and works to ensure its delivery. Prior to joining the ministry, she was a researcher at the University of Liverpool and the Georgia Institute of Technology, where she was awarded a PhD in public policy with a specialization in science and technology and public organizations.



Brent McKenzie, MBA, PhD, Associate Professor in the Department of Marketing and Consumer Studies in the College of Business and Economics at the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada

Dr. McKenzie is an expert on management and business-related issues in the Baltic States and the former Soviet Union. He has engaged in extensive research fieldwork and conducted a number of academic and industry workshops, presentations, and seminars in this region. His research has been widely published in both academic and practitioner journals. Dr. McKenzie is an Associate Editor for the Baltic Journal of Management; an Associate Editor for the Journal of Eastern European and Central Asian Research; and Regional Editor – Eastern Europe for the International Journal of Business and Emerging Markets.



Liga Mengelšone, Director General at the Employers' Confederation of Latvia (LDDK)

Ms. Mengelšone represents the interests of employers in the dialogue with the Latvian Saeima, the government, trade unions, and regional partners at both the national and the EU level. She is a board member of the society "The Leader", and practises coaching by giving advice related to marketing and business development. She is also a member of the Riga Hanza Rotary Club.



Tõnis Mets, Marie Curie Research Fellow and Professor of Entrepreneurship at the University of Tartu (Estonia)

From 2013-2015 Prof. Mets was a research fellow at the Australian Centre for Entrepreneurship Research, Queensland University of Technology. He has also worked as a management consultant at his company (ALO OU) and as an entrepreneur, engineer, and manager at various high-tech companies in Estonia. Prof. Mets graduated from the Tallinn University of Technology; he also holds a PhD in technical science from the St. Petersburg Agrarian University. He is the author and co-author of 15 patents and more than 40 chapters and articles with international publishers. His main research interests are in the fields of (technology) entrepreneurship, intellectual property, knowledge and innovation management.



Anders Paalzow, Rector of the Stockholm School of Economics in Riga

Prof. Paalzow holds a PhD in economics and his research interests include the fields of competitiveness, entrepreneurship and macroeconomics. He has been involved in the Latvian Global Entrepreneurship Monitor project since it was launched in 2005.



Māris Pūķis, Dr. oec., Dr. phys., Senior Adviser at the LALRG (Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments), Associate Professor at the University of Latvia

From 1970 to 1992, Dr. Pūķis worked with problems in applied magnetohydrodynamics; his main research topic was optimization of MHD devices. From 1990 to 2004 he participated in politics as a local and central government politician and was a parliamentary secretary in 5 governments. Since 2000 he has been an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Business Management and Economics of the University of Latvia. He is the author of more than 300 publications, including several monographs.



Dana Reizniece-Ozola, Minister of Finance, Latvia

Ms. Reizniece-Ozola was a Member of the 10th Saeima of the Republic of Latvia and a Member of the Legal Commission and European Affairs Commission from 2010 to 2011. She has also been the Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Latvia. From 2011 to 2014, she was a Member of the 11th Saeima of the Republic of Latvia, Chairperson of the Education, Culture and Science Commission, and a Member of the Legal Commission and the European Affairs Commission. In 2014, she became a Member of the 12th Saeima of the Republic of Latvia.



Andris Sarnovics Professor of Management, Rector of BA School of Business and Finance in Riga, Latvia

Prof. Sarnovics holds an MSc in physics, an MSc in public administration and a PhD in management science (Dr.sc.administr.) awarded by the University of Latvia. In addition to his academic career, he has gained experience by working in both the public and private sector. Prof. Sarnovics has worked as the State Secretary at the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia and at public and private higher education institutions in top management positions. He is the author of several national and international publications.



Arnis Sauka, Associate Professor and Director of the Centre for Sustainable Business at SSE Riga

Dr. Sauka has a Ph.D. from the University of Siegen (Germany) and has been a visiting scholar at Jönköping International Business School (Sweden) and University College London (U.K.). His main research interests include the shadow economy, productive and unproductive entrepreneurship, entrepreneurship policymaking and competitiveness, and entrepreneurship development in a transition context. Drawing on his academic work, which has been published in a number of peer-reviewed journals (e.g. International Small Business Journal, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Baltic Studies, Baltic Journal of Economics) and books, he has also been involved extensively in applied research. This has included contracted reports for the OECD and Eurofound as well as for various industry associations and NGOs in Latvia and other countries.



Irina Sennikova, Rector of RISEBA University of Business, Arts and Technology

Dr. Sennikova holds an MA degree in English philology from the University of Latvia, an MBA and an MSc in Management from IEDC-Bled School of Management (Slovenia), and a PhD from Kozminski University (Poland).

Apart from her administrative responsibilities, she teaches courses on management, leadership and organizational behavior at RISEBA. She is also a visiting lecturer at the Baltic Defence College (Estonia). Her research interests lie mainly in the area of intellectual entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial leadership. Dr. Sennikova is a member of the Latvian State Scientific Qualification Committee.



Dr. oec. Jurijs Spiridonovs, Adviser to the Minister of Finance

Dr. Spiridonovs currently holds the position of Adviser to the Minister of Finance, overseeing tax policy, the state budget, and EU fund programs. He has more than 10 years of experience in public administration, including as Deputy State Secretary for the Environmental Protection and Regional Development Ministry and the Ministry of Economics, where the work was related to energy and environmental policy issues.



Tatjana Vasiljeva, Associate Professor at RISEBA University, Vice Rector for Research and Head of the IT and Mathematics Centre

Dr. Vasiljeva holds a PhD in economics from Leningrad Finance and Economics University (Russia) and the University of Latvia (1993). Her expertise lies in entrepreneurship in a digital environment, technology-based entrepreneurship, innovations in the information and communication technology (ICT) area, ICT solution development and implementation in the financial area, modern e-learning platforms, and innovations in education. Dr. Vasiljeva has more than 20 years' experience in IT management, having been Head of the IT Department at one of the biggest banks in the Baltics. She is the author of numerous publications in related research fields.



Dr. Tatjana Volkova, Professor of Strategic and Innovation Management at BA School of Business and Finance, Latvia

Prof. Volkova is a member of the Higher Education Council, Latvia, a member of the Swiss Accreditation Council (Switzerland), an Extended Steering Committee member of the Institutional Evaluation Program (IEP) of the European University Association (EUA) (Belgium), a Member of the Board of the Baltic Management Development Association (BMDA) (Lithuania), a Member of the Board of the Association of Professors of Latvia, and Chair of the Interuniversity Professors' Council (Latvia).

She is an author of research articles and books published nationally and internationally. Her specific research interests are innovation management, design management and the creative economy.



Jānis Vucāns, Member of the Saeima (Parliament) of the Republic of Latvia since 2010

Currently, Prof. Vucāns is the Chairman of the Budget and Finance (Taxation) Committee and Chairman of the Baltic Affairs Sub-Committee. He is also Vice-President (and former President) of two regional inter-parliamentary organizations: the Baltic Assembly and the Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference. Previously he was Deputy Speaker of the Saeima, a member of its Presidium and Chairman of the Education, Culture and Science Committee.

Simultaneously with his political activities Prof. Vucāns has continued his academic carrier: he is a Professor and Leading Researcher at Ventspils University College (Latvia); from 2000 till 2010 he was its Rector. He has a doctoral degree in mathematics (optimization theory), but his research interests also relate to the modelling of economic and financial processes and assessing the business macro environment.



in partnership with



10th Annual Scientific Baltic Business Management Conference
ASBBMC 2017

Sustainable Organisations: Creating and Managing in Turbulent Business Environment

27-29 April 2017
Riga, Latvia

Conference support:





Programme

Wednesday 26 April 2017

Venue: SSE Riga, Strelnieku Street 4a

10:00 – 16:30 Doctoral pre-conference

Moderated by Assoc. Prof. Arnis Sauka, SSE Riga

Opening and introduction to the programme and participants

Keynote by Prof. Helle Neergaard, Aarhus University, Denmark:

Benefiting from a Qualitative Approach in Entrepreneurship and Management Studies

Parallel work in groups

The doctoral pre-conference offers doctoral students an arena to discuss their research findings and ideas with their peers. On April 26, doctoral students are invited to present research proposals to a group of experienced researchers. The number of participating doctoral students is limited to 15. The conference is led by a team consisting of Prof. Helle Neergaard, Aarhus University, Denmark; Assoc. Prof. Brent McKenzie, University of Guelph, Canada; Prof. Tõnis Mets, Tartu University, Estonia; Prof. Soumodip Sarkar, University of Évora, Portugal; and Assoc. Prof. Arnis Sauka, Stockholm School of Economics in Riga, Latvia.

Students will be selected on the basis of short abstracts (not to exceed 3-5 pages), where a research problem, contribution, key conceptual framework and methodological approach are clearly presented. All proposals should be closely linked with ongoing PhD research (doctoral thesis or articles).

17:00 transfer to RISEBA University

18:00 Venue: RISEBA University Campus, Durbes Street 4

Students' evening

Coffee break and networking

Thursday 27 April 2017

Venue: RISEBA University Campus, Durbes Street 4

9:00 – 9:30 Registration and coffee

9:30 – 10:00 Conference opening

Prof. Tālavš Jundzis, Vice President of the Latvian Academy of Sciences

Prof. Irina Sennikova, RISEBA Rector

Prof. Andris Sarnovics, BA Rector

Prof. Anders Paalzow, SSE Riga Rector

Dana Reizniece-Ozola, Minister of Finance, Latvia

10:00 – 11:30 Plenary I.

Prof. Soumodip Sarkar (University of Évora, Portugal) –

“Sherlock on the CSR trail: extracting wisdom from the knowledge base”

Daniels Pavluts, Board Member of Latvian Startup Association “Startin.LV” –

“Sustainability challenge in the times of uncertainty”

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee Break

12:00 – 13:30 Roundtable I. Government role, economic instruments and policies for sustainability

The government is committed to sustainable development that means making the necessary decisions now to realise our vision of stimulating economic growth and tackling the deficit, maximising wellbeing and protecting our environment, without affecting the ability of future generations to do the same.

Moderated by Prof. Tatjana Volkova (BA School of Business and Finance)

Prof. Janis Vucans, Latvian Republic Saeima

Dr. Agrita Kiopa, Ministry of Education and Sciences, Latvia

Dr. Juris Spiridonovs, Ministry of Finance, TBC, Latvia

Līga Mengelsone, General Director of Employers' Confederation of Latvia Director General

Dace Helmane, Institute for Corporate Sustainability and Responsibility, Latvia

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch

In the conference hall, you can explore:

RISEBA architecture students' jobs exhibition as evidence of sustainable urban design

14:30 – 16:40 Parallel sessions and Introduction to the Erasmus+ project “Clustering Creativity”, the idea and product

16:40 – 17:00 Coffee break

17:00 – 18:00 PLENARY II. Entrepreneurship Education for Sustainable Development

Prof. Helle Neergaard, School of Business and Social Sciences, University of Aarhus, Denmark, and Visiting Professor, Leeds Centre for Enterprise and Entrepreneurship Studies, Leeds University, UK

18:00 – 19:30 Art and Sustainability. Theatre performance “Because He Can”.

19:30 – 21:30 Networking dinner with modern jazz

Friday 28 April 2017

Venue: RISEBA University Campus, Durbes Street 4

9:00 – 9:30 Coffee

9:30 – 13:00 Parallel sessions

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 16:00 Parallel sessions

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break

16:30 – 17:30 Closing Plenary. Sustainable Organizations in a Turbulent Environment

How to advance the theory and practice of business sustainability and implement and promote sustainability practices across multiple dimensions on all organisational levels, from strategic management to operational levels, in every type of business and for every company's function. How to bridge the gap between academia and companies and bring people to the centre of an organisation, as a critical success factor towards business sustainability in a turbulent environment.

Moderated by Prof. Arnis Sauka (SSE Riga)

Maris Pukis, Senior Advisor, Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments

Prof. Dirk Jan Postel, RISEBA Visiting professor, “Kraaijvanger Architects”, Netherlands

Dr. ing. Renate Strazdina, Director of Microsoft Latvia

Ina Gudele, Latvian Internet Association Board member

19:00 – 21:30 Conference dinner – restaurant Riga Sunset Lounge

Saturday 29 April 2017

10:00 – 12:30 Riga city walking tour

