

FORESEEING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ORGANIZATIONS AT THE MACRO AND MICRO LEVEL

Annual Scientific Baltic Business
Management Conference 2019

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

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21-23 February 2019

Doctoral Pre-Conference
on 20 February

Architecture and Media

Centre H2O 6,

Durbes Str. 4, Riga, Latvia

20.02.2019. DOCTORAL PRE-CONFERENCE (room 206u)

“Hindsight, Insight and Foresight in Research Work. Successful Completion of a PhD Project”

Workshop Chair Prof. Dr. E. Gimzauskiene, Kaunas University of Technology, School of Economics and Business, Lithuania

15:00 Registration

15:20 Workshop for PhD students, 1st session

16:50 Coffee break

17:00 Workshop for PhD students, 2nd session

18:30 Conclusion and question-and-answer session

21.02.2019. ASBBMC 2019 – FIRST DAY

9:30 Registration and coffee

10:00 Welcome speeches by

RISEBA Rector Prof. I.Sennikova, BA Rector Prof. A.Sarnovics, SSE Riga Rector Prof. A.Paalzow, Director of the Institute of Economics of Latvian Academy of Sciences Dr. N.Linde, State secretary of Ministry of Economics R.Aleksejenko, State secretary of Ministry of Education and Science L.Lejina, Representative of Ministry of Finance

10:30 Plenary session “Futures: Global and Latvian”, Prof. J.Sommers

Latvia’s future is embedded within global structures, although not entirely defined by them. The configuration of the global system during the Belle Époque produced rapid economic growth, with the Baltics being among the leading areas of technological change. The Cold War saw Latvia forcibly withdrawn from its previous role connecting regions across Eurasia, but nonetheless on the leading edge of industrial development in the USSR. Latvia re-emerged onto the global stage as the USSR collapsed, and again was inserted into global circuits of commerce, but no longer as an agent of technological (productivity enhancing) change. Moreover, not only was Latvia no longer on the leading edge of technological change, but productivity in the post-Cold War period was slowing generally, as the global system moved into a new globalized neoliberal configuration.

11:00 Roundtable discussion

Participants: Prof. J.Sommers, A.Rostovskis, E.Labanovskis, J.Berzins, A.Ozols, R. Baumanis
Moderator: A.Ceplitis

12:00 Lunch “Latvian Corner”

13:30 Plenary session “Future Signals as Transformative Forces: Alternative Futures of the Economy”, Dr. J.Kaskinen

Due to global challenges, we are forced for the first time in the history of humankind to seriously consider our economy from a wider perspective than pure economic growth and efficiency. Even if economic growth has been the main enabler of a better life in many parts of the world, we have to ask if it can be the answer for tackling future challenges. In his presentation, Dr. Kaskinen will deal with the effects different future signals like megatrends, trends, weak signals and non-linear developments have on the economy. He will explore the possibilities of the bio-economy, the circular economy and the sharing economy from the standpoint of sustainability, climate change, population growth and urbanization and look at the role of digitalisation, robots, extreme data and machine learning. Can they help humankind avert the destruction we are facing if we continue the short-sighted exploitation of our non-renewable resources and also most of our renewable resources?

14:00 Roundtable discussion

Participants: Dr. J. Kaskinen, Prof. A. Sauka, V. Celmins; S. Balina, V. Levcenkovs
Moderator: A. Ceplitis

15:00 Coffee break

15:30 Plenary session “Hidden Champions”, Prof. Irina Sennikova

Latvia is a small open economy, which, with its 27.68 bln USD GDP, represents 0.04 percent of the world economy. The World Economic Forum, in its 2017-2018 report, ranked Latvia in the 54th position out of 137 countries and locates it at a transition stage between an efficiency-driven and an innovation-driven economy. However, the Latvian National Development Strategy until 2030 sees Latvia as a country with an innovative and efficient economy, based on knowledge and innovation. Considering the fact that the main actors of the economy in Latvia are small and medium-size enterprises, it is of vital importance that they are innovative and are able to compete globally. The concept of hidden champions presupposes that these companies are relatively small, highly successful and have leading positions in the market globally or regionally. In her presentation Prof. Sennikova will provide insights from the research project “Hidden Champions in Dynamically Changing Societies”, in which Latvia is one of the partners, and share some stories about Latvian hidden champions, revealing their common characteristics, the nature of market leadership and factors contributing to their success. The presentation will be followed by a panel discussion with C-level managers of Latvian hidden champion companies.

16:00 Roundtable discussion

Participants: Prof. I.Sennikova, R. Dlohi, representatives of Latvian innovative companies and the IT technology sector

17:00 EURAXESS Latvia - a platform for researchers, entrepreneurs, universities and businesses to interact with each other. Dace Purina, State Education Development Agency

17:30 Transportation and Conference dinner

22.02.2019. ASBBMC 2019 – SECOND DAY

9:00 Registration

9:30-11:00 Parallel sessions

Coffee break

11:20-13:10 Parallel sessions

Lunch

14:10-16:00 Parallel sessions

Coffee break

16:30 Closing session:

Feedback from session moderators, Best Paper Award, acknowledgements

18:00 Repertoire theatre

19:00 Informal part of the evening: snacks, wine, networking

23.02.2019. ASBBMC 2019 – THIRD DAY

11:00-13:00 Sightseeing in Riga

Discover the charm of medieval Riga on a guided walking tour. Learn about the city’s history and admire centuries-old architectural masterpieces.

Meeting point: The Town Hall Square, “Statue of St. Roland”



KEY-NOTE SPEAKERS



Prof. Jeffrey Sommers

Prof. Sommers is a two-time Fulbright Scholar and a Professor of Economics and Senior Fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Institute of World Affairs who is also a consultant for the US State Department and different governments on economics, world affairs, and political science. His illustrious "Contradictions of Austerity: The Socio-Economic Costs of the Neoliberal Baltic Mode" is just one example of his prolific work on the state of democracy in Latvia, projected with almost prophetic precision.



Dr. Juha Kaskinen

Dr. Kaskinen is the Director of the Finland Futures Research Centre at the University of Turku. His main interest over the years has been futures studies, regional foresight and development, environmental questions and sustainable development and expertise. He has conducted and participated in dozens of futures projects over the last 20 years. He is an active teacher and gives several local and international presentations every year.



Prof. Irina Sennikova

Prof. Sennikova is the Rector of RISEBA. Apart from her administrative responsibilities, she teaches courses on management, leadership and organizational behaviour. She is also a visiting lecturer at the Baltic Defence College (Estonia). Prof. Sennikova is a member of the Latvian State Scientific Qualification Committee. She has been a founding member of the International Entrepreneurship Forum (IEF) and is a Senior Enterprise Fellow at the University of Essex School of Entrepreneurship and Business, UK. She is a Chair of the EQUAL Board and a member of the CEEMAN Board and CEEMAN Accreditation Committee.

ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANTS



Signe Balina, President of LICTA is a politician and scholar, Academician and Doctor of Economics. Former Minister for Special Assignments in the Affairs of the e-Government of Latvia (2008–2009). Chairman of the Board "Datorzinību centrs" and Professor of the Faculty of Economics and Management of the University of Latvia.



Romans Baumanis serves as Vice President and Managing Director of Riga of PBN Holdings, LLC. Mr. Baumanis manages client services and oversees staff and operations in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia for The PBN Company Baltics, a wholly-owned subsidiary of The PBN Company. Mr. Baumanis has more than 10 years experience in Latvia's Foreign Service and executive government.



Janis Berzins

Dr. Berzins joined the Potomac Foundation as Senior Fellow in 2016. He works on New Generation (Hybrid) Warfare, Russian Military Thought, and Strategic and Security Issues.

Dr. Berzins also serves as the director of the Center for Security and Strategic Research (CSSR) at the National Defense Academy of Latvia.



Viesturs Celmins is an anthropologist who specializes in design and planning. In 2013/2014 he organised "The City Seminar" at the University of Cambridge. In 2015/2016 he took part in the formation of the Baltic pavilion at the 15th Venice Biennale Architecture Exhibition, since 2016 studies the future of knowledge theory within the project "Live Baltic Campus" at the University of Latvia.



Roberts Dlohi

Member of the board of «PERUZA» and «Cross Timber Systems». «PERUZA» has than 25 years of experience in 20 countries around the world and more than 1500 successful projects, got in 2013 Export and Innovation Award of Latvia – Innovative Product.



Edita Gimzauskienė, Kaunas University of Technology, School of Economics and Business, Lithuania
Professor of Accounting: "Management Accounting", "Strategic Management Accounting". Research area "Trends of Management Accounting and Performance Measurement in the Context of Digital Transformation".



Ervins Labanovskis

Bachelor of Political Science and Master of Communication Science. Formerly created the first municipal program in Latvia to support the new business ideas "Atsperiens" as well as the "Rigas Filmu Fonds".



Valentins Levcenkovs has deep knowledge and working experience in the field of investment, brokerage services and corporate finance. He worked in financial companies and banks of the EU and the USA. He was engaged in attracting syndicated loans, issuing bonds, raising capital, restructuring the business and other.



Andris Ozols, Director of Investment and Development Agency of Latvia

With a background in mathematics and a degree in Business Administration, Mr Andris Ozols became an entrepreneur. Mr Ozols has a diverse and successful business experience.



Dace Purina manages EURAXESS Bridgehead Organisation and network of EURAXESS Contact Points in Latvia. She is a senior expert in the Science, Research and Innovation Policy Support Department of the State Education Development Agency.



Aigars Rostovskis, President of the Latvian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI)

and the head of the Council of Knowledge Economy of the LCCI. A. Rostovskis is an experienced professional and entrepreneur in the education sector.



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

He 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



Tatjana Vasiljeva, Professor at RISEBA University, Vice Rector for Research

Tatjana holds a PhD in economics from Leningrad Finance and Economics University (Russia) and Latvian University (1993). Her expertise lies in entrepreneurship in a digital environment, technology-based entrepreneurship.



MODERATOR OF DISCUSSIONS:

Aigars Ceplitis

is the Creative Director of Audiovisual Media Arts Program at RISEBA University. A graduate of CalArts. Currently, Aigars is a PhD candidate at the New Media MPLab.