



## **Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Regional Development - EIRD 2016**

International Conference held in Tallinn School of Economics and Business  
Administration, Akadeemia Rd.3, Tallinn, Estonia  
**28.-29.06.2016.**

Welcome to the EIRD 2016 Conference!

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

Economically successful regions tend to be those with high levels of both entrepreneurship and innovation. Whilst this may be increasingly recognized, the nature of the processes and mechanisms involved are less clear. In this context, the conference will investigate the relationships between entrepreneurship [in its different forms], innovation and regional development. At the same time, regional development has a social as well as an economic dimension. As a consequence, the conference welcomes contributions that deal with social inclusion as well as economic development issues.

The aim is to explore these issues both theoretically and practically. Good practice of public policy should be underpinned by sound theory, whilst conceptual development can at the same time benefit from practitioners' experience. As a consequence, contributions from practitioners and policy makers as well as academics are encouraged, since one of the aims of the conference is to promote dialogue between these different groups. The focus will be on new member states of the European Union but experience from other countries is welcome if there are lessons which countries in the New Europe can benefit from being exposed to.

This conference is organized in cooperation with the University of Tartu, Estonia, Stockholm School of Economics in Riga, Latvia, Riga International School of Economics and Business Administration (RISEBA), Latvia, Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania and ISM University of Management and Economics, Lithuania. The aim is to promote entrepreneurship research in the Baltic countries and beyond in the context of the New Europe.

The conference is organised in close connection with KITAB 2016 conference titled “Knowledge, Innovation and Technology Across Borders: Developing the Research Agenda” on June 27-28, 2016. Those, who are interested in participating in both conferences, please see the special conference fee.

## CONFERENCE THEMES

The conference committee welcomes any contributions that will advance our understanding of the role of the theory and practice of entrepreneurship and innovation in a regional context. However, we are particularly keen to receive papers that focus on entrepreneurship, innovation and regional development. Specific issues include:

- SMEs and innovation systems, with particular reference to regions of low population and business density;
- Entrepreneurship in the informal economy;
- Linkages between foreign direct investment and SME development;
- Comparing different approaches to the promotion of economic development in peripheral regions;
- The role of local government in economic development;
- Migration and regional development;
- High growth SMEs and regional development;
- Entrepreneurship and social inclusion;
- Social entrepreneurship and regional development;
- Good practice approaches to entrepreneurship education;
- Conceptualization and measurement of different patterns of SME internationalization;
- Building and sustaining international relationships.

Both conceptual and empirical papers are welcome at the Conference. The Conference organisers do not take a specific theoretical or methodological stance and would like to encourage contributions using a broad range of perspectives, and methods. Contributors should send a 700 word structured abstract in English focusing on: i) the framework of the research (both empirically and/or in the literature), ii) research aim/question, iii) methods, iv) key contributions.

Selected papers will be considered for publication in the “Research in Economics and Business: Central and Eastern Europe” (Tallinn University of Technology, <http://rebcee.eu/index.php/REB>); “Economics and Management” (Kaunas University of Technology, [www.ecoman.ktu.lt](http://www.ecoman.ktu.lt)); “Engineering Economics” (Kaunas University of Technology, [www.inzeko.ktu.lt](http://www.inzeko.ktu.lt); IF=0.871).

## IMPORTANT DATES

- Abstracts should be submitted by the **1st of March 2016**.
- Notification of acceptance, including reviewer’s comments, will be forwarded to authors by the **15th of March 2016**.
- Full papers are expected by the **30th of May 2016**.
- Registration deadline is **1st of May 2016**.
- Deadline for the payment of the participation fee is **1st of June 2016**.

Abstracts and papers are welcome to the e-mail: [Marianne.Kallaste@ttu.ee](mailto:Marianne.Kallaste@ttu.ee)

## **FEES**

The conference fee is 150 EUR (85 EUR for students). This fee covers lunches, coffee breaks and conference materials. The EIRD Conference is organised in cooperation with another conference on the topic “Knowledge, Innovation and Technology Across Borders: Developing the Research Agenda (KITAB 2016) on June 27-28. The additional fee for participating in both conferences is 85 eur. See more on the website: [www.ttu.ee/eird](http://www.ttu.ee/eird).

## **DOCTORAL PRE-CONFERENCE**

The Conference offers doctoral students a forum to discuss their research findings and ideas with their peers. On June 27, doctoral students are invited to present their research proposals to a group of experienced researchers. The number of participating doctoral students is limited to 15. Students will be selected by drawing on short abstracts (not exceeding 2 pages), where their research problem and research gap is presented. Please submit your proposals to Prof. Urve Venesaar, e-mail: [Urve.Venesaar@ttu.ee](mailto:Urve.Venesaar@ttu.ee) by April 15, 2016.

## **VENUE**

The EIRD 2016 will take place in the city of Tallinn, the capital of Estonia. Estonia is situated on the North-Eastern edge of the European Union, bordering Russia and Latvia. It has maritime borders with Finland and Sweden. Tallinn is easy to reach – just a two- to three-hour flight from most European capitals – and once you arrive, getting into town is a snap. Lennart Meri International Airport is only 4 km from the city centre, putting it just ten minutes away from the downtown hotels. The ferry terminals and train station are also located a short distance from the Medieval Old Town. Old Town has long been the main draw for newcomers – UNESCO has added it to its World Heritage List in 1997. Other regions of the city reflect different ages, and a modern shopping/business district in the city centre is making Tallinn an amazing blend of old and new. More information about Tallinn: <http://visittallinn.ee/eng> The conference is organized by the Department of Business Administration at Tallinn School of Economics and Business Administration of Tallinn University of Technology. It will take place at the School's building (Akadeemia Rd. 3) which is part of university's campus. More about Estonia: <http://www.visitestonia.com/en/>.

## **ORGANISING COMMITTEE**

Prof. David Smallbone - Kingston University, CEIRD, U.K.

Dr. Arnis Sauka - Stockholm School of Economics in Riga, Centre for Sustainable Business Latvia

Dr. Tatjana Vasiljeva - Riga International School of Economics and Business Administration, Latvia

Dr. Kārlis Krēsliņš - Ventspils University College, Latvia

Professor Kestutis Duoba – Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania

Assoc. Prof. Modestas Gelbūda, ISM University of Management and Economics, Lithuania

Mrs. Mervi Raudsaar - University of Tartu, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Estonia

Prof. Urve Venesaar - Tallinn University of Technology, Tallinn School of Economics and Business Administration, Estonia

We are looking forward to welcoming you in Tallinn, Estonia!

Contact: Marianne Kallaste [Marianne.Kallaste@ttu.ee](mailto:Marianne.Kallaste@ttu.ee), Phone: 372-6203962

Conference webpage: [www.ttu.ee/eird](http://www.ttu.ee/eird)