

# YRC2026

YOUNG RESEARCHERS CONFERENCE

Sustainable Futures · Building Regenerative & Competitive Economies

EPOKA UNIVERSITY, TIRANA

May 26, 2026

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## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

May 26, 2026

Tirana, Albania

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# SUSTAINABLE FUTURES

*Building Regenerative & Competitive Economies*

**EPOKA University**

Department of Business Administration

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

<i>Tuesday, May 26, 2026</i>		
<b>08:30 – 09:00</b>	<b>Registration</b>	
<b>09:00 – 09:15</b>	<b>Opening Ceremony</b> <i>(Venue: Conference Hall)</i>	
<b>09:20 – 10:35</b>	<b>Parallel Session Block I</b>	
<b>Panel 1 (a):</b> <b>Digital Finance, Fintech &amp; Economic Risk</b> <i>Venue: Conference hall</i>	<b>Panel 2 (b):</b> <b>Digital Business Transformation, Analytics &amp; Organizational Performance</b> <i>Venue: Eagle Meeting Room</i>	<b>Panel 3 (c):</b> <b>AI, Machine Learning &amp; Intelligent Systems</b> <i>Venue: Diversity Meeting Room</i>
<b>10:40 – 11:00</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
<b>11:05 – 12:40</b>	<b>Parallel Session Block II</b>	
<b>Panel 4 (a):</b> <b>Consumer Behavior, Digital Experience &amp; Service Innovation</b> <i>Venue: Conference hall</i>	<b>Panel 5 (b):</b> <b>Digital Governance, Education, Cybersecurity &amp; Society</b> <i>Venue: Eagle Meeting Room</i>	<b>Panel 6 (c):</b> <b>Sustainability, Circular Economy &amp; Institutional Transformation</b> <i>Venue: Diversity Meeting Room</i>
<b>12:45 – 13:15</b>	<b>Closing Ceremony</b> <i>(Venue: Conference Hall)</i>	

**09:00 – 09:15**

**Opening Ceremony**

*Venue: Conference Hall*

Welcome Remarks:

Conference Overview

Instructions for Parallel Sessions

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**09:20 – 10:35**

**Parallel Session I (a): Digital Finance, Fintech & Economic Risk**

*Venue: Conference hall*

*Chair: TBC*

**LITERACY-WEIGHTED EXPECTATIONS AND POLICY TRANSMISSION: EVIDENCE FROM ALBANIA**

Ami Hoxha

Epoka University, Albania

**FEDERATED CREDIT SCORING WITH DIFFERENTIAL PRIVACY**

Stin Arifi

Epoka University, Albania

**THE IMPACT OF FINTECH ON FINANCIAL INCLUSION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

Vikena Mera

Epoka University, Albania

**DRIVERS OF CREDIT CARD DEFAULT**

Mei Zhuzhi

Epoka University, Albania

**CASHLESS ALBANIA 2030**

Ridlei Liçi

Epoka University, Albania

**DETERMINANTS OF HOUSING PRICES ACROSS U.S. STATES**

Bediana Rrika

Epoka University, Albania

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**09:20 – 10:35**

**Parallel Session I (b): Digital Business Transformation, Analytics & Organizational Performance**

*Venue: Eagle Meeting Room*

*Chair: TBC*

**BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE TOOLS AND DECISION-MAKING**

Klea Doci

Epoka University, Albania

**DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION IN TOURISM SMES**

Melina Myrtollari

Epoka University, Albania

## DATA VISUALIZATION AND BUSINESS DECISION QUALITY

Vanessa Konjari  
Epoka University, Albania

## DATA ANALYTICS IN ALBANIAN SMES

Dea Laci  
Epoka University, Albania

## ORGANIZATIONAL READINESS IN SME DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Ester Tollozhina  
Epoka University, Albania

## REMOTE WORK AND EMPLOYEE PRODUCTIVITY

Stela Gabeta  
Epoka University, Albania

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**09:20 – 10:35**

### **Parallel Session I (c): AI, Machine Learning & Intelligent Systems**

*Venue: Diversity Meeting Room*

*Chair: TBC*

#### **DYNAMIC AIRLINE PRICING OPTIMIZATION USING REINFORCEMENT LEARNING**

Serena Korbi  
Epoka University, Albania

#### **DEEP LEARNING TECHNIQUES FOR VIDEO-BASED SECURITY SYSTEMS**

Flavja Llukaj  
Epoka University, Albania

#### **WEAKLY SUPERVISED IMAGE CLASSIFICATION USING MULTIPLE INSTANCE LEARNING**

Ajlin Hoxha  
Epoka University, Albania

#### **AI ADOPTION IN GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS**

Izabela Lako  
Epoka University, Albania

#### **AI CHATBOT FOR EPOKA UNIVERSITY**

Kejtlin Bushi  
Epoka University, Albania

#### **DEFI MONEY LAUNDERING DETECTION USING GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS**

Endri Hysaj  
Epoka University, Albania

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**10:40 – 11:00**

**Coffee Break**

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**11:05 – 12:40**

### **Parallel Session II (a): Consumer Behavior, Digital Experience & Service Innovation**

*Venue: Conference hall*

*Chair: TBC*

**ALGORITHMIC INFLUENCE ON CONSUMER DECISION-MAKING**

Ema Sadiku  
Epoka University, Albania

**AI CHATBOTS IN TRAVEL CUSTOMER SERVICE**

Elsa Beqiri  
Epoka University, Albania

**AI CHATBOTS IN ALBANIAN E-COMMERCE**

Eldrina Çela  
Epoka University, Albania

**INNOVATION, SECURITY AND TRUST IN E-COMMERCE IN ALBANIA**

Roena Vrana  
Epoka University, Albania

**MOBILE TELECOMMUNICATIONS APPLICATIONS AND CONSUMER BEHAVIOR**

Inis Roboci  
Epoka University, Albania

**DIGITAL COMMUNICATION AND SUSTAINABLE CONSUMER BEHAVIOR**

Kateryna Tarabanovska  
Epoka University, Albania

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**11:05 – 12:40**

**Parallel Session II (b): Digital Governance, Education, Cybersecurity & Society**

*Venue: Eagle Meeting Room*

*Chair: TBC*

**INSTITUTIONAL TRUST, EU ACCESSION OPTIMISM AND DIGITAL INCLUSION**

Inva Hasani  
Epoka University, Albania

**CYBERSECURITY GOVERNANCE IN ALBANIAN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS**

Samuel Osmani  
Epoka University, Albania

**MOBILE LEARNING ADOPTION IN ALBANIA**

Altea Janopullo  
Epoka University, Albania

**AI, TASK EXPOSURE AND WAGE POLARIZATION**

Briana Vathi  
Epoka University, Albania

**TECHNOLOGY AND INCLUSION IN EDUCATION**

Fabjola Gjata  
Epoka University, Albania

**CYBERSECURITY AND DIGITAL PAYMENT ADOPTION**

Klea Mersinllari  
Epoka University, Albania

**SMART CAMPUS RESOURCE ALLOCATION**

Olgesa Profka  
Epoka University, Albania

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**11:05 – 12:40**

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## **Parallel Session II (c): Sustainability, Circular Economy & Institutional Transformation**

*Venue: Diversity Meeting Room*

*Chair: TBC*

### **CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN SMES**

*Erma Nasufi*

Epoka University, Albania

### **ESG STRATEGIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION QUALITY MANAGEMENT**

*Nerilda Hamza*

Epoka University, Albania

### **INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PERFORMANCE**

*Amanda Markeci*

Epoka University, Albania

### **POSTHARVEST LOSS MANAGEMENT IN SUPPLY CHAINS**

*Deni Huqi*

Epoka University, Albania

### **CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE AS COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE**

*Xhoana Braçi*

Epoka University, Albania

### **GROWTH MINDSET AND INNOVATION IN SMES**

*Majda Mali*

Epoka University, Albania

### **SMART CITIES AND SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

*Kloe Sinaj*

Epoka University, Albania

### **DIGITAL CAPACITY GAP AND SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT**

*Stiv Karabeci*

Epoka University, Albania

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**12:45 – 13:15**

### **Closing Ceremony**

*Venue: Conference Hall*

Closing Remarks

Jury Recognition

Certificates

Group Photo