



5th International Conference

Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Regional Development - EIRD 2017

Smart Growth of the Local Community in the Global World

June 29-30, 2017 in Ventspils, Latvia

SECOND CALL FOR PAPERS

Welcome to the 5th EIRD conference- a venue to foster entrepreneurship research in the Baltic countries and beyond in the context of the New Europe!

Conference is organized by universities and business schools from 3 Baltic countries: *Stockholm School of Economics in Riga, RISEBA University of Business, Arts and Technology and Ventspils University College (Latvia), University of Tartu and Tallinn University of Technology (Estonia), Kaunas University of Technology and ISM University of Management and Economics (Lithuania)*. **EIRD 2017 conference is hosted by Ventspils University College in Ventspils, Latvia** and is co-organised with the European Council for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (ECSB).

EIRD traditionally will focus on investigating the relationships between entrepreneurship, innovation and regional development. The aim is to explore these issues both theoretically and practically. We also welcome contributions that deal with social inclusion as well as economic development issues. 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.

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, including in a regional context. However, we are particularly keen to receive papers that focus on **smart entrepreneurship, innovation and regional development**. Specific issues include:

- SMEs and innovation systems, with particular reference to regions of low population and business density;
- Entrepreneurship and value creation;

- Linkages between foreign direct investment and SME development;
- Comparing different approaches to the promotion of economic development in peripheral regions;
- Entrepreneurship in the informal economy;
- 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 organizers 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 up to 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 peer reviewed, indexed academic journals (to be announced)

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Dr. Besnik Krasniqi, Staffordshire University (UK), University of Prishtina, Kosovo,
Institutional drivers of high quality entrepreneurship.

Muzaffar Khan, Entrepreneur, Philanthropist, Author, Investor and Film Producer,
Investments for developing SMEs in the regions.

DEADLINES

- Abstracts should be submitted by the **31th of March 2017**.
- Notification of acceptance, including reviewer's comments, will be forwarded to authors by the **17th of April 2017**.
- Full papers are expected by the **15st of May 2017**.
- Registration deadline is **2nd of May 2017**.
- Deadline for the payment of the participation fee is **1st of June 2017**.

Abstracts and papers are welcome to the e-mail: santa.kalvane@venta.lv

FEES

The conference fee is **150 EUR (85 EUR for PhD students)**. This fee covers lunches, coffee breaks and conference materials.

Method of payment - money transfer to the bank account.

Receiver of money: Ventspils University College

Name of the bank: Valsts kase

Account No. (IBAN): LV23TREL9150140000000

SWIFT: TREL LV22

Purpose of payment: 21399, Registration fee for the 5th International Scientific Conference "Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Regional Development - EIRD 2017".

DOCTORAL PRE-CONFERENCE

The Conference offers doctoral students a forum to discuss their research findings and ideas with their peers. On June 29, 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 Dr. Liene Resele, e-mail: Liene.Resele@venta.lv by **April 13, 2017**.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Prof. **Kestutis Duoba** – Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania
Dr. **Kārlis Krēsliņš** - Ventspils University College, Latvia
Prof. **Tonis Mets** - University of Tartu, School of Economics and Business Administration, Estonia
Dr. **Modestas Geulbūda** - ISM University of Management and Economics, Lithuania
Dr. **Arnis Sauka** - Stockholm School of Economics in Riga
Prof. **David Smallbone** - Kingston University, U.K.
Dr. **Tatjana Vasiljeva** - RISEBA University of Business, Arts and Technology
Prof. **Urve Venesaar** - Tallinn University of Technology, Tallinn School of Economics and Business Administration, Estonia

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Dr. Kārlis Krēsliņš (chairman)
Santa Kalvāne: E-mail: santa.kalvane@venta.lv
Dace Štefenberga

VENUE

The 5th EIRD 2017 will take place in Ventspils University College at its 20th anniversary year. We are located in Ventspils- wonderful city with wide range of entertainment options including beautiful beach, which has been flying the Blue Flag.

More about Ventspils: <http://www.visitventspils.com/en/start/>

The reception and dinner is planned in the Castle of the Livonian order, built in the second half of the 13th century: <http://muzejs.ventspils.lv/en/the-castle-of-the-livonian-order/>

Latvia is located in north-eastern Europe at the shores of the Baltic Sea and is one of the three Baltic States.

Latvia has an 1862 km long border. To the north Latvia borders with Estonia (343 km), in the east with Russia (282 km), in the south-east with Belarus (167 km) and in the south with Lithuania (576 km). The country also has a 494 km long sea border.

More about Latvia: <http://www.visitlatvia.lv/>

ACCOMMODATION AND TRANSPORTATION

You can find the corresponding information about accommodation at Ventspils web site: <http://www.ventspils.lv/ENG/4Viesi/7Naksmitnes/frontpage.htm>

Participants are responsible for their own transportation to and from Ventspils, Latvia and hotel costs.

To get to Ventspils you should first travel to Riga, the capital city of Latvia, Riga International Airport. Riga International Airport is located 13 kilometers from the city centre. Taxi should cost approximately 15 EUR, we recommend to take green Airbaltic taxi.

There are also regular bus connections from the airport to the city centre: please take bus No 22 (<http://www.rigaairport.com/en>)

Ventspils is located 190 km from Riga. The most convenient way to get to Ventspils is **by bus** from Riga Bus Station. Please see the bus schedule (<http://www.autoosta.lv/?lang=en>) and allow approximately 2.5-3 hours for the trip.

Transportation from Riga to Ventspils is also possible **by car** <http://www.rentalcars.com/en/city/lv/riga/>.

CONTACTS

Santa Kalvāne, santa.kalvane@venta.lv, Phone: 371-63629657

Conference webpage, Registration form and Preliminary agenda: <http://venta.lv/en/research/centre-for-entrepreneurship-innovation-and-regional-development/roundtable-discussion-series/>

We are looking forward to see you in Ventspils, Latvia!

