

Conference Call

**Empowerment Entrepreneurship:
How Entrepreneurs & Stakeholders Can
Build a Sustainable Future**
12th International Conference

**2 – 5 September 2024
Albena, Varna, Bulgaria**

organized by

Bulgarian Association for Management Development
and Entrepreneurship

Institute of Entrepreneurship and Chair of Entrepreneurship,

University of National and World Economy, Sofia

Economic Research Institute at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

University of Economics – Varna

in partnership with

European Council for Small Business and Entrepreneurship

The Conference



Mission of the Conference

The Conference's mission is to bring together professionals in the field of entrepreneurship, from research, teaching, practice and policy-making to exchange opinions, problems and good practice in entrepreneurship and management to respond to the challenges of sustainable development in a changing world.

Who should attend this conference?

- Researchers
- Teachers/trainers
- Doctoral students/students
- Entrepreneurs/managers
- Consultants
- Policy-makers

Topics

General (panel) and specific (in sessions) topics will be discussed during the Conference. Among them will be:

- *Entrepreneurship and the UN's SDGs*
- *Stakeholders in achieving SDGs through entrepreneurship*
- *The roles of entrepreneurs and intrapreneurs in achieving SDGs*
- *The entrepreneurial ecosystem for the achievement of the SDGs*
- *The roles of government and non-government organisations in support of entrepreneurship to achieve SDGs*
- *Agripreneurship and SDGs*
- *Innovations, technology and infrastructure advances in entrepreneurial practice (in transformative economy) aimed at achieving SDGs*
- *The impact of funds and financial institutions on achieving SDGs through entrepreneurship*
- *Management and measuring the process of achievement of GDGs*
- *Entrepreneurship and management education and training in response to achievement of SDGs*

The above subtopics are indicative. The participants could also prepare presentations in close or interdisciplinary areas.

In the frame of the conference there will be organised:

- **Round table:** How to make a bridge between scientists/trainers and practitioners: discussions, real cases analyses, recommendations.
- **Workshop:** *How to prepare a paper for EURAM Conference – SIG Entrepreneurship.* Led by Diego Matricano, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Department of Management, Università degli Studi della Campania "L. Vanvitelli", Chair of SIG Entrepreneurship @ EURAM Conference.

Like previous conferences the best papers will be published by renowned publishing houses (as a book, or papers in journals).¹

The rest of the papers presented at the conference will be published in Conference Proceedings book.

¹ For example, Edward Elgar Publishing, IGI Global, International Review of Entrepreneurship, etc.

The Advisory Committee

Ken O'Neill (*Ulster University, United Kingdom*), Alain Fayolle (*IDRAC Business School, France and CREA University of Cagliari, Italy; Visiting Professor at Turku School of Economics, Finland*), J. Hanns Pichler (*Austrian Institute for SMEs Research, Austria*), Andrew Burke (*Trinity Business School, Trinity College Dublin, Founding Editor of the International Review of Entrepreneurship*), Raymond Saner (*Centre for Socio-Eco-Nomic Development, Switzerland*), Herbert Chen (*Tsinghua University Science Park, Beijing, China*), Tadeusz Popławski (*Technical University of Białystok, Poland*), László Vasa (*Széchenyi István University, Hungary*), Irina Kuzmina (*Transport and Telecommunication Institute, Riga, Latvia*), Renaud Redien-Collot (*ISC Research Lab, France*), Rodrigo Varela (*Universidad Icesi, Colombia*)

The Keynote Speakers

Professor **Dylan Jones-Evans**, OBE, Founder, UK Fast Growth 50 Index and the National Startup Awards

Professor **Raymond Saner**, Ph.D., International Relations & International Management University of Basle, Switzerland

Professor **Lichia Saner-Yiu**, Co-Founder and President of the Centre for Socio-Eco-Nomic Development (CSEND), Genève, Switzerland, Taiwan, A UN ECOSOC accredited think tank with Special Consultative Status

Professor **Diego Matricano**, Ph.D., Department of Management, Università degli Studi della Campania "L. Vanvitelli", Chair of SIG Entrepreneurship @ EURAM Conference

Mr. **Aurel Laurențiu Plosceanu**, EESC Vice-President for Communication

Professor **Milena Angelova**, Ph.D., SME Envoy of Bulgaria, SME Envoys Network, DG GROW, on behalf of the Ministry of Economy and Industry, Secretary-General, Bulgarian Industrial Capital Association

Awards

There will be the Kiril Todorov Best Paper Award competition – 1200 euro prize.

A Second Award of selected collection of Bulgarian wines will be granted to the next best presentation.

A special prize for best dancing couple will be also given. ☺

Abstracts and papers submissions

One-page abstracts giving a clear indication of the contribution to a sub-topic are expected by 15 June 2024 (extended deadline). Feedback from the organising committee will be notified one week later. Full papers (maximum 15 pages) are expected by 23 August 2024.

Organising Bodies

Bulgarian Association for Management Development and Entrepreneurship (BAMDE)

BAMDE (est.1997) is a leading organisation in the field of management and entrepreneurship training and development in Bulgaria. BAMDE brings together the most renowned Bulgarian universities such as University of National and World Economy, University of Economics – Varna and Dimitar A. Tsenov Academy of Economics – Svishtov, research and training institutions, promotes and safeguards the quality of trainers and training programmes. It acts as a national platform for professional management and entrepreneurship development in Bulgaria in relation to international standards and best practice. The association originated with a programme for business successors in family firms – and is now at the stage of internationalisation. BAMDE is a holder of an award for best practice in entrepreneurship training, recognized by EFMD.

Institute of Entrepreneurship and Chair of Entrepreneurship, Business Faculty, University of the National and World Economy (UNWE)

The Institute of Entrepreneurship (est. 2017 according the new Law for Higher Education) is the successor to the Institute for Entrepreneurship Development (est. 1997) – the pioneer in research and consulting in the field of entrepreneurship and SMEs in Bulgaria. The research results from the Institute’s activities are used directly in the teaching and training processes and practices.

The main research interests of the members of the Institute are in: creating and managing a new business, strategic management and entrepreneurial growth of SMEs, social entrepreneurship, entrepreneurial culture, clusters, sub-contractors and entrepreneurial business networks and economic cybernetics. The Institute has developed a strong network embracing similar institutes and departments at universities from different countries.

The Chair of Entrepreneurship (est. 2006) was created to provide methodically the teaching process in entrepreneurship at the UNWE in order to build highly skilled entrepreneurs and managers in a dynamic business environment – including internationally and multiculturally.

The Chair leads a Major in Entrepreneurship (being among the first in Europe to offer Bachelor Degree programmes in Entrepreneurship) and Master’s Degrees programme in Business Entrepreneurship, Ecological Entrepreneurship and Digital Start Up Business.

Economic Research Institute at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

The Economic Research Institute at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences is a national institution. It supports the economic development and the implementation of economic reforms in Bulgaria through scientific studies, evaluations and suggestions for economic policy and education of highly qualified specialists and researchers. To realize more successfully its mission in the new conditions, the Institute has engaged in a re-evaluation of the priorities of its research activity. Their programme conforms to the priorities for prospective development of the country, Bulgaria’s full membership of the European Union, and the potential of the scientists in the Institute.

As a result of the input efforts for restructuring and development, the Economic Research Institute at BAS has well-trained specialists. Many of their specialists have worked in acknowledged academic centers in the EU and USA. They have gathered experience in scientific and applied studies on contemporary economic problems, including through active participation in international research projects. The program for training Ph.D. students is oriented towards the world standards. The Institute has a strong scientific and information infrastructure, adhering to contemporary standards.

University of Economics – Varna

Within its century-long history University of Economics – Varna has provided valuable training to hundreds of thousands professionals specializing in economics, including many international students from over 60 countries. The University has been this country’s major pillar of economics education and research, developing as an entrepreneurial and socially responsible organisation.

University of Economics – Varna provides a choice of 26 accredited undergraduate and 25 master degree programmes programmes in four professional fields: Economics, Administration and Management, Tourism, and IT and Computer Science.

The University of Economics – Varna Research Institute incorporates six research and consulting centres that complete a huge range of projects.

University of Economics – Varna is proud of its centennial legacy, gaining further recognition among European universities with its high-quality education, knowledgeable and competent members of faculty, and European curricula. This university is one of the best HEIs internationally in terms of its strategic partnerships, the percentage of students who graduate within a standard period of studies, and in terms of student mobility involvement.

Our Partner

European Council for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (ECSB)

The European Council for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (ECSB) is a non-profit organization whose main objective is to advance the understanding of entrepreneurship and to improve the competitiveness of SMEs in Europe. ECSB facilitates the creation and distribution of new knowledge through research, education and the open exchange of ideas between professions and across national and cultural borders.

The network of ECSB's members covers over 30 countries across Europe and has extensive connections to the global academic and professional small business community.

Organising Committee

Mitko Dimitrov – *Economic Research Institute at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences,
Chairman, Bulgarian Association for Management Development and Entrepreneurship;*

Evgeni Stanimirov – *Rector, University of Economics – Varna*

Kostadin Kolarov – *Director, Institute of Entrepreneurship, Head, Chair of Entrepreneurship,
University of National and World Economy, Sofia*

Ken O'Neill – *University of Ulster, United Kingdom*

Paolo Zaramella – *Consulenza Direzionale di Paolo Zaramella, Italy*

Atanas Damyanov – *International Business School, Botevgrad*

Zhelyu Vladimirov – *St. Clement of Ohrid University of Sofia*

Svetoslav Dimkow – *Technical University of Sofia*

Maria Vasilka – *Conference Coordinator, University of National and World Economy, Sofia*

The Conference Team

Conference Chair: Mitko Dimitrov

Conference Team: Kostadin Kolarov, Maria Vasilka, Diana Dimitrova,
Nedyalko Nestorov

If there are any questions in order to plan your visit,
please contact the Conference Secretariat:

Conference Secretariat

*Institute of Entrepreneurship,
University of National and World Economy
1, 8th December Blvd.,
Hristo Botev Students Town,
1700 Sofia, Bulgaria
phone: (+359 2) 8195545
mobile: (+359 88) 8738132
e-mail: kkolarov@unwe.bg*

Alternative Contact

*Bulgarian Association for Management
Development and Entrepreneurship
10, Acad. Jacques Nathan Str., app. 506,
Studentski District,
1700 Sofia, Bulgaria
phone: (+359 88) 9284274
e-mail: conference@bamde.org
web: conference.bamde.org*

Preliminary Conference Schedule



We will provide you with actual and more detailed information about the timetable (especially about the timing of your presentation) via e-mail and fax and, of course, before your arrival. In the meantime, please look at conference Internet web site <http://conference.bamde.org>, which is up-dated regularly to get the latest news about the conference.

Monday – 2 September 2024

Afternoon	Depending on demand: <i>Social programme (for those who arrive early and like to join us)</i>
18.00 – 20.00	Registration
20.00 – 22.30	Welcome Reception

Tuesday – 3 September 2024

8.00 – 9.00	Registration
9.00 – 9.30	Opening Ceremony
9.30 – 10.30	Plenary session – Keynote speeches Professor Dylan Jones-Evans, OBE, PhD <i>Empowered Entrepreneurship – engaging the innovation ecosystem to build a sustainable future</i> Professor Raymond Saner, PhD <i>Business Diplomacy for SDG implementation through intra-and external entrepreneurship</i>
10.30 – 11.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.00 – 13.00	Plenary session – <i>continuation</i> Professor Lichia Saner-Yiu, D.Ed. <i>Sustainability & Global Supply Chain</i> Professor Diego Matricano, PhD <i>Entrepreneurship and the Sustainable Development Goals: the role of individuals, stakeholders, and context</i> Mr. Aurel Laurențiu Plosceanu <i>The Role of EESC in Support of Sustainable Development</i> Professor Milena Angelova, PhD <i>Modern Business Responsibility: Enabling SMEs Transition to Sustainability</i>
13.00 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00 – 15.30	Parallel Sessions
15.30 – 16.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16.00 – 17.30	Parallel Sessions

17.30 – 18.00	Discussions
20.00 – 23.00	<i>Folklore dinner</i>

Wednesday – 4 September 2024

9.00 – 10.30	Parallel Sessions
10.30 – 11.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.00 – 13.00	Parallel Sessions
13.00 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00 – 16.00	Round Table ‘Science – Practice’, led by Dr. Paolo Zaramella Workshop: <i>How to get published in renowned international journals; the do's and don'ts.</i> led by Prof. Diego Matricano
15.30 – 19.00	<i>Social Programme</i>
20.00 – ?	<i>Gala Dinner</i>

Thursday – 5 September 2024

9.30 – 10.30	Parallel Sessions
10.30 – 11.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.00 – 12.00	Parallel Sessions
12.00 – 13.00	Closing and Best Paper Award Ceremony Official Closing of the Conference
13.00 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00 – 18.00	Visiting educational institutions and companies. Social programme
20.00 –	<i>Unformal Dinner (optional). Networking (for those who stay longer)</i>

Friday – 6 September 2024

Visiting cultural heritage sights
Partnership meetings

Post-conference Programme

For the participants with a longer stay pre-(post)-conference programmes will be offered.

Accompanying Persons

Persons who have paid fee as spouses and non-professional friends of conference participants are welcomed to attend the pre-conference reception, the social programme (specially designed for them) and the Gala Dinner of the conference.

At the Conference Registration Desk we will provide information about the local attractions and possible tours and visits to spend the time during conference sessions. You can meet there to make plans for your day together with others, if you like.

Practical Details



Conference Venue

The Conference will be held in Flamingo Grand Hotel and SPA in the Albena resort on the Black Sea coast, Bulgaria. Albena is one of the most beautiful seaside resorts in Bulgaria. Albena is the place where the sea meets the sand. The beach is one of the most beautiful features of Albena which takes great pride in its clean coast and water and its finest silky sand. One of the best beaches in Europe, it is more than 6 km long and 150 m wide. The gentle incline of the shore, the shallow caressing waters and the variety of water sports, attractions and playgrounds make Albena a favourite spot for all ages.



Albena is situated only 30 km away from Bulgaria's sea capital of Varna.

Varna International Airport is opened all year round offering scheduled and charter flights to over 35 destinations.

Other attractions

Interesting places to visit in Varna: the 100-year-old Aquarium, the Dolphinarium, the first Space Centre in Bulgaria, and the Archaeological Museum, famous for the exhibition of the oldest processed gold in the world discovered in Varna Eneolithic Necropolis. Along the road to Varna, you can see the famous rock monastery called Aladzha Monastery.

Within a radius of 50 km (30 min to 1 h by car) you can visit: the town of Balchik where the famous Botanic Garden is located (the second largest European cactus exhibition); Kavarna town – the so-called “rock music capital” of Bulgaria; Kaliakra cape – a natural and archaeological reserve and recently a famous golf-tourism spot; the nearby Dalboka area – popular for its mussels farm; and Bolata area – a 6-km-long canyon with rare flora and fauna and numerous caves; Yaylata – an archaeological reserve where a cave town dating to 5000 BC has been discovered; Kamchia semi-tropical biosphere reserve, and others.

Accommodation

The Organising Committee has reserved special rates accommodation for conference participants in the Flamingo Grand Hotel and SPA in the Albena resort.



Situated in the heart of the resort, the five-star hotel offers exceptional facilities and impeccable services. Designed with love and deep care for the nature, Flamingo Grand offers modern and stylish studios and apartments, ideal for those seeking a high standard of accommodation. The hotel has several swimming pools, lounge with sea views. The SPA centre is designed to tempt, pamper and rejuvenate the body and soul, offering a world class service.

Smoking is not allowed in the hotel.

Hotels	Type of accommodation	
	Single occupancy	Double occupancy
Flamingo Grand 5 Star Hotel	82 euro	126 euro

* Rates are per room per night and include breakfast, one buffet meal (drinks not included), and city tax.

Very few deviations of room prices are possible due to differences in rooms features.

To book a room, please contact our tour agent – Ms. Pravda Ivanova, E-Tours Ltd., phone: +359 58 655 622; fax: +359 58 605 760; e-mail: info@e-tours.bg with a copy of your e-mail to conference@bamde.org referring 'BAMDE Conference'.

The reservation is considered confirmed after payment of 100% of the value. Cancellations without penalty are possible up to 14 days before check-in.

How to get the Conference Venue

- By direct regular or chartered (tourist) flights to Varna Airport (30 km to the venue) or via Sofia Airport using domestic flights Sofia – Varna – Sofia. Many airlines have regular flights to and from Varna.
- By car (you could follow E-80 – Vienna – Zagreb – Belgrade – Sofia – Varna – Albena (you can choose Sofia – Varna via Veliko Tarnovo (north Bulgaria) or via Burgas to enjoy Sofia – Burgas motorway and then the picturesque road Burgas – Varna – Albena).

We are at disposition to help in your travel plans and air ticket reservation if necessary.

Transportation

In order to facilitate your arrival at Albena resort (the conference venue), a car service will operate from the Varna Airport (or Burgas Airport) and the official hotel. It will be arranged individually according to your request and flights details stated in your registration form. The

transportation details will be given upon individual request. Taxi from the Varna Airport to the conference venue is another option but it is more expensive.

Registration

The Bulgarian Association for Management Development and Entrepreneurship (BAMDE) is responsible for registration. Please send your Registration Form (after approving abstract) to the given address.

Registered participants check in at the Conference Office at the Flamingo Grand Hotel (Conference Venue) on 2 September, 18.00 – 19.00, or on 3 September, 8.00 – 9.00, before the Opening Ceremony. There you will get your conference documents, badges, and vouchers for the lunches, dinners and social programme as well as information about the conference timetable. For those who arrive earlier, a separate program will be offered.

Timetable and deadlines

Abstract Submission extended deadline – before 10 June 2024, if not yet submitted

Confirmation of Abstract Acceptance – one week after abstract submission

Early Registration – before 15 July 2024

Conference Opens – 2 September 2024

Conference Closes Officially – 5 September 2024

Deadline for receipt of conference papers – 23 August 2024

Conference Fees

• Registration Fee	before 15 July 2024	after 15 July 2024
Active participants (academia)	☐ € 430	☐ € 490
Doctoral students	☐ € 320	☐ € 380
Entrepreneurs (passive participants)	☐ € 430	☐ € 490
Non-EU CEE participants*	☐ € 320	☐ € 380
Accompanying persons	☐ € 200	☐ € 240
ECSB Members enjoy reduction of 10%		

* CEE participants – participants from a Central and Eastern European countries.

Participants who have registered and paid the full fee are entitled to:

- Full participation in the conference
- Conference documentation
- Tea and coffee breaks
- Admission to conference reception, folklore dinner, Gala dinner, and the closing ceremony of the conference
- Inclusion in the Kiril Todorov best paper award competition – 1200 euro prize
- Conference proceedings and other publications

Those who have paid the accompanying person fee are welcome to attend the pre-conference reception, the social programme (specially designed for them) and the closing ceremony of the conference.

Payment

The **Registration fee** should be prepaid by bank transfer in Euro (net of bank charges) to

Bank name: DSK Bank, Moskovska Private Banking Zone

Address: 19, Moskovska Str., Sofia, Bulgaria

SWIFT: STSABGSF

IBAN: BG63 STSA 9300 0027 8181 68

Beneficiary: Bulgarian Association for Management Development and Entrepreneurship (BAMDE)

* Please indicate correctly the **name of the participant** and the purpose of payment „**BAMDE Conference**”

Bulgarian Association for Management Development and Entrepreneurship

10, Acad. Jacques Nathan Street, app. 506, Studentski District, 1700 Sofia, Bulgaria

e-mail: conference@bamde.org

Exceptionally, the fee can be paid on spot or by credit card (in agreement with the organizers).

Acknowledgement of Registration

Your registration will be acknowledged in writing with confirmation of your requirements according to your registration form as soon as we have received your registration form and payment. If you have not received a confirmation letter (because of late application), please bring a copy of your application together with proof of payment.

Cancellation

All cancellations of **Registration** should be sent in written to BAMDE by 17 August 2024. For cancellations received by 17 August 2024, the 50% of the Registration fee will be reimbursed, less the bank charges incurred. In case of cancellation after 17 August 2023, no reimbursement will occur.

Letter of Invitation

The Conference Secretariat will send letters of invitation on request.

Certificate of Attendance

A Certificate of Attendance will be available on request at the registration desk on the last day of the conference.

Entrance to Conference

Each member of the conference will receive a name badge on registration. You are kindly requested to wear the badge throughout the Conference to obtain entry to all sessions, meals and social programme. We also ask you to pose your personal name sign on the table at all sessions.

Official Language

The official language for the Conference is English. Presentations are to be held in English and the papers in the proceedings will be published in English.

Dress

Dress at such conferences is usually casual. See also general information about Bulgaria and weather. The weather is normally sunny, and the temperature is about 24-25 °C, but evenings sometimes are cooler. The temperature of Black Sea water is about 21-23 °C – pleasant for swimming. Hot mineral water pools are also available at the conference hotel.

Insurance

Registration fees do not include insurance of any kind. The Conference Secretariats cannot accept liability for personal injuries sustained, or for lost or damage of property belonging to conference participants, either during or subsequent to the conference. You are kindly requested to check the validity of your own insurance before leaving for Bulgaria.

Passports and Visas

A valid passport is required. No Visas are required for visitors from most European countries in order to enter Bulgaria. However, it is advisable to contact your travel agent or the nearest Bulgarian Embassy or Consulate. Otherwise, you can buy the compulsory visa on the border, but it will cost you about twice as much as from the Bulgarian Embassy in your own country. If necessary, we will provide a letter of invitation.