

DSSH/ASD DITËT E STUDIMEVE SHQIPTARE / 2017

albanian studies days / journées d'études albanais UET / 28-29 April 2017

Topic: "RE-ENGINEERING REFORMS FOR A NEW MODEL OF ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT"

Konferencë ndërkombëtare shkencore / International scientific conference









CALL FOR PAPERS









DSSH / ASD 2017 Studying Albania – economy, politics, social development, future perspective

Ibanian Studies Days, in their fourth successive session in 2017, will have a special viewpoint and focus. Within their objective and philosophy as a festival of ideas, discussions and scientific studies, the coming ASD session will be dedicated to the "Study of Albania - economy, politics, social development, and future perspective." In a series of activities, scientific conferences, round tables, journal publications, book promotions, various exhibitions and the like, Albanian current and future concerns, issues and challenges will be considered through analytical academic and scientific lenses in order to highlight key achievements but also point out missed opportunities. Being aware of the opportunities and obstacles our reality presents before us, we are better positioned to make proposals for the future so that we foster a sustainable economy, our democracy and politics become effective and functional for our integration, and our social development reflects equality, welfare, encouragement, hope and modernity.









DSSH / ASD BRIEF GUIDE TO ALBANIAN STUDIES DAYS

WHY ASD?: Albanian Studies Days is a series of scientific conferences designed with a "peer review" system and focused on discussions about important issues related to Albanian society, ranging from economy, history, media, to legal system, political institutions, public policies, and on to development of education and its impact on social development.

PARTICIPANTS:

- a. Foreign scholars whose doctoral works and scientific studies focus on Albania.
- b. Albanian professors, who have provided their contribution to Western universities since 1990s or earlier, whose work still focuses on Albania.
- c. Foreign PhD candidates whose doctorate thesis is about Albania.
- d. Albanian PhD candidates at Western universities whose doctorate thesis is related to Albania or the region.
- e. UET PhD candidates who benefit from their contact with the relevant scientific community.
- f. ASD is the key scientific activity for all eight UET Departments, for UET academic staff as well as for the best UET scientific master students.

TIME: This activity is held at the end of April on an annual basis and it is divided into seven panels related to respective UET Research Projects and relevant topics approved by the scientific conference committees.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: The activity also includes a number of other events (see extraconference program) related to crucial elements for scientific product and life, such as; book promotions and their ensuing discussions, documentaries and photo exhibitions featuring pressing concerns in Albanian society.

Welcome to Albanian Studies Days!



Plenary session: Tirana International Hotel (TBD) Work sessions: UET premises

A. CONFERENCE DESCRIPTION

In the last decade, the country has straggled to reform institutions and lay the ground for faster and smart economic and social development. However, many reports and investigations conclude that reforms have stalemated and their impact almost negligible. In some respect of business environment, there has been almost no progress, and in some cases even a negative set back of reforms. Political environment remains still highly politicized and reaching compromises for long term economic and social reforms is still far from what requires a functional democracy. Social and economic developments remain highly problematic.

The research agenda of the conference will be broad, covering all the dimensions of the reform: political systems in the context of recent debates on constitutional reforms; social mobility, migration and security; economic and business environment and stimulating entrepreneurial spirit; innovative polices in the context of a developing open market economy; new technologies and productivity change in the new economy, etc.

The purpose will be to review and analyze the progress made and try to quantify impact of different reform measures; offer comparative perspective of different policy reforms and contextualize in the nature of peculiarities of our country; offer some policy lessons for the future course of policy reforms needed by the country.

B. SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Prof. Andrzej Kraslawski, Professor of Systems Engineering at Lappeenranta University of Technology (TBC)

Prof. Vassilis A. Hajivassiliou, Associate Professor (Reader) of Economics, London School of Economics (TBC)

Prof. Paul G. Nixon, Senior Lecturer of Political Science at the Hague University of Applied Sciences, the Netherlands (TBC)

Prof. Nico Carpentier. Professor at the Department of Informatics and Media of Uppsala University (TBC)

Prof. Miro Hacek, Professor at the Department of Political Science, University of Ljubljana (TBC)

Prof. Edmond Hairizi, Rector, Kolegii UBT

Prof. Adrian Civici, European University of Tirana

Prof. Tonin Gjuraj, European University of Tirana

Prof. Ferit Duka, European University of Tirana

Prof. Luljeta Minxhozi, European University of Tirana

Prof. Romeo Gurakuqi, European University of Tirana

Prof. Tomi Treska, European University of Tirana

Prof. Ksenofon Krisafi, European University of Tirana

Prof. Engjëll Pere, European University of Tirana

Prof. Selami Xhepa, European University of Tirana

Prof. Elvin Meka, European University of Tirana

c. ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Organizing Committee is composed of chairs of research projects and an assistant for each of seven research projects, who will be responsible for managing correspondence and documentation, upon instructions from the Project Chairs.

This Committee is responsible for preparation of the program of the respective panels and logistics.

Members of the organizing committee are:

- 1. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Selami Xhepa
- 2. Prof. Dr. Ferit Duka
- 3. Prof. Dr. Lulieta Minxhozi
- 4. Prof. Dr. Romeo Gurakugi
- 5. Prof. Dr. Engjell Pere
- 6. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Elvin Meka
- 7 Prof Asoc Dr Tomi Treska

D. CONFERENCE PANELS AND DISCUSSION THEMES

PANEL 1: "POLITICS, COMMUNICATION AND SOCIETY"

Chair - Prof. Dr. Ferit Duka

The panel will be dedicated to the main issues relating to the cultural developments and further democratization of the Albanian society gaining insight into the challenges and problems regarding the reformation of the political and judicial system, the struggle against corruption, the implementation of new technologies and practices of communication and the strengthening of the position and the role of Albania and Albanians in today international scene. Papers which can be relevant for submission at this panel should be focused on:

- Basic Elements by the cultural Model of Albanians: a diachronic Perspective
- New Features in the today's communicative Reality of Albanians in anthropological Point of View
- Transforming Culture, Politics & Communication: New Media, new Territories, new Discourses
- Democracy as a political Participation
- Political System in Albania versus the Necessity for Reformation
- Albania and the Albanians in Balkans and in Europe: Integration challenges
- Democracy and Media Development in Albania
- Political Communication and Public Relations Strategies
- Campaign Design and Management
- International Public Relations
- New Media: Use. Effects and new Ethics
- Popular Culture: Storytelling and Narration
- Cultural Studies: Religion, Literature, visual Culture, Communication and Politics in Times of Crisis and Change
- Environment and natural Resources as an Issue of Security
- Energetic Security: a Projection for the Future
- Human Rights, human Security and People's Well-being

The Panel Committee is composed of:

- 1. Prof. Dr. Ferit Duka
- 2. Prof. Dr. Përparim Fuga
- 3. Prof. Dr. Aleksandër Dhima
- 4. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Belina Budini
- 5. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Roland Lami



PANEL 2: "DEVELOPMENT THROUGH EDUCATION"

Chair - Prof. Asoc. Dr. Tomi Treska

This panel will mainly be focused, but not only, on the analysis of the Albanian (pre-university) education system, the roles of the stakeholders and their responsibilities for the designing of the educational policies and the implementation of those reforms in the education sector; strengthening qualitative methodology in teaching and learning and the impact of psychosocial factors in the development and individual education. Papers which can be relevant for submission at this panel should be focused on:

- Educational Policies, reforms and stakeholders;
- Models and methodology in teaching and learning;
- The impact of psychosocial factors in the development and individual education.

Panel Committee is composed of:

- 1. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Tomi Treska
- 2. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Edi Puka
- 3. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Erika Melonashi
- 4. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Voltisa Lama

PANEL 3: "LAW BETWEEN EFFICIENCY AND JUSTICE"

Chair - Prof. Asoc. Dr. Selami Xhepa

This panel will review the legal environment in Albania during the last decade and make comparisons with the different comparator groups, such as the Balkans, NEU countries and EU member states. Papers which can be relevant for submission at this panel should be focused on:

- transaction cost economics (TCE) and transactions cost of regulation (TCR);
- research measuring and costing the burden of business regulation in Albania or other countries;
- efficiency of court systems and impact on business and economy;
- competition law and competitive business practices;
- business models and legal differences;
- corporate governance, CSR and sustainability
- a comparative review of legal practices for business and stimulation of private enterprise

Panel Committee is composed of:

- 1. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Selami Xhepa
- 2. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Juelda Lamce
- 3. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Arlinda Ymeri
- 4. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Edi Spaho

PANEL 4: "LAW AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN TRANSFORMATION"

Chair: Prof. Dr. Romeo Gurakuqi

This panel will be focused on the reforming of the constitutional system. The main topic will be the Process of Transformation of the Parliamentary Republic with Figurehead President into the Parliamentary Republic with Corrective Powers of the President of the Republic, elected directly by the electorate.

This reform will be seen as part of the political transformation of the Albanian Republic, started by the judiciary reform, which is under way. In this contexts in the panel are welcome, the papers for the evaluation of this reformation system.

In the same time, other topics, related to the main topic, can be relevant for submission at this panel s:

- The Parliamentary Republic versus Semi Presidential Republic
- On the Bicameralism of the Albanian Parliament: How can be adapted, in a unitary state like Albania a bicameral parliament, compound by e Senate and a House of Representatives?
- The restoration of the administrative reform in the respect of traditional and historical districts, the equality and efficiency of local units and for the equality of the region representation in the Albanian Parliament;
- For a new law on the Political Parties: democratization and the internal institutionalization.
- On Amending the Electoral Code in the Republic of Albania

Panel Committee is composed of:

- 1. Prof. Dr. Romeo Gurakugi
- 2. Prof. Dr. Ksenofon Krisafi
- 3. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Elvis Iljazaj
- 4. Prof. Dr. Xhezair Zaganjori

PANEL 5: "THE NEW AGENDA OF GROWTH"

To achieve strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth over the longer term, we need to boost demand and identify new sources of growth through innovative development and structural reform.

This panel is focused in The New Agenda of Growth" so we might identify the following topics as the discussion area of the Conference:

Structural Reforms: as an important factor in promoting economic growth and innovative development. Deepening reform eliminates barriers to sustainable economic growth, allows the market to play a decisive role in allocating resources, improves the role of government, creates a conducive growth environment, and unleashes the full potential of productivity.

Innovative Growth Pillar: as a promotion of cooperation in science and innovation; facilitate innovation transfer, dissemination and commercialization of technology; share experience and knowledge; cultivate talents for innovation; strengthen innovation capacity; improve the environment for innovation; and pursue sustainable development.

Urbanization, we seek to identify new drivers of economic growth by pursuing urbanization and sustainable city development. We can organize forums, hold policy dialogues, and utilize international sister-cities programs to promote cooperation and share experiences on urbanization and sustainable city development. We will facilitate the use of existing resources for research and capacity building on urbanization.



Panel Committee is composed of:

- 1. Prof. Dr. Luljeta Minxhozi
- 2. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Ermela Kripa
- 3. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Endira Bushati
- 4. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Oltjana Zoto

PANEL 6: "RISK – THE GAME OF ALL PLAYERS"

Chair - Prof.Asoc.Dr. Elvin Meka

This panel will try to promote and feed discussions and arguments about the most striking challenges, the Albanian financial system, especially banking industry, is currently facing through times, especially following the sluggish economic development and growth during the last 8 years, and the fact that the Albanian financial system has arrived at an interchange station, where the road to financial deepening needs to start its construction. Such undertaking would create greater opportunities for banks to diversify their operations and for non-bank financial institutions, as new entrants, to compete with them and increase competition, as well as assist policy makers in fine tuning fiscal policies, by way of facilitating capital flow and long – term investments in particular sectors of economy, by using modern financial instruments and vehicles.

Papers which can be relevant for submission at this panel should be focused on:

- Developing private financial instruments and their respective markets and institutions,
- Problem loans and new ways to address and handle them,
- Competition within banking and financial sector,
- Mergers & acquisitions in banking industry,
- Issues in bank audit,
- Fiscal policy and taxation.

Panel Committee is composed of:

- 1. Prof. Dr. Adrian Civici
- 2. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Elvin Meka
- 3. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Arbi Agalliu
- 4. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Hysen Muceku

PANEL 7: "CONTEMPORARY MODELS OF SOCIAL - ECONOMIC ANALYSIS: FROM TRADITIONAL ANALYSIS TO BIG DATA SYSTEMS"

Basing on contemporary models, the panel intended to analyze in quantitative terms the social -economic developments in Albania, in macro as well as in microeconomic level. In this view, the focus of the panel will be also the application of these models in specific areas of firm's management, as marketing, human resource, planning, etc.

- Economic growth in econometric models.
- New directions in management: the decision making based on the data.
- New opportunities in quantitative analysis: data base and their processing.
- Big data: experience and prospects in Albania.

Panel Committee is composed of:

- 1. Prof. Dr. Engjell Pere
- 2. Prof. Dr. Adriana Gjonaj
- 3. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Ermira Qosja
- 4. Prof. Dr. Drita Kruja

E. PAPER SUBMISSION

Panel chair will distribute papers submitted by outsiders for a blind review among department members and papers of members of department to other pool of experts available. Based on this review process, a decision shall be made by the panel committee which will be submitted for a final review to the Scientific Committee of the conference.

Rules of paper submission

- Applications shall be submitted in secretary of one of the conference panels where the applicant considers that his research topic is more relevant;
- An applicant shall not submit more than two papers as author and/or co-author;
- A paper can have a maximum of three co-authors
- Conference language: English

Deadlines:

- Abstracts shall be submitted to the conference secretary within January 18, 2017
- Accepted papers will be notified by the organizers by January 30, 2017
- Draft research papers shall be submitted in a publishable format within **30 March**, **2017**.
- Final paper for publication shall be submitted by May 30, 2017
- Technical standards of the papers:
- Paper shall be between 5,000-6,000 words; Times New Roman, 12; in English language. A summary
 of no more than two pages shall be in Albanian language

These deadlines are final and failure to comply remains responsibility of the interested participants.

Papers shall be sent to:

E-mail: dssh@uet.edu.al



Payments:

Participation on the conference is upon the payment of a fee of 50 Euro per paper. This fee covers access to conference facilities and documentation; publication of the paper in the Conference Proceedings Book; a copy of the published book.

Payments shall be made at:

Banka Kombetare Tregtare

U.E.T. SHPK

Nr Llogarie: 501425540

IBAN euro: AL11 2051 1519 4255 40CL TJCF EURA

Swift code: NCBAALTX

Banka CREDINS

UET SHPK Nr Llogarie 50318

IBAN euro: AL 67 2121 1016 0000 0000 0005 0318

Swift Code: CDISALTR

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