18th Slovenian Social Science Conference

Building resilient sociologies in an era of global disruptions

with

4th Jean Monnet Day

October 16 – 17, 2025
Ljubljana, Slovenia

Programme

Conference venue: Eurostars uHotel, Miklošičeva cesta 3, 1000 Ljubljana and Zoom

Thursday, 16 October

Join us at: **https://eu01web.zoom.us/j/68705691758**
Room: Salon Orhideja

8:30-9:00 **Arrival and registration**

9:00-9:30 **Welcome addresses**

- **Tamara Besednjak Valič,** president of the Slovenian Social Science Association
- **Matej Makarovič**, president of the national UNESCO Management of Social Transformations programme and dean of the Faculty of Information Studies in Novo mesto (Slovenia)
- **Borut Rončević**, dean of the School of Advanced Social Studies (Nova Gorica, Slovenia)

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9:30-10:30 **Keynote speech with discussion:** *Building Resilient Sociologies: Disrupting some of our well-established assumptions*

- **Bandana Purkayastha,** Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor in Sociology at the University of Connecticut, USA.

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-12:30 Panel 1: Knowledge, Resilience and Social Transformations
Join us at: **https://eu01web.zoom.us/j/68705691758**
Room: Salon Orhideja

Chair: ***Janja Mikulan,*** School of Advanced Social Studies (Slovenia)

- ***Sandeep Kaur,*** Guru Nanak College of Education (India): *Education for Sustainable Futures: Transformative Tools, Crisis Response, and Collective Action*
- ***Mateja Rek***, School of Advanced Social Studies (Slovenia): *Between Complexity and Simplification: The Role of Sociology in Supporting Policy and Public Debate in the Digital Age*
- ***Erika D. Uršič***, Rudolfovo - Science and Technology Centre Novo mesto (Slovenia): *Building Local Resilience through Industrial Symbiosis: insights from Slovenia's Transition to a Circular Economy*
- ***Konstantin Minoski, Antoanela Petkovska,*** Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Faculty of Philosophy (North Macedonia): *Macedonian Sociology in a Transitioning Society: Resilient Society and Resilient Sociology*
- ***Babarinde Amos Adeleke***, Lagos State University of Education, Oto/Ijanikin., (Nigeria): *Regional Integration and Socio-economic Development: A Comparative Analysis of the European Union and the African Union*

12:30-14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-15:00 Panel 2: Workshop "Sociologies and Societal Challenges in Southeast Europe" (International Sociological Association (ISA)
Join us at: **https://eu01web.zoom.us/j/68705691758**
Room: Salon Orhideja

Co-chairs: ***prof. Bandana Purkayastha***, Vice President of National Associations at the International Sociological Association (ISA), ***prof. Borut Rončević,*** School of Advanced Social Studies (Slovenia)

15:00-16:30 Panel 3: Social Futures: Crisis, Resistance, and Solidarity
Join us at: **https://eu01web.zoom.us/j/68705691758**
Room: Salon Orhideja

Chair: ***Kseniia Gromova***, Faculty of Information Studies in Novo mesto (Slovenia)

- ***Nadica Jovanovska-Boshkovska, Ivona Mileva, Slavcho Taushanov, Janez Kolar,*** Faculty of Information Studies in Novo mesto (Slovenia): *From risk to resilience: public readiness for disaster risk finance in North Macedonia*



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- ***Ivana Brkljača***, ***Etienne Šajn***, School of Advanced Social Studies (Slovenia): *Gen Z and environmental issues*
- ***Emil Karajić, Edina Šifrar,*** School of Advanced Social Studies (Slovenia): *Intrinsic resilience and communal solidarity: stoicism and transactional analysis for navigating social crisis*
- ***Andrej Omulec, Jožica Pongrac,*** Ministry of Justice of Republic of Slovenia (Slovenia): *The role of a psychosocial counselor in building the emotional resilience of children and adolescents at summer camps*
- ***Nataša Dernovšček Hafner,*** Znanstvenoraziskovalni center Slovenske akademije znanosti in umetnosti (Slovenia): *Strengthening resilience through improved mental health literacy: The case of the OMRA program*

16:30-16:45 Coffee Break

16:45-18:15 Panel 4: Knowledge and Power in the Digital Era
Join us at: **https://eu01web.zoom.us/j/68705691758**
Room: Salon Orhideja

Chair: ***Simona Kukovič,*** School of Advanced Social Studies (Slovenia)

- ***Tope Oke Bakare, Samuel Aihonsu Ahoton, Taiwo Johnson,*** Lagos State University of Education (Nigeria): *Multi-Dimensional Corruption and the Tale of Unethical Bureaucracy in an era of Global Disruptions: A Comparison of Nigeria and Haiti*
- ***Ilina Arsova***, University of Tennessee Knoxville (North Macedonia): *Polleras en Cima: Media Representation and Collective Identity of Women Mountaineers in the Bolivian Andes*
- ***Bojan Radej, Barbara Simić, Jasna Šinigoj***, Slovensko društvo evalvatorjev (Slovenia): *Evaluation of research networks The Case of ERA-NET's CoFund Action 'GeoERA'*
- ***Dušan Ristič,*** University of Graz (Austria): *Heritage, Memory and Museums in the Age of Disruption: Towards a Sociology of Knowledge Research Framework*

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Friday, 17 October

4th Jean Monnet Day

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Join us at: **https://eu01web.zoom.us/j/68705691758**
Room: Salon Orhideja

8:30-8:45 Arrival and registration

8:45-9:00 Welcome addresses
Borut Rončević, head of Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence

09:00-11:00 Panel 1: EU as a Global Actor in Fragmented and Traumatized World (EU-GlobalAct) Jean Monnet Module

Join us at: **https://eu01web.zoom.us/j/68705691758**
Room: Salon Orhideja

Chair: ***Janja Mikulan***, School of Advanced Social Studies (Slovenia)

- ***Afolabi Tagbe Kunmavo,*** Lagos State University of Education (LASUED), Niue (New Zealand): *Historical and socio-economic Drivers of Ajagungbale (Land Grabbing) and the challenges of Building Community Cohesion in Selected Communities in Badagry Division of Lagos State*
- ***Nicolae-Valentin Ciolpan*** (Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu (Romania)***, Tal Pavel*** (Dunarea de Jos "University of Galati" (Romania): *Mortgaging Autonomy: Sovereignty Debt in the Digital Age*
- ***Nikolaos Nagopoulos,*** University of the Aegean (Greece): *From Vulnerability to Resilience: Anthropogenic Risks through a Sociological Lens*
- ***Ikponmwosa Ebomoyi, Tope Shola Akinyetun, Iyase Osariyekemwen Ambrose,*** Lagos State University of Education, (Nigeria)*: Techno-Authoritarianism in the Sahel: When Autocracy Meets Surveillance Capitalism*

*The session under the **JM module EU-GlobalAct** will also provide an Introductory presentation of the Module leader and its activities. Scholars will be invited to contribute to the session with their research insights, scientific reviews and discussion.*

This session was financially co-funded by the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union, Key Action: Erasmus+, Jean Monnet, Action Type: Jean Monnet Module, Project Reference: EU - GlobalAct - ERASMUS-JMO-2023-MODULE -101127119.

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11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-13:00 Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence "Technology and Innovations for Agenda 2030 - EU Global Leadership" (TIA2030)

Panel 2: Thematic session "Agenda 2030 and the European Union public diplomacy towards the third countries"

Join us at: **https://eu01web.zoom.us/j/68705691758**
Room: Salon Orhideja

Chair: ***Kseniia Gromova***, Faculty of Information Studies in Novo mesto (Slovenia)

- ***Matevž Tomšič***, School of Advanced Social Studies (Slovenia): *Challenges of Political Leadership in Europe*
- ***Rok Bratina,*** School of Advanced Social Studies (Slovenia): *The Role of Media in the Promotion of the Agenda 2030*
- ***Peter J. Verovšek,*** University of Groningen (The Netherlands): *EU's Public Diplomacy in the Global South following Russia's Full-Scale Invasion of Ukraine*
- ***Kseniia Gromova,*** Faculty of Information Studies in Novo mesto (Slovenia): *Industrial localities in the knowledge society: social fields analysis*

*The session under the **JM CoE TIA2030** will also provide an Introductory presentation of the Centre of Excellence and its activities. Scholars will be invited to contribute to the session with their research insights, scientific reviews and discussion.*

This session was financially co-funded by the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union, Key Action: Erasmus+, Jean Monnet, Action Type: Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, Project Reference: TIA2030 - ERASMUS-JMO-2023-COE- 101127584.

13:00-14:30 Lunch Break

14:30-16:30 Inclusive Communities for European Industry 5.0 (IC4EU)
Jean Monnet Chair

Panel 3: The challenges to EU digital policies and sustainable development

Join us at: **https://eu01web.zoom.us/j/68705691758**
Room: Salon Orhideja

Chair: ***Tea Golob,*** Faculty of Information Studies in Novo mesto (Slovenia)

- ***Tea Golob, Matej Makarovič, Mateja Rek,*** Faculty of Information Studies in Novo mesto (Slovenia): *Young Digital Users and European Citizenship*
- ***Nicolae-Valentin Ciolpan***, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu (Romania): *From Bureaucrats to Bots: Will AI Be Obeyed?*
- ***Denitsa Hinkova, Gizem Dak***, Sofia University ¨St. Kliment Ohridski¨ (Bulgaria): *Smart sustainable cities of Gen Z and millennials: a foresight on transformation and resilience in Europe*



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- ***Nina Jurinčič,*** School of Advanced Social Studies (Slovenia): *Secondary Crisis Communication in Tourism: Towards a Model for Resilient Communication in the Digital Society*

*The session under the **JM Chair IC4EU** will also provide a thematic presentation of the Chair holder. Scholars will be invited to contribute to the session with their research insights, scientific reviews and discussion.*

This session was financially co-funded by the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union, Key Action: Erasmus+, Jean Monnet, Action Type: Jean Monnet Chair, Project Reference: IC4EU - ERASMUS-JMO-2024-CHAIR.

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16:30 – 17:00 Concluding Remarks

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Fakulteta za informacijske študije
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TIA2030
Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence

JEAN MONNET CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Technology and Innovations for Agenda 2030 – EU Global Leadership – TIA 2030

Invitation letter

Dear Sir or Madam,

My name is Kseniia Gromova. I am a team member of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence **"Technology and Innovations for Agenda 2030 - EU Global Leadership" (TIA2030)".**
In the name of Prof. Dr. Borut Rončević, I would like to cordially invite you to participate as a speaker in a Thematic Session devoted to the topic **"Agenda 2030 and the European Union public diplomacy towards the third countries"**. The session is planned for Jean Monnet Day during the 18th International Slovenian Social Science Conference **„Building resilient sociologies in an era of global disruptions"**. The conference will be organised by the Slovenian Social Science Association and held on **October 16 and 17, 2025, in Ljubljana, Slovenia**. We could also accommodate your connection via **Zoom**. Your contribution, experience and expertise are substantial for the discussion and will significantly benefit the wider research community.

To introduce the context, Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence **"Technology and Innovations for Agenda 2030 - EU Global Leadership" (TIA2030)"** concerns itself with the European Union's implementation of the **UN Global Agenda 2030** and its **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).** The project explores the role of technological innovations in pursuing Agenda 2030 objectives. We aspire to foster multi-level dialogue between academics, students, professionals, policymakers, civil servants, businesses, and the general public on the importance and contribution of the SDGs of Agenda 2030 and the European Union's role.

We are planning the session for approximately **1.5 hours**, with 3-4 invitees. We expect each speaker to deliver a **15 minute** presentation. Further, we plan to implement a moderated discussion on the emerging topics and engage with the audience.

If you find our invitation interesting and relevant to your work, we would gladly welcome you as an expert at the thematic session. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.
We hope for your positive answer.

Best regards,
The Jean Monnet COE Team,
Kseniia Gromova

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Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence titled **Technology and Innovations for Agenda 2030** (TIA2030) is the focal point for competence and knowledge on European Union implementation of United Nations global Agenda 2030. European Union played an important role in adoption of Agenda 2030.

To achieve this, **TIA2030** engages a variety of target groups, i.e. academia, students, professionals, policy-makers, civil servants, businesses, civil society and the general public at large. **TIA2030** sets up infrastructure, methodologies, protocols, and tools to systematically collect, evaluate and make publicly available both already existing documentary resources and new primary empirical data. This is the foundation for multi-level policy debate with relevant audiences (conference special sessions, joint field trips and round table discussions) and enables to develop content and tools on EU subjects, to complement and upgrade current courses and curricula (course modules, summer schools, workshops), which will be available as Open Educational Resources.

As a result, **TIA2030** will advance interdisciplinary EU studies and deal with the phenomenon of EU implementation deficit, with a view to offer research and educational tools that could be utilised throughout Europe and beyond, to contribute to awareness of **Agenda 2030** and its implementation.

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