EKA University of Applied Sciences



NEWS LETTER



April 2025

FROM VISION TO ACTION: THE BALTIC CIRCULAR ECONOMY ECOSYSTEM OFFICIALLY INAUGURATED



April marked a pivotal moment for circular innovation in the Baltics with the official inauguration of the **Baltic Circular Economy Ecosystem (BaCES)** during the ETECH 2025 conference. Born from a strategic alliance between academia and industry leaders, BaCES sets out to accelerate the transition toward a sustainable, circular economy in the region.

BaCES was co-founded by **EKA**, **New Door**, and **Panākumu Universs**.

The initiative is led by a team of distinguished professionals: Prof. J. Titko, E. Čerkovskis, Prof. T.Tambovceva, Prof. D. Atstāja, and D. Lapkis – each bringing deep expertise and vision to guide the ecosystem's growth.

SHAPING THE FUTURE AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ETECH 2025

<image>

The association's mission is rooted in four key objectives: fostering the development of a robust circular economy ecosystem across the Baltics; raising public awareness and education to shift societal consumption and behaviour patterns; encouraging cooperation among ecosystem stakeholders; and supporting circular economy actors through targeted research and knowledge-sharing.



On April 23–24, the **9th International Scientific Conference Emerging Trends in Economics, Culture and Humanities (ETECH2025)** gathered researchers in Riga for a dynamic exchange of knowledge. Organized by EKA in collaboration with Alberta College, Ferris State University, Ambis University, Sumy State University, and the Association of Latvian Economists, this year's Conference welcomed participants from over 25 countries – including Argentina, China, Germany, South Africa, and the United States.

- ETECH2025 Plenary session record on YouTube
- Read More about <u>Conference</u>



INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC WEEK 2025: A WEEK OF DIALOGUE, DISCOVERY, AND GLOBAL CONNECTION

From **April 22–26**, **International Academic Week 2025** brought together 43 participants from 14 countries for five days of vibrant academic exchange at EKA. Representatives from 24 higher education institutions led more than 24 lectures and workshops on topics ranging from sustainable tourism and macroeconomics to digital well-being, leadership, and international law.





Beyond the classroom, the program featured interactive networking formats, project collaboration sessions, and a cultural tour of Riga. Guests also took part in the etECH2025 conference, deepening cross-border connections.

IAW2025 was not just an event, it was a catalyst for global dialogue, innovative teaching, and – lasting partnerships.

Read more here

DRIVING CHANGE THROUGH EDUCATION: NEW PILOT PROJECT "FOR LATVIA" LAUNCHED

A bold new step in student learning has begun! This spring, a groundbreaking **interdisciplinary pilot project – "For Latvia"** – was launched to empower management students with real-world impact from day one of their studies.

Led by **Dr. Ilona Lejniece, a senior lecturer and economic expert,** the initiative engages students in practical research across macroeconomics, human resource management, and information systems.



The outcome? **Concrete legislative proposals, policy recommendations, and actionable initiatives designed for submission to national institutions.**

This innovative model offers more than academic theory. Students gain mentorship, leadership development, and the opportunity to collaborate with the Latvian Parliament, ministries, NGOs, and media. From team projects and public presentations to a final exam solving real societal challenges, this program redefines what it means to study management.

"For Latvia" is not just a course – it's a launchpad for civic engagement and professional excellence.

Learn more on the EKA Science Club