

NEWS LETTER

HOSTING ZERO WASTE LATVIA ASSEMBLY

On 4 December 2025, EKA hosted the general meeting of the Zero Waste Latvia association.



During the meeting, participants reviewed the achievements of 2025, discussed plans and priorities for the coming year, approved amendments to the association's statutes, and elected a new board.

The organisation will continue its work with a renewed internal structure and a three-member board, reflecting its ongoing development and community engagement.

Hosting the meeting highlighted EKA's role as an open platform for civic participation, sustainability initiatives, and community-driven change.

More about [Zero Waste Latvia](#)

ADVANCING RESEARCH WITH SMART-PLS



On 9 December 2025, a **hands-on seminar for researchers was held, focusing on the application of SmartPLS in empirical research and academic publications.**

The practical workshop was led by **Prof. Iveta Ludviga, RISEBA University**, who guided participants through key aspects of partial least squares structural equation modelling (PLS-SEM).

Researchers explored methodological choices, model interpretation, and best practices for reporting results in scientific journals.

The seminar strengthened participants' analytical skills and supported the use of advanced quantitative methods in high-quality research.

Find more about [EKA Research Infrastructure here](#)

SCIENCE CLUB CELEBRATES RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

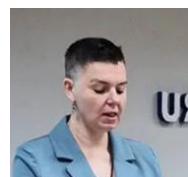
On 9 December 2025, the **Science Club Year-End Meeting** brought together researchers to reflect on the past year's achievements and look ahead to upcoming priorities.

The agenda included welcoming new members, exchanging views on future activities, and discussing plans for the next year, including preparations related to **etECH 2026**, which will mark the conference's anniversary year.

The meeting also highlighted the institution's publishing achievements, reflecting steady progress in research quality, visibility, and editorial development.

In addition, participants discussed the process and outcomes of the recent international scientific evaluation, acknowledging the progress made in strengthening research governance, impact, and development potential.

The gathering concluded with award presentations and informal conversations in a warm, celebratory atmosphere, reinforcing the sense of academic community and shared commitment to research excellence.



The community warmly greeted a new member **Dr. Renāte Indrika**, who joined EKA as researcher.

The meeting also featured award presentations. **"BEST RESEARCHER 2025"** award was presented to:

- **Assoc. Prof. Kristine Uzule** and
- **Assoc. Prof. Jevgenija Dehtjare**

"BEST YOUNG RESEARCHER 2025" award was received by PhD Cand. **Anna Strazda**.



The evening concluded with warm conversations, refreshments, and a celebratory atmosphere.

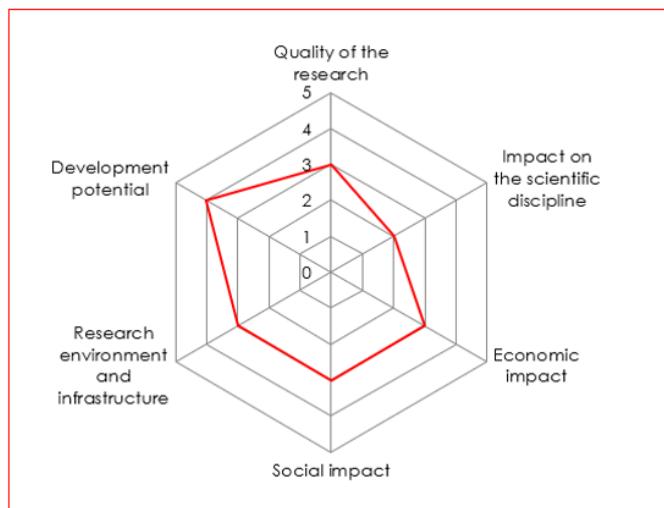
Read more about activities of [EKA Science Club](#)

INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION OF SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS

In December 2025, the results of the **International Evaluation of Scientific Institutions** were announced.

EKA received an overall score of 3 ("good"), confirming its position as a strong national applied-research institution with clear development potential.

EKA University of Applied Sciences – Scores



Experts highlighted the institution's clear and well-aligned research strategy, steadily improving publication quality, and strong societal and economic impact, supported by active collaboration with public authorities, industry partners, and civil society.

Special recognition was given to work in digital transformation, sustainability, circular economy, education innovation, and social entrepreneurship – areas where research closely responds to real societal needs.

While acknowledging challenges typical for small research institutions (like limited research FTE and resource constraints) the evaluation recognised consistent progress, a well-structured and supportive research environment, and strong development potential.

The results confirm that EKA is on the right path, with clear plans already in place to further strengthen research capacity, international cooperation, and scientific excellence in the years ahead.

JOURNAL OF CULTURE AND ECONOMICS INDEXED IN WOS

In December 2025, a major milestone was achieved in EKA's publishing activities: the **Journal of Economics and Culture** (eISSN: 2256-0173) was officially included in the **WEB OF SCIENCE DATABASE** (Clarivate Analytics).

Published as an international peer-reviewed journal, JCE focuses on the interdisciplinary intersection of economics, culture, creative industries, and social development, providing a platform for high-quality research and scholarly dialogue. JEC included in Scopus database since 2022.

Inclusion in Web of Science confirms the journal's growing academic relevance, editorial quality, and international visibility.

This achievement strengthens the EKA's role as a contributor to global research dissemination and reflects continued investment in research quality, open scholarship, and international academic standards!

[Learn more](#)

