EKA University of Applied Sciences

NEWS LETTER

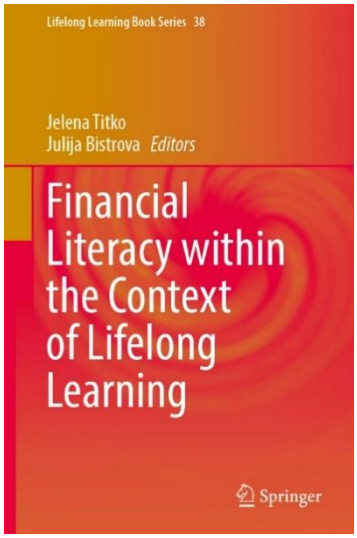
October 2026

A UNIVERSITY THAT INSPIRES!

eka UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

FINANCIAL LITERACY THROUGH LIFELONG LEARNING

The forthcoming academic book **Financial Literacy within the Context of Lifelong Learning**, edited by **Prof. Jelena Titko** and **Julija Bistrova**, has been announced by Springer Nature and is scheduled for publication in **early 2027** as Volume 38 of its **Lifelong Learning Book Series.**



The interdisciplinary volume brings together theoretical perspectives, empirical research and practical insights into financial literacy across different stages of life. It explores financial behaviour among diverse population groups, sustainable finance, digital transformation, entrepreneurship, investment barriers and financial decision-making.

By addressing persistent gaps in financial knowledge and the need for adaptable educational approaches, the book provides a valuable resource for researchers, educators, policymakers and lifelong learners.

This publication will make an important contribution to financial literacy research by advancing interdisciplinary knowledge and supporting the development of financial education throughout life.

Explore book online

FEATURED IN LATVIA'S RESEARCH CATALOGUE

On 15 October 2026, the **Latvian Council of Science's Horizon Europe National Contact Point** published the **LATVIAN RESEARCH & INNOVATION PARTNER CATALOGUE 2026**, featuring EKA among 120 Latvian research and innovation teams.

EKA's profile presents its interdisciplinary expertise in business and management, sustainability, entrepreneurship, education, social sciences, digital technologies and creative industries. It also highlights research capabilities in behavioural studies, eye-tracking, virtual reality and neurotechnology.

The profile identifies several priority areas for cooperation within Horizon Europe: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, Cluster 2 "Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society," Cluster 4 "Digital, Industry and Space," the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, and European Innovation Ecosystems.



Explore the catalogue

TRANSFORMATIVE ECONOMY CONFERENCE IN ARMENIA

From **7 to 9 October 2026**, EKA researchers participated in the **3rd International Conference "The Transformative Economy: Green Transition, Institutional Quality and Value Creation"** at Yerevan State University.

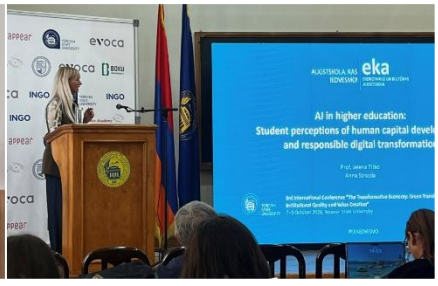
Prof. Titko chaired the session "Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Digital Transformation," supporting international discussion and knowledge exchange on emerging technological and economic developments.



N.Verina presented the research "Differences in Perceptions of Organizational and Individual Barriers in the Digital Transformation Process among Employees of Higher Education Institutions."

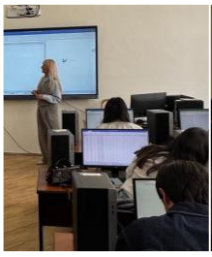
A.Strazda presented the study "Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education: Student Perceptions of Human Capital Development and Responsible Digital Transformation."



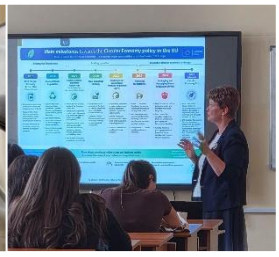


ERASMUS+ MOBILITY AND ACADEMIC COOPERATION

EKA representatives visited **Yerevan State University** for teaching and training, combining knowledge exchange with discussions on future academic cooperation.







The teaching programme offered students insights into several areas: **N.Verina** presented the lecture "Challenges and Barriers Toward Digital Transformation in Organization(s)," **A.Strazda** delivered practical classes on "Application of Jamovi in Statistical Data Analysis," while **Prof. T.Tambovceva** delivered a lecture on Circular Economy and Sustainable Economic Development.

Alongside the teaching activities, **Prof. J.Titko** met with YSU representatives to discuss joint research, project development and future cooperation. **M.Tihomirova** explored opportunities to expand Erasmus+ exchanges and strengthen collaboration between the institutions.

More about YSU

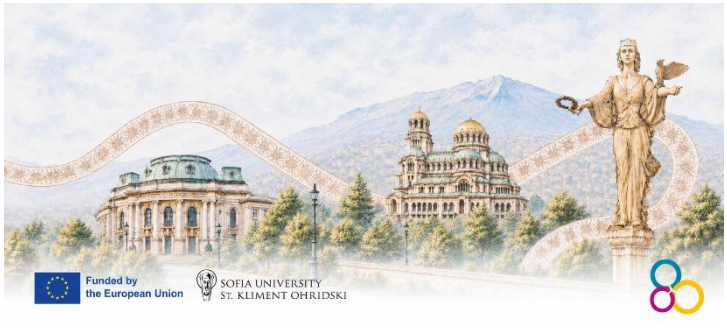
Learn more about Transformative Economy Conference

RESEARCHER CAREERS IN A CHANGING WORLD



From 28 to 30 October 2026, EKA Professor Jelena Titko participated in the **EURAXESS Biennial Conference 2026** "Evolving EURAXESS in a Changing World", held in Sofia, Bulgaria.

The conference brought together EURAXESS professionals and research-support experts from Europe to discuss international mobility, researcher career development, talent attraction and retention, academic career pathways, well-being and stronger cooperation across the European research community.







The programme combined keynote addresses, panel discussions and parallel workshops. It explored research careers in times of geopolitical uncertainty, global competition for research talent, international mobility and integration, and the balance between open cooperation and research security. Practical sessions addressed visas and social security, dual-career support, academic and non-academic career pathways, support for researchers at risk, scientific entrepreneurship, HRS4R implementation and career-transition tools.

Prof. Titko's participation also provided opportunities to establish valuable contacts with EURAXESS representatives and explore potential partnerships for EKA in researcher support, mobility and future international cooperation.

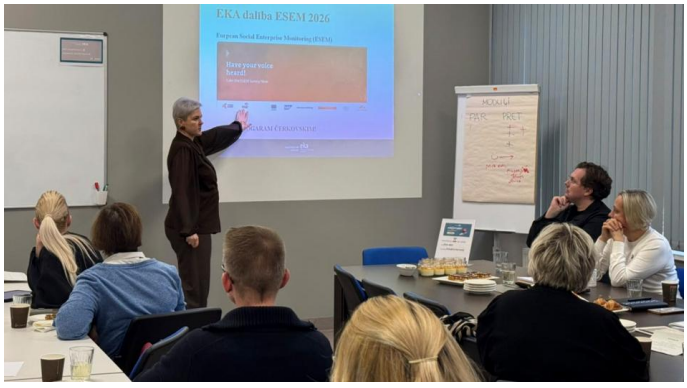
Conference information and programme

RESEARCH UPDATES AT SCIENCE CLUB

On 20 October 2026, EKA researchers gathered for the autumn **SCIENCE CLUB** to exchange research news, discuss emerging priorities and strengthen connections across different fields.

The discussion covered recent international achievements, updated research regulations, the Collaborative Library guidelines, annual institutional surveys and opportunities for researcher training.

Participants also learned about the new Erasmus+ CLEAR project, priority conferences, the proposed refinement of EKA's research directions, the research funding framework and preparations for etECH 2027.



The meeting concluded by informal networking and an exchange of ideas for future cooperation.

CELEBRATING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS





On 4 June 2026, **Dr Kaspars Šteinbergs**, Researcher, Project manager, was elected to the position of **ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR** by the Professors' Council of Turība University.

On 13 October 2026, **Dr Kristīne Užule**, Leading Researcher, was elected to the position of **PROFESSOR** by the Joint Professors' Council of RISEBA, Ventspils University of Applied Sciences and SSE Riga.

EKA warmly congratulates both researchers and wishes them continued success, new achievements and further professional growth!