

**EKA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES**

**SCIENTIFIC AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY  
2022/2023 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Riga 2023**

“The Annual Report of the EKA University of Applied Sciences on scientific activities 2022/2023” is issued in accordance with the Law on Scientific Activity of the Republic of Latvia.

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## INTRODUCTION

The development of science and research is a priority axis for the overall development of the country, governed by a number of strategic and normative documents at national level:

**National Development Plan of Latvia for 2021-2027** (NDP 2027). NDP2027 is hierarchically the highest national medium-term development planning document. It also sets medium-term priorities in the field of education and science, highlighting the direction of action: Science for the development of society, the economy and security.

**The Science, Technology Development and Innovation Guidelines 2021-2027 (STDIG2027)**. STDIG2027 contributes to the achievement of the strategic objectives set out in NAP 2027 in line with the goals and objectives of the directions "Science for the Development of Society, the Economic and Security" and "Quality, accessible and inclusive education" of the priority "Knowledge and Skills for Personal and National Growth".

The policy challenge of the STDIG is to develop a research and development (R&D) system that ensures a sustainable development of R&D human capital, knowledge, skills, competences and technologies, thereby contributing to the acquisition of quality education and skills, enhancement of social and economic welfare and security, improvement of the quality of life and transition to a climate-neutral economy.

**Education Development Guidelines 2021-2027** (EDG 2027) are related to STDIG ZTAIP 2027 regarding activities to strengthen research-based higher education, to introduce research-based and innovation-oriented doctoral studies and promotion processes and the provision of opportunities for the development and growth of academic staff.

The Law on Scientific Activity (in force since 19.05.2005) stipulates that higher education institutions have the obligation to perform scientific activity and to provide a study process where the research activity and/or artistic creativity of students would be an integral part.

The scientific vision of the EKA University of Applied Sciences is defined in line with the overall vision of EKA development: "EKA is developing as an inter-branch multicultural university. It prepares knowledgeable, creative and independent personalities who are excellent professionals in their areas. EKA is associated with competitive education, internationally acknowledged diplomas, high professional quality of our graduates, well-developed scientific research base and highly qualified academic and administrative personnel."

The main objective of EKA **in the development of science and research** is to enhance the competitiveness of the university by building a strong base of scientific infrastructure and human resources, strengthening the cooperation between the science and business sectors, developing the transfer of research results to business, thus contributing to the achievement of the Latvian national strategic development goals.

Our success pillars are:

**Interdisciplinary approach to study process implementation.** EKA implements study programmes in different thematic groups which, in turn, promote a multidisciplinary approach to carrying out research and creative work:

1. Social sciences, commercial sciences - study directions "Economics", "Business management, administration and real estate management" (hereinafter referred to as "Management direction") and "Law";

2. Natural sciences, mathematics, information technology – the study direction "Information technology, hardware, electronics, telecommunications, computer, and computer science " (hereinafter "IT direction")
3. The humanities and arts - study direction "Arts".

**Intercultural environment.** In today's globalized world, successful business is based on cross-cultural literacy, which provides opportunities to navigate freely in the international market. By combining the economy and culture in its conception, by offering study programmes in different languages, by giving its students the opportunity to participate in seminars of foreign professors and master study courses abroad, by organizing international scientific and creative events, EKA is preparing business people for their work in the international business environment.

**Creative and innovative approach to study.** EKA provides both a face-to-face and distance learning process in the e-environment, offering e-studies where lectures, seminars and tutorials with teachers, as well as examinations take place in online virtual classrooms. EKA students are provided with the opportunity to acquire knowledge through the innovative infrastructure of EKA: simultaneous interpreting classroom, business simulations, DIG laboratory, court hall and artistic creation rooms.

## **THE PRIORITIES OF THE EKA UNIVERSITY IN SCIENCE AND RESEARCH**

In order to achieve the scientific and research development objectives, a strategy for the development of science and creative activity (ZRDAS2023) of the EKA University was developed in 2021. ZRDAS2023 is a university-level medium-term planning document, developed within the framework of the "Development Strategy of the EKA University of Applied Sciences (Latvian abbreviation - EKAAS)".

ZRDAS2023 defines EKA's priorities in research and creative activities:

### **Priority "Quality assurance in research and creative activity" (Pr1)**

Higher education institutions have the duty to perform scientific activity (Article 19(1) of the Law on Scientific Activity). For the purpose of carrying out the scientific activity, a higher school requires academic staff with scientific qualifications, which is evidenced both by a doctor's degree and an expert status of the Latvian Scientific Council, as well as high quality scientific publications. The evaluation of the quality of research and creative activity is also based on the achievements of the academic staff and students, as well as on the achievements of EKA in project implementation and funding attraction.

### **Priority "Involvement of academic staff in research and creative activity in each study direction" (Pr2)**

One of the criteria for assessing a study direction is "The involvement of academic staff in scientific research and/or artistic creation". In order to achieve results in this area, EKA is planning to introduce new practices for establishing international research teams. In addition, it is envisaged to set up an academic staff assessment system, where the research and creative activity criteria will play an important role, as well as a corresponding financial motivation system.

### **Priority "Involvement of students in research and creative activity in each study direction" (Pr3)**

“Student involvement in scientific research” is an important criterion in the assessment of study directions.

The EKA University of Applied Sciences implements study programmes in five study directions:

1. Economics
2. Business management, administration and real estate management (hereinafter referred to as "Management ")
3. Information technology, computer engineering, electronics, telecommunications, computer management and computer science (hereinafter referred to as "IT")
4. Law (hereinafter referred to as "Law")
5. Arts

EKA's priority in the study process is research-based studies, which include the integration of the “students as researchers” approach in study programmes at all levels. “Students as researchers in the context of higher education mean a pedagogical approach aimed at supporting students to engage in order to complement their knowledge and enhance their skills.” (Walkington, The Higher Education Academy, 2015)

#### **Priority "Cooperation in research and creative activity" (Pr4)**

In defining the objectives for promoting cooperation in research and creative activity, cooperation is addressed from various viewpoints:

- institutional cooperation – cooperation between EKA academic staff
- national cooperation – cooperation of EKA academic staff with academic staff of other Latvian higher education institutions
- international cooperation – cooperation of EKA academic staff with academic staff of foreign universities
- EKA cooperation with the business sector (academic-corporate collaboration)

#### **Priority “EKA reputation” (Pr5)**

The scientific reputation is a prerequisite for the improvement of the overall image of the university in the academic environment, which, in its turn, promotes the visibility of the university among students, facilitates cooperation with other universities and institutions, provides for the loyalty of academic staff.

### **Pr1 PRIORITY “QUALITY ASSURANCE IN RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY”**

In 2022/2023, the academic staff of EKA consisted of more than 100 people, 44 of whom were elected to the academic posts of EKA (as of 30.06.2023, incl. 25 persons (56%) with a doctor's degree.

**Table 1** Academic staff elected in the academic positions of EKA

No.	Name, Surname	Scientific degree	Position	Direction
1	Vita Zariņa	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	<b>Professor</b>	<i>Economics</i>

2	Jeļena Titko	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	<b>Professor</b>	<i>Economics</i>
3	Anna Ābeltiņa	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	<b>Assoc.Professor</b>	<i>Economics</i>
4	Aija Sannikova	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Economics</i>
5	Ilona Lejniece	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Economics</i>
6	Ilga Lipšāne	<i>Mg oec.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Economics</i>
7	Pāvels Patlins	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Economics</i>
8	Edgars Čerkovskis	<i>Mg.sc.soc.</i>	<i>lecturer</i>	<i>Economics</i>
9	Inga Šīna	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	<b>Professor</b>	<i>Management science VZ</i>
10	Velga Vēvere	<i>Dr. phil.</i>	<b>Professor</b>	<i>Management science VZ</i>
11	Oksana Lentjušenkova	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	<b>Assoc.Professor</b>	<i>Management science VZ</i>
12	Ksenija Ijevļeva	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science VZ</i>
13	Tatjana Kulikova	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science VZ</i>
14	Anna Svirina	<i>Dr.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science VZ</i>
15	Viktorija Skvarciany	<i>Dr.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science VZ</i>
16	Zane Veidenberga	<i>Mg.edu.mgmt.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science VZ</i>
17	Kaspars Šteinbergs	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science VZ</i>
18	Harsh Chauchan	<i>Mg.</i>	<i>lecturer</i>	<i>Management science VZ</i>
19	Kristine Užule	<i>Dr.psyh.</i>	<b>Assoc.Professor</b>	<i>Management science VZ</i>
20	Ingus Barovskis	<i>Dr.phil.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science KV</i>
21	Tatjana Daudiša	<i>Mg oec.</i>	<i>lecturer</i>	<i>Management science VZ</i>
22	Imants Ļaviņš	<i>Dr.hist.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science KV</i>
23	Ieva Andžāne	<i>Mg.art.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science KV</i>
24	Ance Grīmanē	<i>Mg.art.</i>	<i>lecturer</i>	<i>Management science KV</i>
25	Jeļena Budanceva	<i>prof.Mg.sc.admin</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science KV</i>
26	Inga Oliņa	<i>Mg.art.</i>	<i>lecturer</i>	<i>Management science KV</i>
27	Egmonts Treiguts	<i>Mg.phys.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Information technologies</i>
28	Mārcis Pinnis	<i>Dr.sc.comp.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Information technologies</i>
29	Patriks Morevs	<i>Mg.math.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Information technologies</i>
30	Andrejs Liepiņš	<i>Mg.sc.comp.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Information technologies</i>
31	Jeļena Alfejeva	<i>Dr.iur.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Law</i>
32	Marina Kamenecka-Usova	<i>PhD</i>	<b>Assoc.Professor</b>	<i>Law</i>
33	Karina Zalcmane	<i>PhD</i>	<b>Assoc.Professor</b>	<i>Law</i>
34	Larisa Saukāne	<i>Dr.iur.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Law</i>
35	Arta Snipe	<i>PhD</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Law</i>
36	Atis Bičkovskis	<i>prof.Mg.iur.</i>	<i>lecturer</i>	<i>Law</i>
37	Natalja Verina	<i>Mg.iur.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Law</i>
38	Baiba Guste	<i>Mg.art.</i>	<i>lecturer</i>	<i>Arts</i>
39	Ksenija Milča	<i>Mg.art.</i>	<i>lecturer</i>	<i>Arts</i>
40	Kitija Almane	<i>Mg.art.</i>	<i>lecturer</i>	<i>Arts</i>
41	Evija Skriba	<i>Mg.art.</i>	<i>lecturer</i>	<i>Arts</i>
42	Larisa Turuševa	<i>Dr. paed.</i>	<b>Assoc.Professor</b>	
43	Gatis Dilāns	<i>PhD</i>	<b>Assoc.Professor</b>	
44	Aija Poikāne-Daumke	<i>Dr.phil.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	

Several EKA academic staff members elected to academic positions have received the rights of experts of the Latvian Council of Science (as of 30.06.2023. – 40% of the persons with PhD).

**Table 2** Academic staff elected in the academic positions of EKA - experts of the Latvian Council of Science

<i>Name, Surname</i>	<i>Degree</i>	<i>Branch of science, sub-branch</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
<b>Jeļena Titko</b>	<i>Dr. oec.</i>	Social sciences - economics and business	31.03.2024.
		Social sciences - education sciences	01.03.2026.
<b>Inga Šīna</b>	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	Social sciences - economics and business	07.12.2025.
<b>Oksana Lentjušenkova</b>	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	Social sciences - economics and business	03.09.2023.
<b>Aija Sannikova</b>	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	Social sciences - economics and business	03.09.2023.
<b>Ilona Lejniece</b>	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	Social sciences - economics and business	04.11.2023.
<b>Karina Zalcmane</b>	<i>PhD</i>	Social sciences - Law	03.02.2024.

<b>Marina Kamenecka-Usova</b>	<i>PhD</i>	Social sciences - Law	01.06.2025.
<b>Velga Vēvere</b>	<i>Dr.phil.</i>	Humanities and arts: Philosophy, ethics and religion	03.09.2023.
		Social sciences - economics and business	05.04.2026.
<b>Kristīne Užuļe</b>	<i>Dr.psyh.</i>	Social sciences - economics and business	06.04.2025.
		Social sciences - education sciences	06.04.2025.
<b>Larisa Turuševa</b>	<i>Dr.paed.</i>	Social sciences - education sciences	04.01.2026.

## Pr2 PRIORITY "INVOLVEMENT OF ACADEMIC STAFF IN RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY IN EACH STUDY DIRECTION"

### 2.1. Priority research directions and research teams

One of the criteria for assessing a study direction is "The involvement of academic staff in scientific research and/or artistic creation". In order to achieve results in this area, EKA has introduced new practices – formation of international research teams. Teams are formed in priority research directions approved by the relevant Study Direction Council (Table 3). Each research direction has a coordinator responsible for achieving the expected results. In 2022/2023, teams were created in four directions (Table 4).

**Table 3** EKA priority research areas 2022/2023

RESEARCH AREA	Study direction	Coordinator
Sustainable development and circular economy	Economics	EKA professor, Dr.oec. J. Titko
Corporate social responsibility, social innovations and social entrepreneurship	Management	EKA professor, Dr.phil V.Vēvere
Culture research and culture project management	Management	EKA assistant professor, MBA J.Budanceva
Research in ICT and digitalization	IT Management	EKA guest professor, Dr. T.Tambovceva
Management, entrepreneurship and marketing research	Management	EKA Professor, Dr.oec. Šina
Emerging Trends in Education and Finance	Economics	EKA professor, Dr.oec. V.Zarina
Sports Law	Law	EKA Associate Professor, PhD K.Zalcmane
Current issues in Sports law	Law	EKA Associate Professor, PhD K.Zalcmane
Creative Industries and Design	Arts	EKA Assistant Professor K.Milča
Research in Education	All study directions	-

**Table 4.** International research teams operated in 2022 / 2023

Research direction	Team members
Sustainable Development and Circular Economy	<p>Research coordinator: Dr. Jelena Titko, Professor, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Dzintra Atstaja, Professor, BA School of Business and Finance (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Tatjana Tambovceva, Professor, Riga Technical University (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Pedro A. Martin-Cervantes, Professor, University of Almería (<b>Spain</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Tatjana Pimonenko, Associate Professor, Sumy State University (<b>Ukraine</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Indre Lapinskaite, Associate Professor, VILNIUS TECH (<b>Lithuania</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Viktorija Skvarciany, Associate Professor, VILNIUS TECH (<b>Lithuania</b>)</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mg. Edgars Čerkovskis, Assistant Professor, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Anna Svirina, Assistant Professor, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Armand Faganel, Associate Professor, University of Primorska (<b>Slovenia</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Maryna Solesvik, Professor, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences (<b>Norway</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Natālija Cudečka-Puriņa, Associate Professor, BA School of Business and Finance; Researcher, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Anna Jasinska-Biliczak, Assistant Professor, Opole University (<b>Poland</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Kristine Uzule, Associate Professor/Researcher, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>).</li> <li>• MBA Jelena Budanceva, Assistant Professor, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>).</li> </ul>
Corporate social responsibility, social innovations and social entrepreneurship	<p>Research coordinator: Dr. Velga Vevere, Professor, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inga Shina, Professor, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> <li>• Jelena Titko, Professor, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> <li>• Aija Sannikova, Assistant Professor, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> <li>• Barbara Mroz-Gorgon, Professor, Wroclaw University of Economics and Business (<b>Poland</b>)</li> <li>• Jana Majerova, Associate Professor, Ambis University College (<b>Czech Republic</b>)</li> <li>• Vita Juknevičiene, Associate Professor, Vilnius University, Šiauliai Academy (<b>Lithuania</b>)</li> <li>• Maria Kovačova, Associate Professor, Žilina University (<b>Slovakia</b>)</li> <li>• Edgars Čerkovskis, Assistant Professor, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> <li>• Ing. Renata Skýpalová, Ph.D. AMBIS vysoká škola, a.s. (<b>Czech Republic</b>)</li> </ul>
Current issues in Sports law	<p>Research coordinator: Dr. Karina Zalcmane, associate professor, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. David McArdle, Senior Lecturer and Head of the Law School, Stirling University (<b>Scotland, UK</b>).</li> <li>• Dr. Nemes András, Professor in law at the University of Physical Education Budapest, Attorney at law of the Dr. Nemes András Law firm (<b>Hungary</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Anna Di Giandomenico, Assistant Professor of the Faculty of Political Science, University of Teramo (<b>Italy</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Alexandru-Virgil VOICU, Professor of the University of Chisinau (Republic of Moldova), professor at the University Babes-Bolyai (Cluj-Napoca, <b>Romania</b>) and professor at the National Academy of Physical Education and Sports in Bucharest (<b>Romania</b>). The President of the Legal Commission of the Romanian Olympic and Sports Committee;</li> <li>• Dr. Marina Kamenecka-Usova, Assistant Professor, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> </ul>
Research in ICT and digitalization	<p>Research coordinator: Dr. Anna Svirina, Assistant Professor, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Tatjana Tambovceva, Professor, Riga Technical University (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Jelena Titko, Professor, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Viktorija Skvarciany, Associate Professor, VILNIUS TECH (<b>Lithuania</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Ephias Ruhode, Associate Professor, Wits Business School, University of the Witwatersrand (<b>South Africa</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Mourine Achieng, University of South Africa: Graduate School of Business Leadership (<b>South Africa</b>)</li> <li>• Gianluca Coppola, President, European Digital Learning Network (<b>Italy</b>)</li> <li>• Francesca Pissarello, Policy officer and Project manager, European Digital Learning Network (<b>Italy</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Uwe Busbach, Professor, Hochschule Kehl University of Applied Sciences (<b>Germany</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Marina Z. Solesvik, Professor of Innovation and Management, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences (<b>Norway</b>)</li> <li>• Mg. (PhD cand.) Andrejs Liepins, college programme "Programming" director, Alberta college (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mg. Patriks Morevs, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> <li>• Mg. Jurijs Radionovs, Bachelor programme "Programming engineer" director, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> <li>• Mg. (PhD cand.) Natalja Verina, Assistant Professor EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> </ul>
Culture research and culture project management	<p>Research coordinator: MBA Jelena Budanceva, Assistant Professor, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Velga Vevere, Professor, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> <li>• Andrius Juškys, Vilniaus kolegija / University of Applied Sciences, The Faculty of Arts Creative Technologies, (<b>Lithuania</b>)</li> <li>• Nadiia Lolina, Institute of Historical Research, University of London (<b>UK</b>)</li> <li>• Mg. Kristina Astike, PhD student, VILNIUS TECH (<b>Lithuania</b>)</li> <li>• Kristīne Užule, EKA University of Applied Sciences (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Indre Lapinskaite, Associate Professor, VILNIUS TECH (<b>Lithuania</b>)</li> <li>• Dr. Kaspars Šteinbergs, Assistant Professor, Alberta koledža (<b>Latvia</b>)</li> </ul>

## 2.2. Scientific achievements of EKA academic staff

In 2022/2023, the academic staff of the EKA University of Applied Sciences have published 38 publications in peer-reviewed scientific publications, including 22 articles in internationally peer-reviewed publications, which already have been included in the internationally quoted databases Web of Science Clarivate Analytics, SCOPUS, ERIH+.

Publication of EKA academic staff (incl. publications indexed in Web of Science or Scopus databases):

1. Rizhamadze, K., & **Ābeltina, A.** (2022). Assessing the Effects and Policy Interventions Amidst COVID-19 Crisis: Focus on Georgian SMES. In *Eurasian Business and Economics Perspectives* (pp. 169-189). Springer, Cham. **SCOPUS**
2. **Budanceva, J.** (2023). Professional burnout syndrome among female teaching staff in Latvia. In: Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference on Governance and Strategic Management (ICGSM), "ESG Standards and Securing Strategic Industries".
3. **Cerkovskis, E.**, Gajdosikova, D., & Ciurlau, C. F. (2022). Capital structure theories: Review of literature. *Ekonomicko-Manazerske Spektrum*, 16(1), 12-24. [dx.doi.org/10.26552/ems.2022.1.12-24](https://doi.org/10.26552/ems.2022.1.12-24)  
[https://ems.uniza.sk/wp-content/uploads/EMS\\_1\\_2022\\_02\\_Cerkovskis\\_Gajdosikova\\_Ciurlau.pdf](https://ems.uniza.sk/wp-content/uploads/EMS_1_2022_02_Cerkovskis_Gajdosikova_Ciurlau.pdf)
4. **Titko, J., Uzule, K.**, Tambovceva, T., Koshkin, I., **Verina, N.**, Radionovs, J., **Liepins, A.**, (2023). Entrepreneurship competences for ICT students: Latvian and Kazakh samples. In: Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference "Business and Management 2023", May 11-12, 2023, Vilnius, Lithuania, 402-409. <https://doi.org/10.3846/bm.2023.1108>
5. **Titko, J.**, Bistrova, J., **Budanceva, J.**, **Uzule, K.**, **Verina, N.** (2023). Knowledge, attitude and behavior towards investments: pilot study on Latvian sample. In: Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference "Business and Management 2023", May 11-12, 2023, Vilnius, Lithuania, 229-236. <https://doi.org/10.3846/bm.2023.971>
6. **Titko, J.**, Tambovceva, T., Atstaja, Dz., Lapinskaite, I., Solesvik, M., **Svirina, A.**, **Uzule, K.** (2023). Attitude towards Sustainable Entrepreneurship among Students: Pilot Study in Latvia and Lithuania. *TalTech Journal of European Studies*, 13(1)/(37), 107-132. <https://doi.org/10.2478/bjes-2023-0006> **SCOPUS (Q2 - Sociology and Political Science)**
7. **Titko, J., Uzule, K., Zarina, V., Shina, I., Verina, N., Cerkovskis, E., Budanceva, J., Pildavs, J.** (2022). Teaching financial literacy in a global economic era: the outcomes of learning experiment in Latvia. In: Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference "Globalization and its Socio-Economic Consequences 2022", October 12-13, 2022, Rajecke Teplice, Slovak Republic, 1539-1549.
8. Tambovceva, T., **Titko, J.**, Bumanis, G., Bajare, D. (2023). Barriers to Effective Construction and Demolition Waste Management in Latvia. In: Leal Filho, W., Dinis, M.A.P., Moggi, S., Price, E., Hope, A. (eds) *SDGs in the European Region. Implementing the UN Sustainable Development Goals – Regional Perspectives*. Springer, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-91261-1\\_25-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-91261-1_25-1)

9. **Zariņa, V., Svirina, A., Shina, I. & Uzule, K.** (2022). The Relationship Between the Industry-Level Economic Development and Human Development in Latvia. *Economics and Culture*, 19(2) 70-80. <https://doi.org/10.2478/jec-2022-0017> **ERIH+**
10. **Uzule, K. & Verina, N.** (2023). Digital Barriers in Digital Transition and Digital Transformation: Literature Review. *Economics and Culture*, 20(1) 125-143. <https://doi.org/10.2478/jec-2023-0011> **ERIH+**
11. **Vevere, V., Shina, I.,** Meistere, Z., Linina, I. (2022). Impact of covid-19 on social entrepreneurship in latvia in the european union context. In: Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference "Globalization and its Socio-Economic Consequences 2022", October 12-13, 2022, Rajecke Teplice, Slovak Republic, 1464-1474.
12. Putthiwanit, C., **Vevere, V.** (2022). Understanding post-pandemic panic selling during Ukraine Russian conflict based on Thai companies listed in set100. In: Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference "Globalization and its Socio-Economic Consequences 2022", October 12-13, 2022, Rajecke Teplice, Slovak Republic, 1256-1262.
13. **Vevere, V., Shina, I.,** & Ganina, S. (2022). Corporate Social Responsibility as a Factor Promoting Customer Loyalty in the Latvian Retail Sector. *European Integration Studies*, (16), 135-149. <https://doi.org/10.5755/j01.eis.0.16.31325> **WOS:000877372600011**
14. **Uzule, K.,** & Kuzmina-Merlino, I. (2022). The connection between an airport type and revenue structure at Baltic States airports. *Aviation*, 26(4), 183-194. **WOS:000891292800001 Q3**
15. **Pinnis, M.,** Busemann, S., Vasiļevskis, A., & van Genabith, J. (2022). The German EU council presidency translator. *KI-Künstliche Intelligenz*, 36(1), 99-104. DOI10.1007/s13218-021-00744-4 **WOS:000709791000001**
16. Amaral, G., **Pinnis, M.,** Skadiņa, I., Rodrigues, O., & Simperl, E. (2022, September). Statistical and Neural Methods for Cross-lingual Entity Label Mapping in Knowledge Graphs. In *International Conference on Text, Speech, and Dialogue* (pp. 39-51). Cham: Springer International Publishing. **WOS:000866222300004**
17. Bergmanis, T., & **Pinnis, M.** (2022). From Zero to Production: Baltic-Ukrainian Machine Translation Systems to Aid Refugees. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2209.14142*. **WOS:000867549800002**
18. Tättar, A., Purason, T., Kuulmets, H. A., Luhtaru, A., Rätsep, L., Tars, M., ... & Fishel, M. (2022). Open and Competitive Multilingual Neural Machine Translation in Production. *Baltic Journal of Modern Computing*, 10(3), 422-434. **WOS:000867549800016**
19. Šostaka, D., Borzovs, J., Cauna, E., Keiša, I., **Pinnis, M.,** & Vasiļjevs, A. (2023). The Semi-Algorithmic Approach to Formation of Latvian Information and Communication Technology Terms. *Baltic Journal of Modern Computing*, 11(1). **WOS:000992733100001**
20. **Skvarciāny, V.,** Lapinskaitē, I., & Stasytytē, V. (2023). Efficiency of Digital Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development: DEA-Tobit Approach. *Prague Economic Papers*, 32(2), 129-158. **SCOPUS**
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22. Lapinskaitē, I., Stasytytē, V., & **Skvarciāny, V.** (2022). Assessing the European Union capitals in the context of smart sustainable cities. *Open House International*, 47(4), 763-785. **SCOPUS**
23. **Skvarciāny, V.,** & Vidžiūnaitē, S. (2022, June). Decent work and economic growth: the case study of the BRICS countries. *Forum Scientiae Oeconomia* (Vol. 10, No. 2, pp. 73-89). **SCOPUS**
24. Jakubelskas, U., & **Skvarciāny, V.** (2022). An Evaluation of Circular Economy Development in the Baltic States. *Folia Oeconomica Stetinensia*, 22(2), 193-208. **SCOPUS**
25. **Skvarciāny Viktorija;** Astikė Kristina. Decent work and economic growth: Case of EU. 12th International scientific conference "Business and management 2022", May 12-13, 2022, Vilnius, Lithuania. Vilnius: Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, 2022. p. 184-190. **WOS:000887405800023**
26. **Skvarciāny Viktorija;** Jurevičienė Daiva. Assessment of trust level in digital economy. New perspectives and paradigms in applied economics and business: Select proceedings of the 2022 6th international conference on applied economics and business (ICAEB), August 24-26, 2022, Stockholm, Sweden. Cham: Springer, 2023. p. 147-154. **SCOPUS**

27. Chochia, A., Kerikmäe, T., & Skvarciany, V. (2023). Global Economic Challenges for Sustainable Entrepreneurs. *TalTech Journal of European Studies*, 13(1), 3-7. **SCOPUS Q2**
28. **Svirina, A.**, & Anand, A. (2022). Dubious or decisive? Digging deeper into the uncharted path of academic ghostwriting. *Journal of Organizational Change Management*, 35(1), 38-58. **SCOPUS Q2**
29. **Vēvere, V.** (2023). Brīdis starp: piesātinātās pauzes Viktora Freiberga grāmatās "Kinomāna slimības vēsture" un "Viktora otrā grāmata". *Aktuālas problēmas literatūras un kultūras pētniecībā*, 28. Līpāja: LiePA, 223-233. Doi: 10.37384/APLKP.2023.28.223
30. **Vēvere, V.**, Shina, I. (2023). The factors of green marketing affecting consumer purchase intention in Latvia, ENVIRONMENT. TECHNOLOGY. RESOURCES. Proceedings of the 14th International Scientific and Practical Conference, June 15th – 16th, vol. 1, Rezekne, 240-245. <https://doi.org/10.17770/etr2023vol1.7210>
31. Linina, I., **Vēvere, V.**, Zvirgzdina, R. (2022). Evaluation of the use of influencers for the development of consumer satisfaction in the Baltic consumer goods market. 4th International Conference on Advanced Research Methods and Analytics (CARMA2022). Valencia: Universitat Politècnica de Valencia, 129-137. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4995/CARMA2022.2022.15071>
32. **Vēvere, V.** (2022). Varieties of Distancing Experience. *Analecta Husserliana*, CXXIV. Cham: Springer, pp. 315-328.
33. **Vēvere, V.** (2022). Eksistenciālie smieklī: Sērens Kirkegors. *Kultūras studijas*, 14, 30.-39.lpp. (EBSCO)
34. **Vēvere, V.** (2022). Valoda un estētika [Recenzija par M. Rubenes Da Capo]. *Letonika*, 45, 251.-255.lpp.
35. **Vēvere, V.** (2022). Phenomenological Insight into Ecotopian Imagination. 66th International Congress of Phenomenology. Eco-Imagination for a Sustainable Future. Book of abstracts. Milan, October 27-29, pp. 34-35.
36. **Veidenberga, Z.** (2023). Transferring implied values of the Latvian source text diminutives into English: Piloting translation guidelines with novice translators. *Studies about Languages / Kalbu studijas*, 42, 5–16. <https://doi.org/10.5755/j01.sal.1.42.33098> **SCOPUS Q2**
37. **Sannikova A., Vēvere, V., Titko J.** (2023). Competences necessary for a social entrepreneur: Latvian case study. *Business Theory and Practice*. Pieņemts publicēšanai **Q2**
38. Medne, I., & **Nikadimovs, O.** (2022). Corporate Social Responsibility Reporting as an Important Communication Tool: Some Evidence from Latvia. *Humanities and Social Sciences Latvia*, 30(1, 2), 5-24. <https://doi.org/10.22364/hssl.30.01>

Each year EKA is hosts International Scientific Conference “**Emerging trends in Economics, Culture and Humanities (etECH)**”. The 2023 conference was organized in a number of hybrid sections involving representatives of all EKA study directions (full time staff, visiting academic staff and students).

Participants of the joint section on “Sustainability and Circular economy / Macroeconomy, International Economics, Public Economics and Financial Economics”:

- Vita Zariņa, Inga Shina, Anna Svirina, Kristine Uzule. *THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IN LATVIA*

Participants of the section: “Emerging Trends in Business Administration, Marketing and Corporate Finance”:

- Olegs Nikadimovs. *MICRO-CSR: THE IMPACT OF SMALL-SCALE CSR INITIATIVES ON CONSUMER BEHAVIOUR AND LOYALTY*

The section “Information technologies” hosted:

- Edgars Cerkovskis. *BLOCKCHAIN AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY: A NEW ECONOMIC MODEL FOR ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY*
- Sanita Meijere, Tatjana Tambovceva. *TRUSTWORTHINESS AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS OF AI / ML BASED SOLUTIONS IMPLEMENTATIONS*

- Larissa Turusheva. *ICT COMPETENCY AS A PART OF STUDENTS PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE*
- Maksims Žigunovs, Patriks Morevs. *GENETIC ALGORITHMS AND CALCULATION OF GIVEN TRAJECTORY*

The following participants participated in the section "EMERGING TRENDS IN LAW":

- Marina Kamenecka-Usova, Ilona Lejniece, Karina Zalcmane. *LARGE SPORTS EVENTS: PROS AND CONS FOR HOSTING COUNTRY*
- Atis Bičkovskis. *THE PROBLEMS RELATED TO COMBATING VALUE ADDED TAX FRAUD IN LATVIA IN CONNECTION WITH A MOBILE PHONES*

Participants of the joint section entitled "Emerging Trends in Culture Studies and International Culture Project Management / Creative Industries, Art and Design":

- Jeļena Budanceva, Ance Pērkone. *SPECIFICS OF INTERNAL COMMUNICATION IN INTERNATIONAL SPORT PROJECTS*
- Nadiia Lolina. *STREET ART OF SHOREDITCH: BEHIND THE WALLS*
- Imants Ļaviņš, Dace Ļaviņa. *THE VISUAL CULTURE OF LATVIAN COMMERCIAL EXHIBITIONS IN THE INTERWAR PERIOD (1921–1940)*
- Vivita Leismane, Oksana Lentjušenkova. *PRACTICE OF ORGANIZING INTERNATIONAL EVENTS*
- Elīna Grantiņa, Jeļena Budanceva. *INCORPORATING ART INTO COMPANY ACTIVITIES - GOOD PRACTICE BY ZOO*
- Darja Semjonova, Velga Vevere. *ROLE OF FESTIVALS IN CITY BRAND PROMOTION*
- Andrei Rodionov. *FUNDRISING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LATVIAN COMMERCIAL INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL PROJECTS DEPENDING ON THEIR INITIAL PARAMETERS*

Participants of the section "PEDAGOGY AND EDUCATION":

- Harsh Chauhan, Natalja Verina. *PERSONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL BARRIERS PERCEIVED BY STAFF OF LATVIAN HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE PROCESS OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION*
- Kristīne Užule. *ENTREPRENEURIAL COMPETENCES OF STUDENTS AS DRIVERS OF SUSTAINABLE CAREER DEVELOPMENT*
- Aija Sannikova, Velga Vevere. *THE ROLE OF UNIVERSITIES IN THE INSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM OF SOCIAL ENTERPRISES IN LATVIA*
- Zane Veidenberga. *USE OF VARIOUS FEEDBACK COLLECTION METHODS FOR DEVELOPING GUIDELINES FOR NOVICE TRANSLATORS*

In 2022/2023, EKA's academic staff participated with their reports in several international scientific conferences:

- Budanceva, J. 6th International Conference in Governance and Strategic Management (ICGSM), 9.06.2023, Bulgaria. Presentation: *Professional burnout syndrome among female teaching staff in Latvia*
- Sannikova, A., Vevere, V., Titko, J. International Scientific Conference "Business and Management 2023", May 12-13, 2023, Vilnius, Lithuania. Presentation: *Competences necessary for a social entrepreneur: a case study of Latvia.*
- Titko, J., Svirina, A., Užule, K., Shina, I., Zarina, V. International Scientific Conference "Business and Management 2023", May 12-13, 2023, Vilnius, Lithuania. Presentation: *Impact of country-level cultural development on the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals.*

- Titko, J., Budanceva, J., Uzule, K., Verina, N. International Scientific Conference "Business and Management 2023", May 12-13, 2023, Vilnius, Lithuania. Presentation: *Knowledge, attitude and behavior towards investments: pilot study on Latvian sample*
- Titko, J., Uzule, K., Tambovceva, T., Verina, N., Radionovs, J., Liepins, A. International Scientific Conference "Business and Management 2023", May 12-13, 2023, Vilnius, Lithuania. Presentation: *Entrepreneurship competences for ICT students: Latvian and Kazakh samples*.
- Uzule, K. (2023). 13th International Scientific Conference "Business and Management 2023", Vilnius Tech University, Lithuania, May 11-12, 2023. Presentation: *Financial data for verification of human and intellectual outputs in integrated reporting: the case of northern European airports*.
- Titko, J., Uzule, K., Zarina, V., Shina, I., Verina, N., Cerkovskis, E., Budanceva, J., Pildavs, J. International Scientific Conference "Globalization and its Socio-Economic Consequences 2022", October 12-13, 2022, Rajecke Teplice, Slovak Republic. Presentation: *Teaching financial literacy in a global economic era: the outcomes of learning experiment in Latvia*.
- Titko, J. Conference "The Development of Doctoral Education and Research Capacity of Kyrgyzstani Academia", November 3-4, 2022 (online). Presentation: *Doctoral studies in the field of Economics and Business in Latvia: content and expected results*
- Vevere, V., Shina, I. International Scientific Conference "Globalization and its Socio-Economic Consequences 2022", October 12-13, 2022, Rajecke Teplice, Slovak Republic. Presentation: *Impact of covid-19 on social entrepreneurship in Latvia in the European Union context*.
- Vevere, V. International Scientific Conference "Globalization and its Socio-Economic Consequences 2022", October 12-13, 2022, Rajecke Teplice, Slovak Republic. Presentation: *Understanding post-pandemic panic selling during Ukraine Russian conflict based on Thai companies listed in set100*.
- Vevere, V. The 66th International Congress of Phenomenology, Milan, IULM University, October 27-28-29, 2022. Presentation: *Phenomenological Insight into Ecotopian Imagination*.
- Vevere, V., Shina, I. ICEP 2023, Kaunas, April 13, 2023. Presentation: *Social Innovation and Gender Equality in Higher Education Institutions: Evidence from Private University in Latvia*.
- Vevere, V., Sannikova, A. 12th international conference on applied economics "Contemporary issues in economy", Olstín, June 29-30, 2023. Presentation: *Business students' social entrepreneurship competence: evidence from private universities in Latvia and Czech Republic*.
- Vevere, V. XVIII JORNADAS KIERKEGAARD 2022, Universidad del Salvador, Biblioteca Kierkegaard argentina, November 9-11, 2022. Presentation: *"Tango Erotica-The Tiger Lillies and Kierkegaard's Either / Or" ["Erótica del Tango-The Tiger Lillies y O lo uno o lo otro de Kierkegaard"]*
- Vevere, V. Daugavpils universitātes XXXIII zinātniskie lasījumi, Daugavpils, 2023.g. 26.janvāris. Presentation: *Melanholijs kā skumju bauda: Sērens Kirkegors un Larss fon Trīrs*.
- Vevere, V. Aktuālas problēmas literatūras un kultūras pētniecībā. Liepājas universitātes starptautiskā konference. 2023.g. 23.-24.marts. Presentation: *Melanholijs ģeogrāfija Egila Ventera mikroromānā "Merilīna"*.
- Vevere, V., Turība XXIV International Scientific conference, April, 19, 2023. Presentation: *Innovation management model for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs): Georgia*.
- Vevere, V. Turība XXIV International Scientific conference, April, 19, 2023. Presentation: *Factors affecting supply chain agility among employees of knowledge-based companies*.
- Vevere, V. LU 91. starptautiskā zinātniskā konference, Cilvēks kultūrā un mūsdienu humānisma vērtību meklējumi, Rīga, 2023.g. 18.aprīlis. Presentation: *Cilvēka cieņa un cilvēka spējas kā Martas Kreivenas Nusbaumas ētikas pamats*.

- Vevere, V., Shina, I. ENVIRONMENT. TECHNOLOGY. RESOURCES. 14th International Scientific and Practical Conference, Rēzekne, June 15th – 16th, 2023. Presentation: *The factors of green marketing affecting consumer purchase intention in Latvia*.
- Veidenberga, Z. Ventspils Augstskola conference "Linguistic Diversity, Terminology and Statistics", November 3-4, 2022 (online). Presentation: *Transferring Implied Values of the Latvian Source Text Diminutives into English: Piloting Translation Guidelines with Novice Translators*
- Vevere V., Sannikova, A. 9th International Conference on Lifelong Education and Leadership for All- ICLEL 2023 July 6-8, 2023, University of Coimbra, Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences-PORTUGAL, www.iclel.com. Presentation: *Role of Universities in Social Entrepreneurship Education in Latvia*.
- Sannikova, A. XI INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH-TO-PRACTICE CONFERENCE "SOCIETY TRANSFORMATIONS IN SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES". Baltic International Academy, Latvia. December 9-10, 2022. Presentation: *Acquiring the status of social enterprises and monitoring their activities: the case of Latvia*.
- Ļaviņš, I. 6th International Scientific Conference „Divi Jūliji. Virsotnes”/ “Two Juliuses. July 28, 2023. Presentation: *Among the Peaks - the Geography of Jūlijs Straume's expeditions*.
- Morevs, P. Conference Piers2023, Prague, Czech Republic, 05.07.2023. Presentation: *Performance Analysis of Hybrid Raman-EDFA Amplifier in WDM Transmission Systems*
- Morevs, P. Students' international scientific-practical conference "A country that is good to live in", Lithuania, 19.04.2023. Presentation: *Neural network implementation applying genetic algorithms for neural network evolution model for certain agents*
- Šteinbergs, K. Triple Helix XXI Conference "Entrepreneurial and engaged universities for sustainable development. Linking education, research and innovation to achieve the SDGs & ESGs" Presentation: *University-industry cooperation: a case study of student innovation projects in Latvia*

Participation of EKA academic staff in the activities of Editorial Boards and Committees of scientific journals indexed by SCOPUS/ Web of Science / ERIH+ databases:

- Jelena Titko: Journal "Marketing and Management of Innovations" (<https://mmi.fem.sumdu.edu.ua/en/content/editorial-board>), "Business, Management & Economics Engineering" (<https://journals.vgtu.lt/index.php/BME/editorialboard>), "Economics and Culture" (<https://sciendo.com/journal/JEC?tab=editorial-board>)
- Viktorija Skvarciany: "Business, Management & Economics Engineering", "Prague Economic Papers" ([https://pep.vse.cz/about-journal/inf-990000-0300\\_About\\_us.php](https://pep.vse.cz/about-journal/inf-990000-0300_About_us.php)), "Economics and Culture" (<https://sciendo.com/journal/JEC?tab=editorial-board>)
- Velga Vevere: "European Integration Studies" (<https://eis.ktu.lt/index.php/EIS/about/editorialTeam>)
- Oksana Lentjusenkova: "Economics and Culture" (<https://sciendo.com/journal/JEC?tab=editorial-board>)

Other achievements:

- The book of the prestigious publishing house "Springer" includes EKA professor Dr.phil. **Velga Vevere's** scientific article "Variations on the experience of distancing".
- **Imants Lavins**, Cosmography, Iran/Central Asia 600–1500. The publication of the EKA Assistant Professor Imants Ļaviņš in the "Encyclopedia of Ancient history. Asia and Africa". Ed. Daniel Potts, Ethan Harkness, Jason Neelis, and Roderick McIntosh. Wiley books. ISBN:9781119399919, 1119399912



- **Sannikova, A.** Best presentation award for the presentation "Competences necessary for a social entrepreneur: a case study of Latvia" at the VILNIUS TECH conference "Business and Management 2023", May 12-13, 2023, Vilnius, Lithuania.
- **Sannikova, A.** On-line social entrepreneurship conference of the Ministry of Welfare "Cooperation as a Key to Success". Participant of the panel discussion. Ministry of Welfare, 13.10. 2022. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JMVvhMmVxio>
- **Dehtjare, J.** A mentor and a facilitator for Europe's Regional Partnership for Gender Equality in the Digital Age (EQUALS-EU) summer school "Transformational Leadership and Gender Equity Role Modeling", organised by Latvian Academy of Science in Riga, Latvia, June 12-16, 2023.
- **Vevere, V.** A keynote speaker at the International Scientific conference "Globalizations and its Socio-Economic Consequences", October 12-13, 2022, Rajecke Teplice, Slovak Republic.
- **Budanceva, J.** A keynote speaker at the International Scientific conference "Emerging Trends in Economics, Culture and Humanities" (etECH2023), April 19-21, 2023, Riga, Latvia.
- **Budanceva, J.** Zoom seminar for Latvian teachers about the Working Burn-out 15.12.2022, 300 participants
- **Budanceva, J.** Annual seminar for Latvian librarians organized by the Latvian National library 27.02.2023 "Finanšu pratības sociālie aspekti", 300 participants
- News portal DELFI published an opinion publication by Andrejs Birzgalis, lecturer of the EKA study programme "Computer Game Design and Graphics", on the profession of a game developer and market opportunities. <https://www.delfi.lv/news/versijas/andrejs-birzgalis-pieprasijums-pec-spelu-izstrades-specialistiem-vairakkart-parsniedz-piedavajumu.d?id=54822146&fbclid=IwAR1n203dNygVFqOcRwHOqIzPhqeBXQMu3Gl6NA7AHbVKh8BFttfrqFoP0dE>
- **Zariņa, V.** In December 2022, textbook "Saimnieciskās darbības novērtēšana, izmantojot finanšu analīzi" (*Assessment of economic activity using financial analysis*) was published. <https://www.plz.lv/preces/saimnieciskas-darbibas-novertesana-izmantojot-finansu-analizi/>
- **Zariņa, V.** Opinion publication "Pastāvēs, kas pārvērtīsies" <https://www.plz.lv/bilances-galvena-redaktore-vita-zarina-pastaves-kas-parvertiesies/>
- **Zariņa, V.** Opinion publication "Kāpēc Latvijā būtu jāapsver četru dienu darba nedēļa" <https://www.delfi.lv/bizness/versijas/vita-zarina-kapec-latvija-butu-jaapsver-cetru-dienu-darba-nedela.d?id=55314066>
- **Zariņa, V.** Opinion publication "Minimālajai algai ir jābūt vienā līmenī ar neapliekamo minimumu" <https://www.aprinkis.lv/index.php/viedokli/39427-vita-zarina-minimalajai-algai-ir-jabut-viena-limeni-ar-neapliekamo-minimumu>
- **Čerkovskis, E.** Participation in TV 24 broadcast "Nacionālo interešu klubs" (Club of National interests). Discussion on Latvian energy resource policy. [https://xtv.lv/rigatv24/video/B37JEePWNpZ-06\\_08\\_2022\\_nacionalo\\_interesu\\_klubs\\_2\\_dala](https://xtv.lv/rigatv24/video/B37JEePWNpZ-06_08_2022_nacionalo_interesu_klubs_2_dala)
- **Čerkovskis, E.** Opinion publication "Lielākā daļa pat nesaprot, kā rēķinus apmaksāt!" <https://www.la.lv/lielaka-dala-pat-nesaprot-ka-rekinus-apmaksat-cerkovskis-skaidro-sabiedribas-izpratni-par-energetiku/komentari>
- **Čerkovskis, E.** Presentation at the Bank of Latvia teachers' conference "Does life in virtual reality require financial literacy?" <https://www.naudasskola.lv/lv/piedalies/konference-skolotajiem-vai-dzivei-virtualaja-realitate-nepiecieasama>
- **Čerkovskis, E.** Opinion publication "Saules baterijas, granulas vai malka – kas izdevīgāk un dabai draudzīgāk?" <https://www.db.lv/zinas/saules-baterijas-granulas-vai-malka-kas-izdevigak-un-dabai-draudzigak-510365>



- **Snipe, A.** Several publications in the journal "Jurista Vārds".  
<https://juristavards.lv/doc/283080-advokats-un-varda-briviba/>  
<https://juristavards.lv/doc/282743-ar-vesu-galvu-par-karstu-temu-jeb-pasakas-par-viendzimuma-attiecibam-lietuviesu-gaume/> <https://juristavards.lv/doc/282660-vai-advokats-drikst-pieligt-stundas-likmi/> <https://juristavards.lv/doc/280554-ko-advokats-sagaida-no-ertas-un-funkcionalas-e-lietas/>
- **Titko, J.** was appointed as a member of the Editorial Board of the scientific journal "Socio-Economic and Humanities Studies", AMBIS Vysoka škola, Czech Republic.
- **Titko, J.** A keynote speaker at the International Scientific conference "Business and Management 2023", Vilnius Tech University, Lithuania, May 11-12, 2023.

### **Pr3 PRIORITY "INVOLVEMENT OF STUDENTS IN RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY IN EACH STUDY DIRECTION"**

EKA's priority in the study process is research-based studies, which include the integration of the "students as researchers" approach in study programmes at all levels. "Students as researchers in the context of higher education mean a pedagogical approach aimed at supporting students to engage in order to complement their knowledge and enhance their skills." (Walkington, The Higher Education Academy, 2015)

Each EKA study programme includes a study course on research methodology: bachelor programmes – "Research Organization" and Master programmes – "Research organization and academic work". In addition, a number of other courses have an integrated research component, such as the study course "Sociology", "Strategic and change management", "Environmental policy", etc.

According to Article 3.2.16. of the "GUIDELINES ON PREPARATION AND DEFENSE OF STUDY PAPERS, PROJECT PAPERS AND THESES AT THE EKA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES": "the master's degree students shall be admitted to the defense of thesis, if they had previously submitted an article to the Student Scientific and Applied Conference".

Every year, EKA hosts a Student Conference with students from all EKA study directions, students from Alberta College and other higher education institutions. In 2022/2023, EKA students submitted 134 research abstracts, as well as 18 descriptions of creative and artistic works. In addition, EKA students submitted 89 full text articles to the EKA/AK Student research paper collection.

In 2022/2023, EKA students also participated in other scientific and creative activities. For instance, in 2022/2023, EKA students participated in the MAKE-IT project "Innovation grants for students in the fields of art, culture, economics and IT interdisciplinary areas" (No .1.1.3/21/A/003) and developed creative ideas:

- Team "Pelni pelna" – students from the programme "Circular Economy and Social Entrepreneurship". Outcome: *the use of wood chips as a concrete mass filler (partially replacing cement), in order to then use this mass in the production of rails, which would ensure the accessibility for persons with impaired vision, reduced mobility and behavioural disorders;*
- Team "Europa School Mobile" – students from IT study programme. Outcome: *a modernized information system for European Distance Education High School (one of the components of the system is mobile application for pupils, parents and staff);*
- Team "Market Map" - students from the study programmes "Marketing" un "Information technologies". Outcome: *positioning of the "Draugiem group" brand "Pērkam Kopā" (let's buy together) or developing a prototype of a business model to create a different brand from*

*existing and competing positions in the market, thus taking a niche that cannot be repeated quickly by competitors;*

- Team "ChameleOn" - students from the study programme "Marketing". Outcome: *layout services for printed materials adapted to the client's business needs and development of a visual merchandising strategy to implement business goals, increase its visibility and promote profit;*
- Team "Feelful" - students from the programme "Culture management". Outcome: a set encouraging self-expression and self-awareness;
- Team "Icey and Melty" - students from the programme "Culture management". Outcome: ice cream, which contains the necessary daily dose of vitamins for a person, enriching the diet of people with the necessary vitamins in a light and effective manner;
- Team "Ratiņš labs" - students from the programme "Culture management". Outcome: *baby strollers made of recycled and sustainable materials;*
- Team "Healthy Algorithm" - students from IT study programme. Outcome: *a product that will ensure the specific needs of medical institutions and ease the workload of staff, as well as make the registration for visits more convenient and effective.*

The works of Annija Norde and Eva Ralle, students of the study programme "Interior Design", were nominated for the 2nd round of the competition "Dizaina arēna 2022" organized by the Latvian Designers' Society, in the category "Environmental Design", in Ķīpsala. Annija was awarded the Latvian Designers' Society diploma for 3rd place in the category "Environmental Design", as well as a diploma for 3rd place in the category "Design Research".

The students of the study programme "interior design" participated in the International Environmental Art Project "Initium Vilnensis" organized by the Vilnius College of Technology and Design (Vilniaus technologijų ir dizaino kolegija - VTDK). "Initium Vilnensis" demonstrates the practice of sustainable and conscientious art, therefore students created their own works of art in the style of "Land Art", highlighting the synergy between the human touch and the eternal power of nature.

Within the framework of the course "Production" (study programme "Culture Management"), the closing event of the Happiness season II was organised, as well as the project *Kultūras Kulenis*, was created, which consisted of several events and took place in Sigulda's Devons.

The students of the study programme "Culture Management" with their lecturers E.Čerkovskis and B. Guste (team "Vērdiņš") took the 10th place in the Latvian national mind games of financial literacy among 78 teams.

#### **Pr4 PRIORITY "COOPERATION IN RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY"**

In defining the objectives for promoting cooperation in research and creative activity, cooperation is addressed from various viewpoints:

- institutional cooperation: cooperation between EKA academic staff in research and creative activities
- national cooperation: cooperation of EKA academic staff with academic staff of other Latvian higher education institutions
- international cooperation: cooperation of EKA academic staff with academic staff of foreign universities
- EKA cooperation with businesses and public sector

#### 4.1. Institutional cooperation

Cooperation of EKA academic staff is carried out mainly through participation in research teams and joint research activities, the results of which are reflected in scientific papers. 25% of the prepared papers in 2022/2023 are joint papers of EKA academic staff.

EKA academic staff members also jointly participate in professional development activities – such as a Methodological conference (see section 5.1 of the Report) or in scientific seminars and workshops, for example, workshop "Research Methods for Data Processing: The Use of VOSviewer and STATA" 19.06.2023 (lecturers: Dr. Oleksii V. Lyulyov and Dr. Tetyana Pimonenko, Sumy State University, Ukraine) or "AI in study process and research" 19.04.2023. (lecturer: Dr.K.Šteinbergs, EKA)

EKA staff representatives actively engaged in research and became members of the EKA Science Club. It was established in 2020 with the aim of contributing to the development of EKA research, to develop priority research directions of EKA and to raise awareness of scientific events organized by EKA.



Science Club members' meeting, 13.04.2023.

#### 4.2. National cooperation

##### Cooperation within the MAKE-IT project

On 17 November 2021, EKA and the Central Finance and Contracting Agency (CFCA) signed an agreement on the implementation of the ERDF project 'Innovation grants for students in the fields of arts, culture, economic and IT interdisciplinary areas (MaKE IT)', No 1.1.1.3/21/A/003.

The aim of the project is to increase the entrepreneurial capacity of students by promoting cooperation between universities, students and businesses.

Students at all levels and of all programs, as well as students of senior years from professional secondary and general secondary schools are the main target group. The project target group participants will have access to grants and other support for the implementation of their own or team's innovative ideas.

The project lasts till November 2023 and is implemented in cooperation with partners: "Foundation of the EKA University of Applied Sciences", BA School of Business and Finance, Ventspils High Technology Park Foundation, Limited Liability Company "ALBERTA

KOLEDŽA", Limited Liability Company "Institute of Economics of the Latvian Academy of Sciences", LLC "EUROLCDs".

*Project "Innovation grants for students in the interdisciplinary areas of art, culture, economics and IT (MaKE IT)" (Agreement on the implementation of the European Union fund project No. 1.1.1.3/21/A/003)*

### **Cooperation within AUTORADE project**

On 26 October 2022, the EKA University of Applied Sciences (EKA) and the Central Finance and Contracting Agency (CFLA) signed the agreement No 8.2.3.0/22/A/004 on the implementation of the ESF project " Automation Tools for Creative Industries AutoRADE ". The duration of the project is 14 months (31.10.2022. until 31.12.2023). Project partners:

- University of Latvia
- Transport and Communications Institute
- Rezekne Technology Academy
- Vidzemes Augstskola
- University of Liepaja
- Latvian digital accelerator
- Ventspils High Technology Park
- Valmiera Development Agency

AutoRADE project aims to introduce digital initiatives that will promote the modern, innovative research process in the creative industries. New, automated IT solutions will be developed and implemented to improve the quality of university training, improve the digital skills of students and strengthen the digital capacity of universities by developing and implementing innovative digital technological solutions in the study process, analysis of learning outcomes and university activities, including developing and implementing inter-institutional cooperation and sharing creative industry solutions.



Meeting of coordinators and working group leaders in Rezekne, 15.06.2023.

### **Cooperation with the Latvian Academy of Sciences Institute of Economics (EILZA)**

Apart from the cooperation within MAKE-IT project, EKA representatives were engaged in EILZA realized projects. Within the project "EQUALS-EU: Europe's Regional Partnership



for Gender Equality in the Digital Age" (funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement nr. 101006396), EKA representative – Dr. Jevgenija Dehtjare – participated in the Summer School "Transformational Leadership and Gender Equity Role Modeling", which took place on June 12-16, 2023 in Riga. Jevgenija acted as a mentor and a facilitator for EQUALS-EU project participants – active women from many countries, such as Greece, Croatia, Indonesia, Nigeria and others. The summer school programme focuses on women's professional development as future leaders and champions in gender equity and digital inclusion and promotes knowledge exchange and technology transfer within European countries and between European and non-European countries.

### **Cooperation with Alberta College**

Alberta College is the strategic partner of EKA in cooperation with which a number of events are implemented: conference "Emerging Trends in Economics, Culture and Humanities (etECH)", International Academic Week, Student Conference.

### **Membership in LEA**

Since 2023, EKA academic staff members and researchers are members of the Association of Latvian economists (Latvijas ekonomistu asociācija – LEA, <http://leaekonomisti.lv/par-lea/>):

- Jelena Titko – Deputy Chairperson of the Board of LEA
- Edgars Čerkovskis – Board member
- Aija Sannikova – Board member
- Anna Ābeltiņa, Vita Zariņa, Inga Šīna – members

Membership in LEA will allow the opportunity to cooperate closely with other Latvian researchers representing Riga Business School, Riga Technical University, Riga Stradiņš University, Turība University, BA School of Business and Finance and other institutions.

## **4.3. International cooperation**

### **EIT HEI initiative, Network IQ Alliance (NIQ)**

The EKA University of Applied Sciences as one of only few Latvian universities has been approved as a partner in an ambitious EU project within the framework of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) initiative for Higher Education Institutions (HEI) - "Building Forward Better" ecosystems - Harnessing the power of networked communities to scale-up and accelerate the impact of entrepreneurial universities – Network IQ Alliance". Network IQ Alliance is a community of entrepreneurial universities from Spain, Poland, Latvia, Ireland and the UK, an innovative SME, a network of research institutes, an industry network, and a global network of science and technology parks in 77 countries.



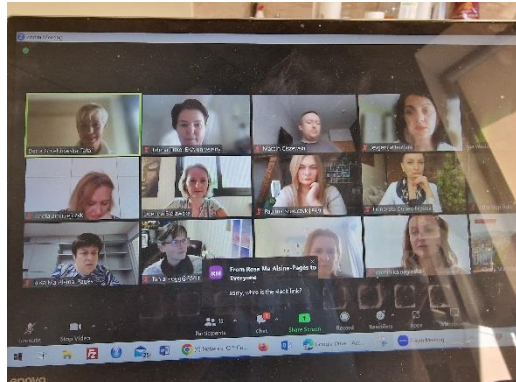
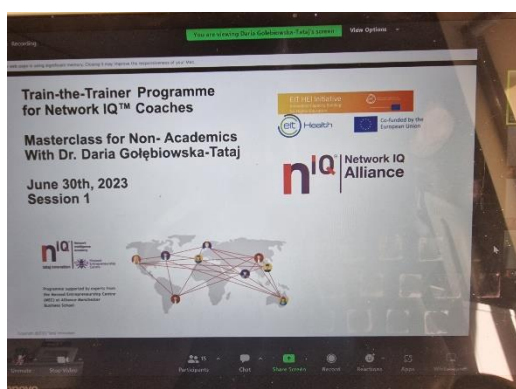
The goal of NIQ project is to empower purpose-driven entrepreneurial people to amplify growth opportunities from the networks they build to innovate better, faster and have long-



term resilience. To achieve this, the Network IQ Alliance consortium is committed to mainstream network intelligence (nIQ) – a system-change methodology developing digital competencies at the ecosystem level for innovation and networking.

In 2023, EKA representatives participated in the activities within WP3 "Train-the-Trainer and Learning Excellence Hubs". From the EKA University of Applied Sciences, the Rector, Dr. oec. Oksana Lentjusenкова, Vice-Rector for Science, Dr. oec. Jelena Titko, Associate Professor, Dr. psih. Kristine Uzule, Assistant Professor, Dr. oec. Kaspars Steinbergs, and Head of the Development of the Scientific Institution, Dr. oec. Jevgenija Dehtjare, participated in this training. During the training, the participants learned the concept of Network Intelligence, which was authored by Dr. Daria Tataj, Honorary Professor, Massoud Center for Entrepreneurship, University of Manchester. The training program included topics on network theory, network development, networking, Network IQTM skills, and using LinkedIn. In addition, on June 29 and 30, EKA representatives also attended the master class led by Dr. Daria Tataj. It should be noted that the Rector of the EKA University of Applied Sciences, O. Lentjusenкова, is also a member of the Train-the-Trainer Standardization Working Group, whose purpose is to develop a Network IQTM methodology manual for higher education institutions.

On June 29, a meeting of project partners was held in Barcelona at La Salle Ramon Llull University, where the actualities of project implementation were discussed. Kaspars Steinbergs, project manager of the Scientific Institution, represented EKA. This university was chosen as the meeting place not only because it is the leading partner of the project but also because it hosted the XXI Triple Helix conference "Entrepreneurial and Engaged Universities for Sustainable Development." K. Steinbergs also participated in this conference with the report "Industry-University Cooperation: A Case Study in Latvia".



Online Master Class from Daria Tataj for non-academic participants of the Train-theTrainer programme, June 30, 2023.



Dr.K.Šteinbergs at the Triple Helix conference, Barcelona, Spain, June 29, 2023.

## UXiship project

Erasmus+ KA2, Capacity Building in the field of higher education, "Accelerating ICT students' start-up development competence via interdisciplinary modular courses in the HEI curricula" (Uxiship).



Initial project implementation period: November 2019 - November 2022. In view of the impact of the COVID-19 constraints on project activities, the project eligibility period was extended by 12 months, until 14 November 2023, following a request from the project coordinator to amend the contract between the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency and the Hochschule Wismar/University of applied Sciences.

EU partner universities: Hochschule Wismar, University of applied Sciences (Germany); Tallinn University of Technology (Estonia); EKA University of Applied Sciences (Latvia). Partner universities in Kazakhstan: Kostanay State University; Almaty Management University; Caspian State University

The consortium has set the following objectives:

- revise and update under EU universities' supervision the contents of ICT curricula;
- define learning outcomes that should evolve as a result of ICT-based entrepreneurship module implementation in ICT majors curricula;
- update partner countries universities staff knowledge in accordance with industry challenges, guest lecturing and internships;
- create online scalable model of ICT-based entrepreneurship hard and soft skills development module that can be implemented in partner countries;
- enhance ICT competence by wide involvement of engineering and technology students in learning-by-doing IT-practices including block chain, internet of things, automation etc.;
- elaborate guidelines for recognition of joint ICT-based entrepreneurial module within ECTS credit system in partner countries;
- implement ICT-based entrepreneurial module in ICT university curricula in partner universities.

In 2023, within the framework of UXiship project, the research "Entrepreneurship competences for ICT students". The results of the research were presented at the the International Scientific Conference "Business and Management 2023" (May 11-12, 2023, Vilnius, Lithuania) and also reflected in the scientific publication:

Titko, J., Uzule, K., Tambovceva, T., Koshkin, I., Verina, N., Radionovs, J., Liepins, A., (2023). *Entrepreneurship competences for ICT students: Latvian and Kazakh samples*. In: *Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference "Business and Management 2023", May 11-12, 2023, Vilnius, Lithuania*, 402-409. <https://doi.org/10.3846/bm.2023.1108>

*UXiship is financed and supported by the ERASMUS+ programme of the European Union Capacity building in the field of higher education (Project ref. No. 609870-EPP-1-2019-DE-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP).*

## UnWaste project

Erasmus+ KA2, Capacity Building in the field of higher education, "Advancing circular economy in partner countries by development and implementation of Master programme "Waste management" (UnWaste). Project implementation period: January 2021 - January 2024.



EU partner universities: Hochschule Wismar, University of applied Sciences (Germany); Tallinn University of Technology (Estonia); EKA University of Applied Sciences (Latvia). Partner universities from the Republic of Kazakhstan: Ahmet Baytursynov Kostanay State University, Sh. Ualikhanov Kokshetau State University, Saken Seifullin Kazakh Agrotechnical University.

The consortium has set the following objectives:

- to develop joint interdisciplinary waste management master's program in partner universities;
- to enrol 50- 70 waste management master programme students and involve 3- 5 university instructors and industry mentors from each partner university;
- to develop academic curriculum for the waste management study programme and relevant engineering programmes at partner universities in line with EU standards and the Bologna process;
- transfer of knowledge to academic staff, ensuring transnational exchange of experience among academic staff, students and entrepreneurs through trainer training sessions provided by EU universities during internships in the EU;
- effective transfer of experience from appropriate waste management cluster projects;
- to raise awareness among politicians and the public about problems through round table discussions, consultations and project platforms, as well as social media;
- to ensure the sustainability and transfer of project results through effective and targeted information at regional, national and interproject levels.

*UnWaste is financed and supported by the ERASMUS+ programme of the European Union Capacity building in the field of higher education (Project ref. No. 618715-EPP-1-2020-1-1-DE-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP).*

## VILESA project

Since December 2021, EKA has been participating in the implementation of the international project "Development of a virtual learning space as a tool for developing students' critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity skills in the context of COVID19" (VILESA).



Project coordinator: Vilniaus kolegija/ Vilnius University of Applied Sciences (Lithuania)

Project partners:

- Krakow University of Economics (UNIWERSYTET EKONOMICZNY W KRAKOWIE) (Poland),
- Iron Cat, developer of virtual and extended reality solutions (Lithuania)
- EKA University of Applied Sciences- EKA (Latvia)
- Lithuanian Practice Enterprise Association, LIBA (Lithuania)

Project period: 1 December 2021 – 31 May 2024 (30 months).



The aim of the VILESA project is to solve the problems of application of modern teaching/learning methods in social sciences by digitizing the study content by using a Virtual reality platform. The application of modern technologies to the digitization of study content encourages creativity and creates opportunities for users to get involved in the content creation process themselves. Encouraging creativity, adapting content to the younger generation of learners (Generation Z) is based on developing practical skills while reducing environmental impact and contributing to business sustainability. The project is intended to reinforce and sustain such positive behavioural trends.

In the first stage of the project, the representatives of the partner universities worked intensively on the development of the "case study" concept and description - each in their own direction (economics, marketing, management and insurance).

EKA project participants - lecturers Jeļena Budanceva (director of the programs "Cultural management" and "Management of international cultural projects") and Edgars Čerkovskis (director of the program "Circular economy and social entrepreneurship") - developed the descriptions "Cultural Project management" and "Circular economy: natural resources".



Transnational project meeting of VILESA partners, May 25-26, 2023, Krakow University of Economics (Poland).

*The VILESA project is financed and supported by the European Commission, Erasmus+ Programme, Key Action 2 – Cooperation partnerships in higher education (grant agreement No. 2021-1-LT-01-KA220-HED-000023551).*

## **BENEFIT project**

Since September 2022, EKA is a partner in the International project “Blended Learning and Evaluation Practices for Inclusive Digital Higher Education” (BENEFIT). Project coordinator: Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje (North Macedonia). Project partners:



- Sveučiliste u Zagrebu (Croatia),
- Asociacija na prepodavatelite po iekonomika i upravljenje v industriata (Bulgaria),
- University of Peloponnese (Greece),
- EKA University of Applied Sciences - EKA (Latvia).

The BENEFIT project’s main objective is expanding the quality and efficiency of education provided by HEIs, by further building on the Erasmus+ project "EMBED - European Maturity Model for Blended Education". Such activities set the foundation for inclusive blended learning and teaching methods as modernized and dynamic models for the HEIs. By doing

so, HEIs are adequately transforming to the needs of modern era, by promoting better student experiences, greater personalisation and significantly higher efficiency. Furthermore, the need for implementation of the blended learning concept is also noted by the European Commission through the “Digital Educational Plan 2021-2027” as its potential benefit are immense.

In 2023, *European Analysis of Inclusive Education* has been completed. During this stage, the participants of the project from Latvia, North Macedonia, Croatia, Bulgaria and Greece analysed the current state of inclusive education in their respective nations. The EKA University of Applied Sciences reviewed the Latvian national legislation, policies, and practices on inclusive education, focusing on higher education and interests of people with special needs. As a result of the analysis, it was concluded that the national legislation and policies of the Republic of Latvia include basic provisions for the implementation of inclusive education and Latvian higher education institutions have been taking steps to deliver inclusive education opportunities, for example, via digital technologies and the enhancement of the physical environment.



Transnational project meeting, February 15-17, 2023, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje (North Macedonia).

*BENEFIT is financed and supported by the European Commission, Erasmus+ Programme, Key Action 2 – Cooperation partnerships in higher education (grant agreement No. 2022-1-MK01-KA220-HED-000087530).*

### **STEM Circular project**

Since 2023, EKA is a partner in the International project “Boosting Circular Economy Competences for STEM Teachers” (Circular STEM).

Project coordinator: Agrupamento de Escolas de Frazão, Paços de Ferreira (Portugal).  
Project partners:

- European Digital Learning Network (Italy),
- Institut za moderno obrazovanje (Serbia),
- POLITEKNIKA IKASTEGIA TXORIERRI S.COOP (Spain),
- EKA University of Applied Sciences - EKA (Latvia),
- EIT RawMaterials GmbH (Germany).

Circular STEM aims to develop an innovative learner-centred methodology to train STEM teachers of students aged 13-18 to introduce circular economy (CE) competences in the school curriculum, using an entrepreneurial approach to education that also leverages on digital skills. The project will have an underlying approach focusing on empowering girls in using digital tools and raising their interest in STEM subjects.



Transnational project meeting, June 13-14, 2023, Agrupamento de Escolas de Frazão, Paços de Ferreira (Portugal).

*Circular STEM is financed and supported by the European Commission, Erasmus + Programme, KA220-SCH - Cooperation partnerships in school education (Project grant agreement No. 2022-1-PT01-KA220-SCH-000086954)*

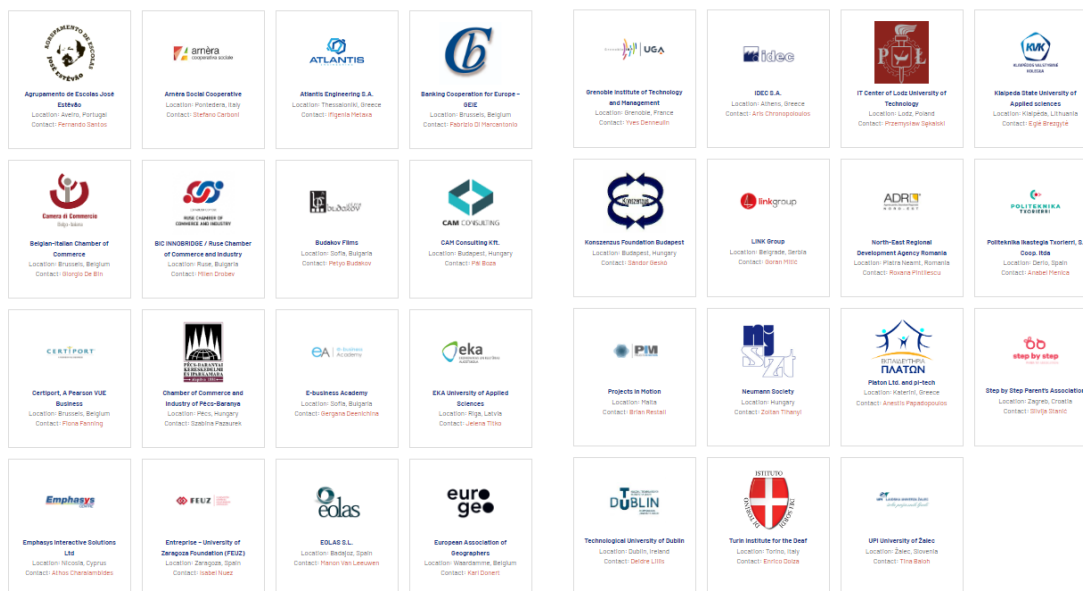
Summarised information on EKA's international projects is shown in Table 5.

**Table 5** EKA participation in international projects in 2022/2023

Period	Title of the project	Grant agreement No	Coordinator
2019 - 2023	Accelerating ICT students' start-up development competence via interdisciplinary modular courses in the HEI curricula ( <b>Uxiship</b> )	609870-EPP-1-2019-DE-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP	Hochschule Wismar (Germany)
2021-2024	Advancing circular economy in partner countries by development and implementation of Master programme "Waste management" ( <b>UnWaste</b> )	618715-EPP-1-2020-1-1-DE-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP	Hochschule Wismar (Germany)
2021 - 2024	Development of a virtual learning space as a tool for developing students' critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity skills in the context of COVID19" ( <b>VILESA</b> )	2021-1-LT-01-KA220-HED-000023551	Vilniaus kolegija (Lithuania)
2022--2024	Building forward better' ecosystems - assessing the power of unworked communities to scale-up and improve the impact of entrepreneurial universities - <b>Network IQ Alliance</b> "		Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology Spain S.L. (Span)
2022-2024	"Blended Learning and Evaluation Practices for Inclusive Digital Higher Education" ( <b>BENEFIT</b> )	2022-1-MK01-KA220-HED-000087530	Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje (North Macedonia)
2022-2024	"Boosting Circular Economy Competences for STEM Teachers" ( <b>Circular STEM</b> )	2022-1-PT01-KA220-SCH-000086954	Agrupamento de Escolas de Frazão, Paços de Ferreira (Portugal)

## Membership in DLearn

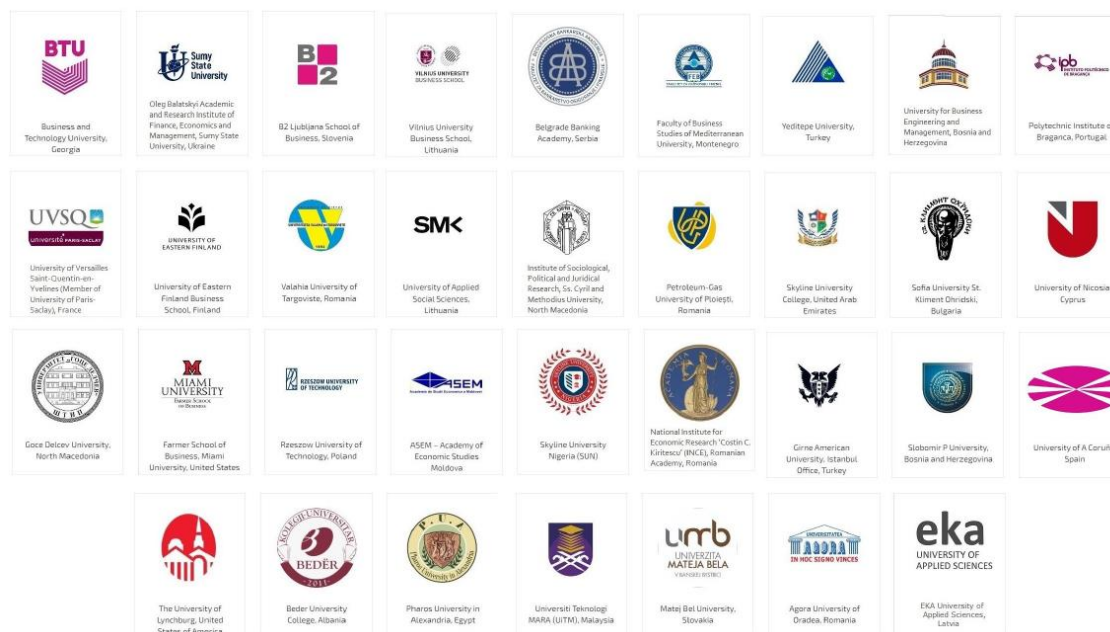
Since 2022, EKA is a member of the European Digital Learning Network – DLEARN. Since 2023, EKA and DLearn are members of the consortium of the Erasmus+ KA2 project “Boosting Circular Economy Competences for STEM Teachers” (Circular STEM).



Member institutions of DLearn, <http://dlearn.eu/about/members/>

## Membership in EUMMAS

In 2023, EKA became a member of the European Marketing and Management Association (EUMMAS) <https://eummas.net/>. Now, the EUMMAS Academic Consortium (EAC) comprises at the moment 34 universities and business schools from 27 countries.



EUMMAS Academic Consortium, Member institutions



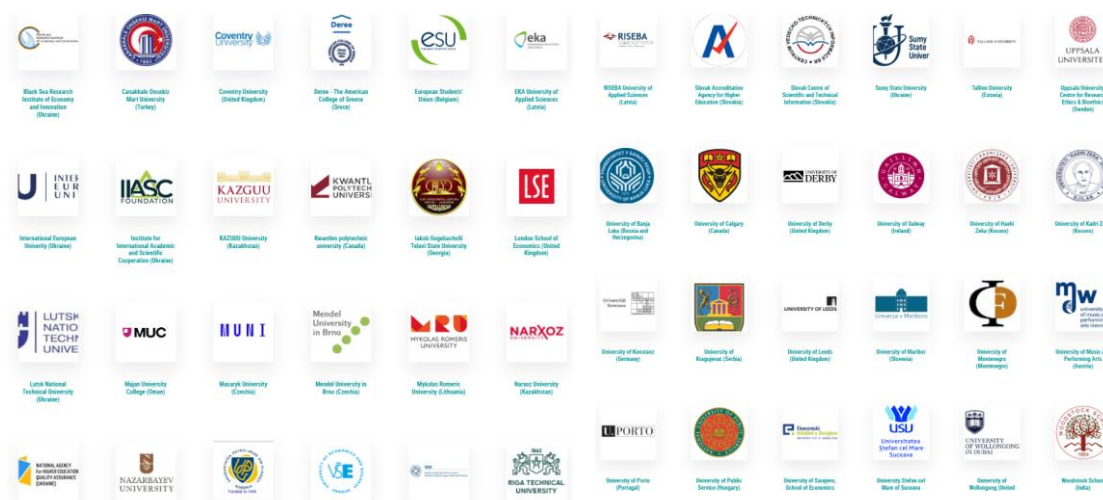
EKA academic staff members and researchers were appointed to the following positions:

- Jelena Titko – Scientific committee member
- Kristine Uzule – Editorial Board member
- Oksana Lentjusenkov – member of the Research Centre for Strategic Management
- Jevgenija Dehtjare, Kristine Uzule, Jelena Budanceva – members of the Research Centre for Human Resource Management

## Membership in ENAI

In 2023, EKA became a member of the European Network of Academic Integrity (ENAI)

<https://www.academicintegrity.eu/wp/>



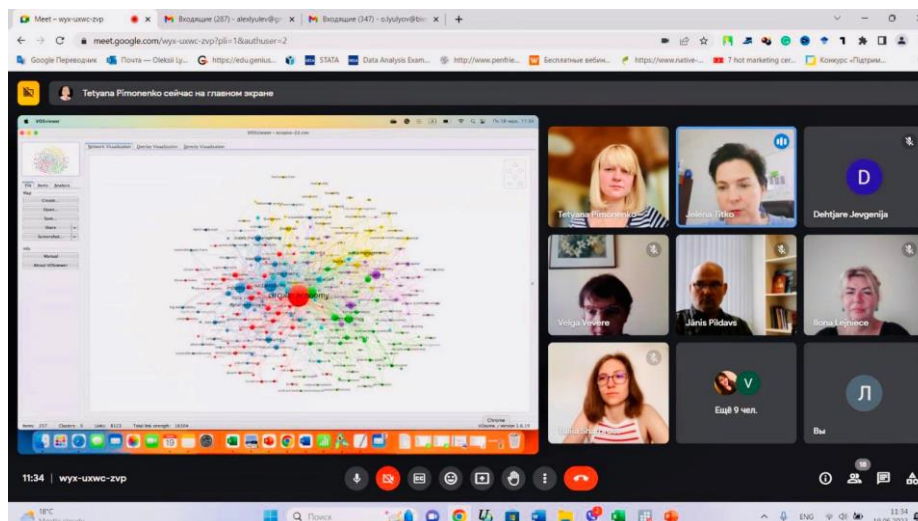
ENAI member institutions <https://www.academicintegrity.eu/wp/pages/members/>

EKA representatives will take part in activities of the ENAI Working group:

- Karina Zalcmane: “Academic Integrity Policies”  
<https://www.academicintegrity.eu/wp/academic-integrity-policies-working-group/>
- Jelena Titko: “Academic Writing Ethically”

## Cooperation with individual foreign researchers

- 19.06.2023. The EKA University hosted “Virtual Research Festival”. This event was implemented remotely by the Ukrainian Sumy State University with the support of the EKA Scientific Institution. The aim of the festival was to introduce the academic staff of the EKA University and the researchers of the EKA Scientific institution with modern research methods. During the event, leading researchers of the Ukrainian University led seminars: Professor Tetyana Pimonenko trained representatives of EKA to use bibliometric analysis (“Bibliometric analysis: Instruments and the basic stage, the main stage and instruments”), while Professor Oleksii Lyulyov presented hypothesis testing methods using STATA software (“Testing of hypothesis and ANOVA”).



Webinar “Virtual Research Festival”, 19.06.2023.

- In 2023, Tomas Pečiulis, a Doctoral student of the Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, participated in the traineeship at EKA to develop his dissertation titled “Interaction between money market evolution and monetary policy instruments”.

#### **4.4. EKA cooperation with business and public sector**

##### **Cooperation with the Finance Education Association**

In 2021, the EKA University of Applied Sciences concluded a cooperation agreement with the Finance Education Association on carrying out research on the theme “Knowledge and Attitude towards Financial Investments among Youth”

The founders of the Latvian Finance Education Association are "Alphinox Quality", "Nasdaq Riga", "Vilands Associates" (operating under the brand "VA Communications"), Stockholm School of Economics in Riga Professor Anete Pajuste and the institutional market manager of "LHV Bank" Ivars Bergmanis.

In 2023, data collection process was finished (in total, 814 questionnaires) and initial data processing was made. First results of the survey were presented at the International Scientific Conference “Business and Management 2023”, May 12-13, 2023, Vilnius, Lithuania. Besides, the paper “Knowledge, attitude and behavior towards investments: pilot study on Latvian sample” was published in the conference proceedings <https://doi.org/10.3846/bm.2023.971>

##### **Cooperation with the Bank of Latvia – Financial Literacy**

In 2023, EKA continues a cooperation with the Bank of Latvia in order to implement the strategy for financial literacy of Latvian residents for the period 2021-2027 <https://www.bank.lv/en/component/content/article?id=12782:latvijas-banka-will-be-the-responsible-institution-in-the-field-of-financial-literacy> The working group involves representatives from many institutions, such as Ministry of Economics, Consumer Rights Protection Center, State Employment Agency, Financial Sector Association, Latvian insurers' Association, BA School of Business and Finance, Riga Technical University, EKA University of Applied Sciences, Joint Stock Company “Development Finance Institution

Altum", Joint Stock Company "NASDAQ Riga", JSC "SEB banka", subsidiary of Luminor Bank AS in Latvia, JSC "Swedbank", "Intrum Latvia" Ltd., "Junior Achievement Latvia", and others.

## **Pr5 PRIORITY "Scientific reputation of EKA"**

### **5.1. Scientific, academic and creative events organized by EKA**

#### **International Scientific Conference**

In April 2023, in cooperation with Alberta College (Latvia) and Sumy State University (Ukraine), the International Scientific Conference *Emerging Trends in Economics, Culture and Humanities - etECH2023* was organized.

The annual International Scientific Conference has been held at the EKA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES since 2011. Since 2017, it has been organized under the title *Emerging Trends in Economics, Culture and Humanities*.

In 2023, more than 100 participants from Germany, Lithuania, Poland, Slovenia, Ukraine, Czech Republic, Finland, Italy, Spain, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Latvia participated. The etECH2023 was organized in eight hybrid sections (face-to-face and via BBB and Zoom platforms) involving participants with 74 reports on the results of their studies:

- *Sustainability and Circular Economy / Macroeconomics, International Economics, Public Economics and Financial Economics* (moderators: Professor Viktorija Skvarciany, VILNIUS TECH, Lithuania; Professor Inga Šina, EKA University of Applied Sciences, Latvia)
- *Business Administration, Marketing and Corporate Finance* (moderators:; Edgars Čerkovskis, EKA University of Applied Sciences, Latvia; Professor Marcin Komanda, Opole University, Poland)
- *Pedagogy and Education* (moderators: Professor Vita Zarina, EKA University of Applied Sciences Latvia; Associated professor Kristine Uzule, EKA University of Applied Sciences, Latvia)
- *Law* (moderators: associate professor Karina Zalcmane, EKA University of Applied Sciences, Latvia; Assistant Professor Marina Kamenecka-Usova, EKA University of Applied Sciences, Latvia)
- *ICT Solutions for Economy, Business and Society* (moderators: Professor Uwe Busbach, University of Applied Sciences, Kehl; Professor Tatjana Tambovceva, Riga Technical University, Latvia)
- *Culture Studies and International Culture Project Management/Creative Industries, Art and Design* (moderators: Assistant Professor Jelena Budanceva, EKA University of Applied Sciences, Latvia; Professor Velga Vevere, EKA University of Applied Sciences, Latvia)
- *Turbulences and changes in social and economic phenomena in europe - application of statistical methods* (moderators: Dr. hab. Professor Elżbieta Roszko-Wójtowicz, University of Lodz, Poland)
- *Human resources, ethical corporate governance and corporate social responsibility* (moderators: Ing. Renata Skýpalová, Ph.D. Ing. Mária Urbánová, Ing. AMBIS Vysoka škola, Czech Republic)



etECH2023 Welcome Party, 19/04/2023



EtECH2023 Keynote speech, Dr. BEN JANSEN. CEO and owner of Dehora Consultancy Group/ Netherlands, Belgium, Czech Republic, Poland, UAE, 20/04/2023



With Marcin Komanda (Poland) and Edgars Cerkovskis (EKA, Latvia), award ceremony

### International Academic Week

On April 17-21, 2023, the EKA University of Applied Sciences organized an annual International Academic Week (IAW2023) in cooperation with Alberta College.

**Table 6** IAW2023 activities

Date	Participant	HEI/ Organization	Activity
17.04.2023	ANNA KUZIOR, Assistant Professor	University of Economics in Katowice ( <b>Poland</b> )	LECTURE for students: TECHNIQUES OF EARNING MANAGEMENT BASED ON IFRS
17.04.2023	KRYSZYNA MITRĘGA-NIESTRÓJ, Academic teacher, Vice-Dean of the School of Undergraduate and Graduate Studies	University of Economics in Katowice ( <b>Poland</b> )	LECTURE for students: DRIVERS OF CHANGE IN THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SYSTEM IN THE 21ST CENTURY



18.04.2023	ALEŠ KUBIČEK, Associate Professor	Prague University of Economics and Business <b>(Czech Republic)</b>	LECTURE for students: FAMILY FIRMS: A REDISCOVERED ORGANIZATIONAL FORM IN CEE COUNTRIES
18.04.2023	Ing. DAVID RIHA, MBA PhD, Associate Professor	Prague University of Economics and Business <b>(Czech Republic)</b>	LECTURE for students: ART OF MARKETING – HOW TO BUILD A STRONG BRAND
18.04.2023	IVANA MALA, Associate Professor	Prague University of Economics and Business <b>(Czech Republic)</b>	LECTURE for students: AGEING IN EUROPE, SAMPLE SURVEYS, COMPOSITE INDICATORS
18.04.2023	MARCO CARRADORE PhD, Temporary Professor	University of Verona <b>(Italy)</b>	LECTURE for students: DATA ANALYSIS USING STANDARD STATISTICAL R PACKAGES; ACCESSING AND USING EUROBAROMETER SURVEYS
18.04.2023	MBA SVETLANA ZHURAVEL, PMProfs LTD Owner, Multi-million start-up “Printify” Strategic initiative general manager, ICU Certified Coach since 2019, ICU Business and Executive Coach	Printify, <b>Latvia</b>	WORKSHOP for IAW2023 participants and EKA staff: DIFFERENT FACETS OF THE SPIRAL DYNAMIC MODEL
18.04.2023	BRIGITA DIMAVIČIENE, PhD, Lecturer	Kaunas University of Technology <b>(Lithuania)</b>	LECTURE for students: ACADEMIC WRITING
19.04.2023	NADIJA LOLINA PhD, Associated Professor, former Head of Design Department in KROK University, Ukraine	University of London, <b>UK</b>	WORKSHOP for IAW2023 participants and EKA staff: NEXUS OF BUSINESS & ART IN RESEARCH AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
19.04.2023	AGNIESZKA POWIERSKA, Assistant Professor	State Academy of Applied Sciences in Włocławek (Poland)	LECTURE for students: STORYTELLING AND GAMIFICATION IN CULTURAL EVENTS AND MARKETING
19.04.2023	JELENA BUDANCEVA, MBA, Assistant Professor, director of the programmes “Culture Management” and “International Culture Project Management”	EKA <b>(Latvia)</b>	WORKSHOP for IAW2023 participants and EKA staff: THE USE OF DIFFERENT ART TECHNIQUES IN EDUCATIONAL PROCESSES
19.04.2023	KASPARS ŠTEINBERGS, Dr.oec., Assistant Professor	EKA University of Applied Sciences <b>(Latvia)</b>	WORKSHOP for IAW2023 participants and EKA staff: APPLICATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE STUDY PROCESS AND RESEARCH
19.04.2023	ANNA ADAMUS-MATUSZYŃSKA, Professor	University of Economics in Katowice <b>(Poland)</b>	LECTURE for students: Conflict Resolution in the Digital Age; Public Relations Practice in the Digital Era
19.04.2023	JURGITA BRUNECKIENE, Professor	Kaunas University of Technology <b>(Lithuania)</b>	LECTURE for students: CIRCULAR ECONOMY: UNLOCKING HIDDEN TREASURES
19.04.2023	GRETA DANILAVIČIENE, Lecturer	Kaunas University of Technology <b>(Lithuania)</b>	LECTURE for students: PECULIARITIES OF ACADEMIC WRITING IN ENGLISH
21.04.2023	SASA ZUPAN KORZE, PhD	ERUDIO Business School <b>(Slovenia)</b>	LECTURE for students: LIVING IN THE ERA OF DIGITALIZATION AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES
21.04.2023	Dr. rer. pol. STEFAN BONGARD, Professor	Department of Service and Consulting at the of	LECTURE for students: ALTERNATIVE DRIVES OF

		Ludwigshafen University of Business and Society (Germany)	LOGISTICS; FUTURE MOBILITY IN THE LOGISTICS ENVIRONMENT
21.04.2023	INETA ZYKIENE, Associate Professor	Kaunas University of Technology (Lithuania)	LECTURE for students: PARADOXES OF GLOBALIZATION: THE POWER OF 1 "CLICK"



IAW2023 participants

During IAW2023, a pilot survey among participants was conducted. The results were presented by EKA Vice-Rector Professor Jelena Titko at the International Scientific conference "Business and Management 2023", Vilnius Tech University, Lithuania, May 11-12, 2023, presentation "Artificial Intelligence in Education: Threats or Opportunities?" The publishing of the paper "Artificial intelligence for education and research: pilot study on perception of academic staff" is planned by the end of 2023.

### **International Staff Training Week**

On September 20-23 2022, the EKA University of Applied Sciences organized International Staff Training Week 2022 "Training on Academic Writing and Research methods".

- Lecture APPLYING METHODS OF NATURAL SCIENCES IN BUSINESS RESEARCH. Dr. Anna Svirina, EKA University of Applied Sciences
- Workshop MUST KNOW AND MUST HAVE FOR RESEARCHERS. Jelena Titko, EKA University of Applied Sciences
- Workshop MULTI-CRITERIA DECISION ANALYSIS METHOD TOPSIS. Dr. Viktorija Skvarciany, VILNIUS TECH (Lithuania)
- Lecture DATA TYPES. Jelena Titko, EKA University of Applied Sciences (Latvia)

Researchers from several universities participated in the event:

- Vilnius Tech (Lithuania)
- University of West Bohemia (Czech Republic)
- WSB University in Poznań (Poland)
- Baltic International Academy (Latvia)
- Alberta College (Latvia)

The teams set up during the STW2022 created five research ideas to work on:

- PERSONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL BARRIERS PERCEIVED BY STAFF OF LATVIAN HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE PROCESS OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION (N.Verina, Latvia, H.Chauhan, Latvia, Ž.Černostana, Latvia)
- BLOCKCHAIN AN CIRCULAR ECONOMY: A NEW ACONOMIC MODEL FOR ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (E.Čerkovskis, Latvia, T.Pečiulis, Lithuania, S.Mastrostefano, Italy)
- THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IN LATVIA (I.Shina, Latvia, V.Zarina, Latvia, A.Svirina, Latvia, K.Užule, Latvia)
- NAVIGATING THE “ERASMUS WATERS” OF INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION. A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN LATVIA, POLAND AND THE CZECH REPUBLIC (Veronika Quinn Novotna, Czech Republic, Inese Rutka, Latvia, Lilit Zakoyan, Latvia, Zane Veidenberga, Latvia).
- JOB CRAFTING INTERVENTION: FOSTERING ACADEMICS’ ENGAGEMENT (Agnieszka Springer, Poland, Iwona Werner, Poland)



STW2022 opening



STW2022 participants

### **International Student Scientific Practical Conference**

Student International Scientific Practical Conferences have been organized by the EKA University of Applied Sciences since 2012. Since 2015, it has been organized in cooperation with the strategic partner of the EKA – Alberta College. In 2023, the Student Conference was organized in a hybrid format:

On April 21, 2023

- Foreign students’ session

On April 28, 2023

- Culture management
- Management

On April 29, 2023

- Business administration
- International culture project management
- Entrepreneurship
- Accounting
- Human resource management

- Digital marketing
- Information technologies



Participants of the foreign student section, 21.04.2023.

### **Learning and methodical conference**

This year, the academic and methodological conference of the EKA University of Applied Sciences and Alberta College “Organization of learning and methodological work and research activities during the study process” took place on 3 January.

Theme of the conference: Cybersecurity

Conference reports:

- Social engineering
- Ransomware DDoS
- Non-existing services
- Cybersecurity at the work place

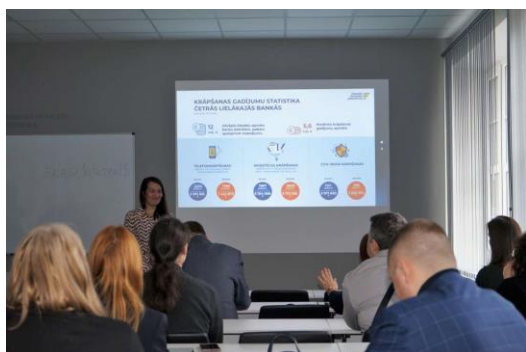
Presentors:



**Inga Pinka**, Lending, AML, debt collection, Professional experience > 17 years: AS DelfinGroup, FreshFinance AS, Twino SIA, Citadele banka AS, Swedbank AS



**Santa Sauliņa**, AML, FinTech, Customer Service/Sales, Professional experience > 8 years: Swedbank AS



Presentation of Inga Pinka



Academic staff of EKA and AK

## 5.2. EKA publishing activities

Each year, conference abstract proceedings are published as part of the etECH Conference. This year it includes 74 research abstracts (available at: [https://www.augstskola.lv/upload/2023\\_etECH2023\\_Abstracts\\_proceedings.pdf](https://www.augstskola.lv/upload/2023_etECH2023_Abstracts_proceedings.pdf))

The best articles are published in the scientific journal "Economics and Culture". The magazine is issued twice a year (in June and December) by the International Publishing House SCIENDO. The magazine has OPEN ACCESS status, all articles have a DOI number. The scientific journal "Economics and Culture" is currently indexed by the EBSCO Discovery Service, Google Scholar, Research Papers in Economics (RePEc) and other databases (the full list is available at: <https://content.sciendo.com/view/journals/jec/jec-overview.xml>) Since 2023, "Economics and Culture" is also indexed by ERIH+



Since 2015, EKA in cooperation with Alberta College, has been issuing a collection of scientific articles "Collection of student scientific research papers". The collection of scientific research papers includes papers of the students of the EKA University of Applied Sciences (EKA), Alberta College (AK) and other HEIs submitted to the International Student Scientific and Practical Conference. The articles reflect the results of the research carried out in the fields of economics, finance, accounting, management, public relations, marketing, information and communication technologies, law, etc. fields.



In addition, a collection of conference abstracts is published in the framework of a joint conference organized by EKA and Alberta College. The issue of 2023 contains more 100 abstracts of student research. In addition, in the field of Arts, collection "Description of Students' Creative Projects and Works of Art" was published, which brought together 9 descriptions of works of art created by the students of the study programme "Interior design" and 9 computer game descriptions made by the students of the study programme "Computer game design and graphics".



The information on publications issued by EKA in 2022/2023 is summarized in Table 7.

**Table 7** EKA publications issued in 2022/2023

Publication Type	Name of the publication
Scientific Journal	– Economics and Culture, 19(2) and 20(1) (ISSN 2255-7563) <a href="https://content.sciendo.com/view/journals/jec/jec-overview.xml">https://content.sciendo.com/view/journals/jec/jec-overview.xml</a>
Conference Abstracts Proceedings	– International Scientific Conference "Emerging Trends in Economics, Culture and Humanities (etECH2023)" Abstracts proceedings (978-9984-24-251-4 (pdf) – Student Research Activity: Theory and Practice '2023. Conference Abstracts Proceedings
Collection of articles	– Student Scientific Research Papers (ISSN 2500- 9761) – Description of student creative projects and works of art ISBN 978-9984-24-259-0 / 978-9984-24-260-6 (pdf)