



CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

„Adult Education in the European Education Area: Perspectives from Southeast Europe“

Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina,

October, 24. - 25. 2024.

University of Sarajevo – Faculty of Philosophy & DVV International – Country Office in BiH

We invite researchers, practitioners, and education policy makers to participate in the International Conference "Adult Education in the European Education Area: Perspectives from Southeast Europe."

The conference will be an opportunity for presentations, critical reflection, and discussion on current trends, as well as anticipation of future directions in the fields of research, practice, and policy of adult education.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

Scientific Committee

- Mirjana Mavrak, PhD, President of the Scientific Committee, University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Amina Isanović Hadžiomerović, PhD, Vice-president of the Conference Committee University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Katarina Popović, PhD, University of Belgrade (Serbia)
- Regina Egetenmeyer-Neher, PhD, Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg (Germany)
- Aleksandra Pejatović, PhD, University of Belgrade, (Serbia)
- Amir Pušina, PhD, University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Tihomir Žiljak, PhD, Croatian Andragogical Society (Croatia)
- Borut Mikulec, PhD, University of Ljubljana (Slovenia)



Bundesministerium für
wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit
und Entwicklung



- Anita Zovko, PhD, University of Rijeka (Croatia)
- Haris Cerić, PhD University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Kornelija Mrnjaus, PhD, University of Rijeka (Croatia)
- Lisa Breidtschwerdt, PhD, Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg (Germany)
- Elena Rizova, PhD, Univerzitet „Ss. Cyril and Methodius University of Skopje“ (North Macedonia)
- Dženeta Camović, PhD, University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Edina Nikšić Rebihić, PhD, University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Nives Ličen, PhD, University of Ljubljana (Slovenia)

Organizing Committee

- Amina Isanović Hadžiomerović, PhD, President of the Organizing Committee, University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Dženita Džano, M.A., Country Director of the DVV International – Country Office in BiH
- Amina Čeho Osmanović, PhD, University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Amina Smajović, PhD, University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Belma Alić Ramić, M.A., University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Sabina Šošić, M.A., DVV International – Country Office in BiH
- Emin Alić, M.A., DVV International – Country Office in BiH

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

The conference aims to open a space for examining the role of adult education in creating the *European Education Area* (EEA), particularly in the countries of Southeast Europe, some of which are EU members while others have varying statuses of accession. Adult education and lifelong learning are embedded in several recent European Union documents and initiatives aimed at building more resilient, sustainable, and inclusive education systems across Europe. They are part of the vision of the *European Education Area*, aligned with the *European Pillar of Social Rights*, which is founded on education, training, and lifelong learning. The *European Year of Skills* is based on the belief that appropriate lifelong learning and education opportunities can address the skills gap needed for the development of modern technologies, especially for the implementation of digital and green transformation. The new *European Skills Agenda* is focused on increasing the participation of various groups of adults in learning, with a special emphasis on the unemployed or those without the necessary level of professional or digital skills.

Adult education is a key topic at high-level international gatherings (e.g., CONFINTEA organized by UNESCO) and appears as a topic within the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), specifically Goal 4. The latest *Global Report on Adult Learning and Education (GRALE 5)* highlighted the need to align adult education with socio-economic and technological development and to better anticipate the future needs of different groups of adults. These topics gain particular importance in the context of demographic changes, digital transformation, the spread of artificial intelligence, climate change, and the European Green Deal. Without serious

engagement with these issues, which includes the collaboration of researchers, policymakers, and practitioners in the field, their significance cannot be adequately addressed.

The *New European Agenda for Adult Learning 2021-2030* (NEAAL 2030) highlights the need for in-depth analyses and research at the international, European, and national levels using various methodological approaches and involving different groups of adults. The agenda also calls for the enhancement of knowledge about adult learning based on relevant research. Locally, the *Strategic Platform for the Development of Adult Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the context of lifelong learning* (2014-2020) has expired, and a new document should be prepared. This process requires careful analysis and clearly articulated priorities based on the results of empirical research.

The question arises as to how Southeast European countries, which belong to the same intellectual and academic tradition of Andragogy and share part of a common history but significantly differ in addressing contemporary issues of adult education, are working towards achieving the goals of the European Education Area in the domain of adult education and lifelong learning. In this context, it is necessary to consider several broader themes, starting from the status of andragogy as a scientific discipline, research, and study programs, to laws and practical solutions created by adult education organizers. The need to align domestic legislation with trends in the European and global context further emphasizes the importance of organizing such an international conference.

The conference will be an opportunity for meetings between the academic community and researchers, as well as practitioners and policymakers. This seeks to contribute to strengthening practices and policies based on scientific research.

The conference will include the following sessions:

- I. Andragogy study programs and the education of andragogical professionals
- II. Adult education in times of multiple crises
- III. Legal frameworks and models of financing adult education
- IV. Experiences from the practice of adult education

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

Participation in the Conference is possible as either a presenter or an attendee. Presentations can be in the form of scientific and professional papers, as well as case studies from practice.

- **Application for participation** as an attendee or presenter is done through the application form available at the following link: <https://forms.gle/sNtqrQheoZ9Q7Wb76>
- **Applications for attendees** are accepted until October 5, 2024.
- **Participants applying as presenters** need to submit an abstract of their presentation through the application form no later than September 5, 2024. Abstract length: up to 300 words and 5 keywords.

Abstracts are subject to a double-blind review, and upon acceptance, they will be published in the Book of Abstracts.

Reviewed presentations from the Conference will be published in the *Journal of Adult Education*. The deadline for submitting full papers is December 1, 2024. Instructions for preparing articles are available at the following link: <https://ccu.bkc.ba/uputstvo-za-autore-priloga/>

Papers should be submitted via the OJS platform <https://ojs.bkc.ba/index.php/journal> or to the email address: casopis@bkc.ba

Additional instructions are available upon request via email: amina.isanovic@ff.unsa.ba

IMPORTANT DATES AND CONTACTS

ACTIVITY	DATE
Deadline for abstract submission	September 5, 2024
Results of abstract reviews	September 15, 2024
Deadline for registering as an attendee (without presentation)	October 5, 2024
Conference dates	October, 24 – 25, 2024
Deadline for full paper submission	December, 1, 2024
Results of full paper reviews	January 15, 2025

Important contacts

Mirjana Mavrak, PhD, e-mail: mmavrak@yahoo.com

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We look forward to welcoming you to Sarajevo!

Cofinanced through
Science Program 2024

