



**- Call for Papers -**

**ACTIVATING THE SOURCES OF ECONOMIC GROWTH  
IN KOSOVO  
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**This conference is organized to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Riinvest Institute  
15-17 May 2025, Prishtina**

**BACKGROUND**

Kosovo, a small developing country in the Western Balkans, is striving for sustainable development and to bridge the gap with its European counterparts. Currently, its GDP per capita stands at around 66 percent of its neighboring countries and around 25 percent of the European Union average. Enduring significant challenges, Kosovo faced substantial disinvestment and deindustrialization in the 1990s, followed by a prolonged period of UNMIK administration until declaring independence in 2008. Since then, the country has made notable economic progress, witnessing nearly a 50 percent increase in per capita income and a 35 percent reduction in the poverty rate. This advancement has been fueled by a gradual shift away from heavy reliance on foreign aid, marked by increased consumption, investment, and diaspora contributions, alongside robust public infrastructure investment and financial development.

However, the dynamics of economic growth over the past decade, averaging around 4 percent, are considered inadequate given the economic imbalances, particularly the very high trade deficit and still low activation rate of the population. The current model of economic growth, which still relies heavily on external factors, has exhausted its transformative capacities. There is a need to affirm a new model based on increased competitive capacities of products and services in both domestic and foreign markets.

Kosovo continues to grapple with insufficient formal employment, especially for women and youth. Addressing infrastructure constraints, prioritizing human capital investment, and fostering private sector development are vital for sustaining growth and creating quality jobs. Additionally, efforts towards environmental sustainability, including alignment with EU environmental standards, are imperative. Good governance and sound policies, as observed in other developing economies, are essential for fostering an environment conducive to higher growth and sustainable development.

## OBJECTIVES

- (1) To explore and present new knowledge and advanced experiences in activating sources of economic growth in an open developing market economy – with special reference to Kosovo
- (2) To promote research activities in Kosovo related to economic and social development
- (3) To strengthen relationships and partnerships with academics, development experts, and organisations throughout Europe, US and beyond.

## KEY CONFERENCE TOPICS

1. Human capital, education, and innovation
2. Industrial policy and new competitiveness of nations
3. Environmental challenges for green growth
4. Institutions for growth and competitiveness
5. Innovation for inclusive green and digital transition
6. Productivity and innovation
7. Public policies for dual transition
8. Absorptive capacities for investment and job creation
9. EU integration and regional economic cooperation

## FORMAT

The conference will consist of plenary sessions and workshops where contributions will be presented and discussed. The format of the workshops will depend on the number of papers accepted and the topics covered.

## PAPERS

Papers should follow an academic format and will be peer-reviewed by a special Conference Committee. Policy-oriented papers are welcome but will comprise no more than 20 percent of the total papers presented.

- Requirements for Abstract Submission
  - Structure of the Abstract
  - Title of the Article
  - Full first name of the author and the family name
  - Author's working place
  - Abstract of the article (maximum 1 page long)
  - Keywords
  - The page margins – 2 cm overall, Times New Roman, 12pt for the text, single space between the lines.

- Requirements for the Final Paper: Structure of the Final Paper:
  - Title of the article
  - Full first name of the author and the family name
  - Author's working place
  - Abstract of the article (maximum 1 page long)
  - Keywords
  - Introduction, indicating the **article's scientific problem, novelty, aim, tasks, object, research methods**
  - Text of the article
  - Conclusions
  - List of References (no less 25 of significant scientific works)
  - The page margins – 2 cm overall, Times New Roman, 12pt for the text, single space between the lines.
  - The Final paper should be 8-10 pages long

Conference Date: 15-17 May 2025

Venue: Prishtina, Kosovo

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### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- **8 January 2025: Submission of abstracts**
- **22 March 2025: Submission of papers**
- **3 May 2025: Publication of the conference agenda**