



REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA
SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS UNIVERSITY IN SKOPJE
INSTITUTE FOR SOCIOLOGICAL, POLITICAL AND
JURIDICAL RESEARCH – SKOPJE



CALL FOR PAPERS

Scientific International Conference Challenges in Transforming Society

Organizer / Institutional Host

**Institute of Sociological, Political and Juridical Research (ISPJR)
Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia**

The conference is organized on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Institute of Sociological, Political and Juridical Research (ISPJR).

Conference Overview

Contemporary societies are undergoing profound and multidimensional transformations driven by globalization, digitalization, demographic change, migration, environmental pressures, political reconfigurations, and shifting cultural and value systems. While these processes generate new opportunities for development and innovation, they also produce structural challenges, inequalities, social tensions, and governance dilemmas that require systematic scholarly reflection and empirical investigation.

The **Scientific International Conference “Challenges in Transforming Society”** aims to provide an interdisciplinary academic forum for scholars, researchers, and practitioners to examine key transformations shaping contemporary societies and to discuss their implications for social cohesion, institutions, governance, identity, and everyday life. The conference welcomes theoretical, methodological, and empirical contributions addressing both global processes and local or regional contexts.

Thematic Areas

Contributions may address, but are not limited to, the following **general thematic areas**:

1. Social Change, Identity, Religion and Culture

This thematic area explores the relationship between social change, religion, cultural practices, and everyday life in both local and global contexts.

- 1.1. Identity Formation, Religion, and Social Change**
- 1.2. Cultural Practices, Values, and Everyday Life**
- 1.3. Media, Communication, and Youth Cultural Engagement**

2. Inequality, Inclusion, and Social Cohesion

This thematic area explores how economic, social, and cultural inequalities shape opportunities, participation, and social cohesion. Contributions may address policies, social practices, and institutional responses aimed at promoting inclusion, reducing disparities, and strengthening solidarity within diverse societies.

- 2.1. Social Inequality, Stratification, and Social Mobility**
- 2.2. Migration, Diversity, and Social Integration**
- 2.3. Youth, Generational Change, and Social Inclusion**

3. Digital Transformation, Technology, AI and Society

This thematic area explores the social implications of digitalization, artificial intelligence, and technological innovation, as well as the opportunities and challenges they present for work, ethics, regulation, and social interaction. Contributions may address the impact of technological change on institutions, labor markets, communication practices, and broader societal development.

- 3.1. Digitalization and Social Transformation**
- 3.2. Artificial Intelligence, Work, and the Future of Labor**
- 3.3. Ethics, Regulation, and Governance of Digital Technologies**

4. Sustainability, Risk, and Social Futures

This thematic area explores how societies respond to environmental challenges, uncertainty, and global transformations, and how different actors contribute to shaping sustainable and resilient futures. Contributions may address environmental governance, risk perception, social adaptation, and visions of future societal pathways.

- 4.1. Environmental Challenges and Sustainable Development**
- 4.2. Risk, Uncertainty, and Social Resilience**
- 4.3. Social Futures and Pathways of Sustainable Transformation**

The conference will be organized in a hybrid format, allowing both onsite and online participation and encouraging broader international academic engagement.

Conference Governance and Committees

Scientific (Program) Committee

Members of the national and international academic community:

- Ruzica Cacanoska (ISPJR, UKIM, RNM)
- Petar Atanasov (ISPJR, UKIM, RNM)
- Paul Mojzes (Rosemont College, USA)
- Beth Admiral (King's College in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, USA)
- Mirko Blagojevic (University in Belgrade, Serbia)
- Sergej Flere (University of Maribor, Slovenia)
- Petre Georgievski (UKIM, RNM)
- Dragoljub Đorđević (University of Niš, Serbia)
- Dragan Todorović (University of Niš, Serbia)
- Zorica Kuburic (University in Novi Sad, Serbia)
- Gjoko Gjorgeski (Theological Faculty, UKIM, RNM)
- Branislav Radeljić (Universidad Nebrija, Spain)
- Nuri Tinaz (Marmara University, Turkey)
- Nonka Bogomilova (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria)
- Ivan Cvitković (Academy of Sciences and Arts of Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Vladimir Bakrač (University of Podgorica, Montenegro)
- Daniela Gavrilović (University of Niš, Serbia)
- Slavejko Sasajkovski (ISPJR, UKIM, RNM)
- Ganka Cvetanova (ISPJR, UKIM, RNM)
- Ali Pajaziti (South-East University, RNM)
- Leke Sokoli (Albanian Institute of Sociology, Albania)
- Zlatko Zhoglev (St. Clement from Ohrid, Bitola, RNM)

Organizing Committee

Members:

- Ruzica Cacanoska (ISPJR, UKIM)
- Ivan Blaževski (ISPJR, UKIM)
- Dragor Zarevski (ISPJR, UKIM)
- Driton Maljici (ISPJR, UKIM)

Conference Venue

The conference will take place at the Institute of Sociological, Political and Juridical Research in Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia.

Participation Formats

The conference offers several participation formats to facilitate accessible and flexible participation for both domestic and international contributors.

- Onsite presentation
- Online presentation
- Prerecorded online presentation (optional)
- Poster presentation

Participants who are unable to attend onsite may participate through a live online presentation or by submitting a prerecorded presentation in English, with a maximum duration of 5 minutes.

Authors opting for poster presentations should submit their posters no later than 10 days prior to the start of the conference. Technical specifications and submission instructions will be provided subsequently.

Working Language

English will be the official working language of the conference. All abstracts, presentations, and related conference communications should therefore be submitted and conducted in English.

Participation Fee

No conference fee (registration fee) will be charged for participation in the scientific conference.

Gender Balance, Inclusion, and Equal Opportunities

The conference is committed to promoting **gender balance, inclusiveness, and equal opportunities**. Balanced representation will be sought in committees, keynote speakers, and panels. Submissions are welcomed from scholars of all career stages and from diverse institutional and geographic backgrounds.

Ethics and Academic Integrity

All submissions must comply with principles of **research ethics, originality, and academic integrity**. Contributions are expected to adhere to high standards of scholarly quality, ethical research conduct, and academic professionalism.

Open Science and Dissemination

In line with European research principles, the conference supports **open scholarly exchange and dissemination of scientific knowledge**. Selected papers will be considered for publication in a peer-reviewed edited volume or special journal issue, subject to additional review.

Submission Guidelines

Comparative, interdisciplinary, and cross-sectoral contributions addressing **contemporary societal transformations** are particularly encouraged. The conference especially welcomes contributions engaging with **emerging social challenges, innovative perspectives, and current theoretical or methodological debates**.

Contributions are invited from academics, scholars, researchers, postdoctoral researchers, and doctoral students, fostering an inclusive and dynamic academic dialogue across different career stages.

Abstract submissions should be written in clear academic English and demonstrate relevance to the conference themes. Abstracts should not exceed 300 words and should include the following elements:

- **Title of the paper**
- **Author name(s) and institutional affiliation(s)**
- **Contact email address** of the corresponding author
- **Abstract** (up to 300 words), clearly outlining the research objectives, methodology, key findings, and contribution to the field
- **Five (5) keywords** that best reflect the content and focus of the paper

Abstract submissions should be prepared in Microsoft Word format (.doc or .docx), using Verdana, 10-point font, single spacing, and standard page margins.

All submissions will undergo **a review process** conducted by the Scientific Committee. Authors of accepted abstracts will be invited to submit full papers, in accordance with further guidelines that will be provided.

Important Dates

- Abstract submission deadline: **July 31, 2026**
- Notification of acceptance: **August 15, 2026**
- Conference date: **October 21, 2026**
- Full paper submission (optional): **After conference**

Submission Procedure

Abstracts should be submitted via **email** conference@isppi.ukim.edu.mk with the subject line: **"Conference Abstract Submission – [Author Name]"**

A **Book of Abstracts** will be made available prior to the conference, including all accepted abstracts.

Selected papers will be considered for publication in **a special issue of the Annual of the Institute of Sociological, Political and Juridical Research (ISPJR)**, following **an additional peer-review** and editorial process.

This conference is guided by **European principles of academic excellence**, emphasizing rigorous and ethical research, inclusiveness, diversity of perspectives, and the open dissemination of knowledge. Contributions are expected to adhere to high standards of academic integrity and scholarly quality.