

Preliminary Agenda (all times are in Central European Time CET)

The location of the conference will be at [City Hotel Ljubljana](#), Dalmatinova ulica 15, 1000 Ljubljana.

Thursday, 21 May 2026

Time [CET]	Event
08:15 – 16:00	Registration of participants
08:30 – 09:30	Pre-conference Walking Tour of Ljubljana Old Town
10:00 – 10:30	<p><u>Opening & Welcome Addresses</u></p> <p>Representatives of Organizing Institutions: PROF. KRISTIJAN BREZNIK, Dean of the International School for Social and Business Studies, Slovenia PROF. ZBIGNIEW PASTUSZAK, Vice-rector for Development and Business Cooperation, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Poland PROF. LUIGIA MELILLO, Rector of Pegaso International, Malta PROF. BORDIN RASSAMEETHES, Former Acting Deputy Secretary General, Southern Border Provinces Administrative Centre and Kasetsart University, Thailand</p> <p>Representative of the Program Commission: PROF. VALERIJ DERMOL, Program Chair, International School for Social and Business Studies, Slovenia</p>
10:30 – 11:10	<p><u>Keynote Address 1</u></p> <p>Speech Title: Leveraging AI for Business Innovation Speaker: Jay Liebowitz, DSc., Special Advisor to the President, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA</p> <p>Abstract: AI seems to be omnipresent. Whether at home, school, office, or play, AI seems to have a role in our lives. It is hotter than ever in the 70 years of its existence. Businesses are discovering new ways of leveraging AI for business innovation. However, some recent reports and studies indicate that GenAI hasn't produced the enterprise-wide return on investment as predicted. The presentation, based on his new book Leveraging AI for Business Innovation (World Scientific, 2026), will discuss how organizations can best leverage AI for innovation, and will highlight future trends ahead.</p>
11:10 – 11:45	<i>Coffee break with the official Group Photo Session I</i>
11:45 – 13:00	<p><u>Open Science Forum: Open Science for Global Knowledge Equity – Opportunities, Challenges and Institutional Strategies</u></p> <p>Co-Chairs:</p>

	<p>PROF. MATTI MUHOS, University of Oulu, Finland</p> <p>PROF. DAVID VANNOZZI, Vice President of International Academic Relations and Development, Multiversity Group; General Manager Med.E.A. University, Malta</p> <p>Panelists:</p>
13:00 – 13:15	Invitation to MakeLearn, TIIM & PiConf Conference 2027
13:15 – 14:45	<i>Lunch & Room Reconfiguration</i>
14:45 – 16:00	Parallel Sessions – Round I
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16:15 – 17:30	Parallel Sessions – Round II
17:35 – 18:50	Parallel Sessions – Round III
19:30 – 23:00	<p>Champagne Welcome at <u>Ljubljana Castle</u> (<i>inner courtyard in front of Stanovska dvorana</i>) with the official Group Photo Session II at Ljubljana Castle @ 19:45</p> <p>Gala Dinner & Networking Reception (including ISSBS 20th Anniversary Program & Best paper award)</p> <p><i>Note: The cost of the funicular ride to Ljubljana Castle will be covered by ISSBS. The trip from City Hotel to the castle takes approximately 15–20 minutes when using the funicular. Participants who prefer to walk up should plan for about 40–45 minutes and wear appropriate footwear.</i></p>

Friday, 22 May 2026

Time [CET]	Event
08:30 – 09:45	Parallel Sessions – Round IV
09:50 – 11:05	Parallel Sessions – Round V
11:05 – 11:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:30 – 12:15	Parallel Sessions – Round VI
12:20 – 13:00	Keynote Address 2
13:00 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 15:45	<p><u>Editors' & Academic Writing Panel: Publishing in Transition – AI, Openness, and Research Integrity</u></p> <p>Co-Chairs:</p> <p>PROF. ZBIGNIEW PASTUSZAK, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Poland (Editor-in-Chief: International Journal of Value Chain Management) (Associate Editor: Expert Systems with Applications)</p>

	<p>PROF. KONGKITI PHUSAVAT, Kasetsart University, Thailand (Editor-in-Chief: International Journal of Innovation and Learning)</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Dr Alex Koochang, Editor of <i>International Journal of Information Technology and Management</i> (USA) Prof. Jeretta Horn Nord, Editors of prominent U.S.-based journals</p>
15:45 – 16:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16:15 – 17:30	<p><u>Projects' Forum: European and Global Cooperation through Research – Funding, Impact and Innovation Perspectives</u></p> <p>Co-Chairs:</p> <p>PROF. TAMAR DOLIDZE, Batumi State Maritime Academy, Georgia, MED.E.A., Malta PROF. ANCA DRĂGHICI, Universitatea Politehnica Timisoara, Romania</p> <p>Panelists:</p>
17:30 – 17:45	<u>Closing of the Conference & Final Remarks from the Organizers</u>

Saturday, 23 May 2026

Option 1: Optional Excursion to the Coast ([Piran](#)) & Karst Region ([Štanjel](#))

Time [CET]	Event
09:00 – 17:30	<p>Participants are invited to join an optional excursion exploring Slovenia's coastal region and the Karst area, offering a blend of Mediterranean charm, cultural heritage, and local culinary traditions before returning to Ljubljana.</p> <p>Cost (per person): €50</p> <p><i>The fee includes transportation, an English-speaking guide, and a tasting of local wine and Karst prosciutto.</i></p>

Option 2: Leadership and Learning, the challenges in the Dynamic Education Sector

Time [CET]	Event
9.00 – 9.10	<p>Welcome: presentation of ISSBS and the Master's program in Management in Education</p> <p>PROF. ANDREJ KOREN, International School for Social and Business Studies, Slovenia</p>
09:10 – 10:50	Parallel Sessions – Round VII



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11:00 – 12:40	Parallel Sessions – Round VIII
12:40 – 13:00	Conclusion Remarks

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