

Dear colleagues,

On behalf of the **Faculty of Economics and Business University of Rijeka (EFRI)** we cordially invite you to the Scientific Conference:

**“Smart Governments, Regions and Cities”**  
**“Economics of Digital Transformation”**  
**EDT Conference**

The aim of the EDT Conference is to address the challenges of fundamental changes of economic theory and practice, which comes through the process of digitalization as one of the most prominent global phenomena. **Therefore, the main goal of the Conference is to challenge traditional perspective on economics by acknowledging disruptive effects of digital transformation age. Thus, authors should introspect new macroeconomic policies, monetary and fiscal theory and practice, industrial and organization theory advances, new business models and approaches enabled by the advancement of technological capabilities.**

The Conference will cover a wide range of theoretical and practical issues, preferably, intertwined with the main idea. Business papers where generalization of the results is possible are also welcomed. The suggested thematic fields (sessions) are as follows:

- New millennium macroeconomics
- Industry 4.0 and beyond
- Big data economics
- New (dynamic) fiscal policy
- Monetary policies in era of digital currencies
- Digital public administration
- Innovation economics
- Contract theory
- Contemporary management and organization issues
- Business in increasingly Schumpeterian world
- Economy of sharing
- Regulation economics

This year, the main topic of the Conference is

## “Smart Governments, Regions and Cities”

Our main keynote speaker for this year is one of the most distinguished scholars of contemporary era

### **Robert J. Barro**

Paul M. Warburg Professor of Economics, Harvard University

Professor Barro will give a speech on the topic of  
**Impact of taxes and regulations on economic growth**

The Conference has three main parts following the main topic:

#### 1. SMART GOVERNMENTS

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As part of this session, we welcome scientific papers related to contemporary macroeconomic issues. Besides the lectures from prominent keynote speakers, we will organize a special session on fiscal and monetary issues in Croatia to spark a lively policy debate with the participation of:

**Boris Vujčić, Governor** of the Croatian National Bank

**Zdravko Marić, Minister** of Finance of the Republic of Croatia

**Ante Žigman, President** of HANFA (Croatian Financial Services Supervisory Agency)

#### 2. SMART REGIONS

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Smart regions session looks for answers to long term divergence of regional development within national borders. The topical issues are – why regional development policies fail to achieve economic convergence, are there good practice cases, can they be copied? How to deal with the major population migrations, inadequate labor market structure, disruptive technologies and many other issues that affect economic outcomes at regional level.

This session is organized under auspices of Ministry of Regional Development and EU funds of the Republic of Croatia. **Minister Gabriela Žalac** (tbc) will present current state of the regional development and plans for the mid-term regional development policy.

The keynote speakers in the plenary session will be announced in due time.

### 3. SMART CITIES

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Smart cities session is organized in cooperation with the Smart City department of the **European Investment Bank (EIB)**. The main topics will be related to contemporary issues of Smart City concept and development of practical manifestation of the Smart City concept.

The Centre for support of smart and sustainable cities of University of Rijeka will organize a round table about the global smart city centers with the aim of converging the established theoretical concepts and providing best case practices.

The keynote speakers in the plenary session will be announced in due time.

This session covers a wide range of issues regarding local economic development:

- Contemporary theory of local economic development;
- Issues regarding local investment climate;
- Investments in physical (hard) infrastructure;
- Role of clusters;
- Issues of local government finance;
- Globalization and local economic development;
- Policy issues at the local government level;
- ICT at the local government level;
- Other topics related to the main theme.

The Conference **will be held at Hotel Ambassador, Opatija, June 2<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019** (<http://www.edt-conference.com>).

**Abstracts can be submitted by February 1<sup>st</sup> 2019. Deadline for the full paper submissions is June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.** Only original papers are accepted, i.e. previously published manuscripts are not acceptable.

**Best papers** will be published in No 2/2019 issue of the **Proceedings of Rijeka's Faculty of Economics: Journal of Economics and Business** and other scientific journals from the partner universities and institutions.

The Journal is abstracted and indexed in JEL / EconLit, IBSS, ProQuest, DOAJ, CAB Abstracts, ProQuest – ABI/INFORM, Social Scisearch and JCR, EBSCO, EBSCO, **Scopus** and **WoS SSCI**.

The guidelines for submitting the abstract and the manuscripts can be found at:  
<http://www.efri.uniri.hr/en/proceedings>.

We also publish special conference proceedings of selected conference papers.

Looking forward to seeing you in Rijeka, Croatia!

Prof. Alen Host, Ph.D.

Dean

Faculty of Economics and Business

University of Rijeka

Prof. Saša Drezgić, Ph.D.

President of the Programme Committee

Editor-in-Chief of the *Proceedings of  
Rijeka's Faculty of Economics: Journal of  
Economics and Business*