

NEWS

LETTER

March 2025

HIGHLIGHTING LOCAL EXPERTISE AT THE 7TH INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC FORUM



From March 7–9, 2025, the Latvian Academy of Sciences will host the 7th International Economic Forum, and EKA is proud to take part in this prestigious event exploring the future of innovation through an ethical lens.



Held under the theme “Innovation. Trust. Responsibility,” the Forum will gather scientists, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and thought leaders from across the globe. Participants will engage in high-level discussions on AI, sustainability, inclusive leadership, space economy, and the digital future — all grounded in ethical responsibility.

NEW MILESTONE: BALTIC CIRCULAR ECO-SYSTEM ASSOCIATION



We are thrilled to announce the foundation of the **BALTIC CIRCULAR ECO-SYSTEM** - a new cross-sectoral association dedicated to accelerating the transition to a circular economy across the Baltic region.

The association aims to:

- Promote ecosystem-building for circular economy across the Baltics
- Raise awareness and educate society on sustainable consumption models
- Support research, organize informative events, and foster partnerships
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The board of the association: **Edgars Čerkovskis**, Prof. **Dzintra Atstāja**, Prof. **Tatjana Tambovceva**.

This is a significant step forward in EKA’s mission to drive innovation, sustainability, and international collaboration in science and education.



EKA’s leadership in science and sustainability was spotlighted during the 2nd Plenary Session, with contributions from **Dr. Jelena Titko**, Vice-Rector for Science and International Relations, and **Edgars Čerkovskis**, Director of the Circular Economy Master’s Programme.

The Forum featured plenary sessions, expert panels, side events, and networking opportunities, including the International Women’s Day Award Ceremony and a festive Gala Dinner.

By participating, EKA strengthens its commitment to global collaboration, responsible innovation, and scientific excellence.

AI-POWERED PRODUCTIVITY IN EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION



On March 3-5, an exclusive AI training session led by Gianluca Coppola, **President of the European Digital Learning Network (DLearn)**, brought together EKA educators and administrators to explore AI-driven efficiency tools.

The workshop focused on AI applications for productivity, ethical considerations, and innovative digital solutions in education. Participants engaged in hands-on sessions with tools like **QuillBot**, **LearningStudioAI**, and **Synthesia**, gaining practical skills to streamline workflows and enhance teaching methods.

GLOBAL RESEARCH VISIBILITY VIA THE COLLABORATIVE LIBRARY



EKA continues to strengthen its presence on The Collaborative Library — a global platform that transforms complex research into clear, accessible knowledge for all.

Our latest contribution comes from **Dr. Kristine Užule**, Assoc. Prof., who has published a lay summary titled [“Improving Performance Management Through Key Human Capital Indicators in Integrated Reporting”](#).

The Collaborative Library is a unique, community-driven space where students, academics, and professionals share video, audio, infographic, or written summaries of research in simple, understandable language — open and free for everyone.

NAVIGATING CHANGE: EDUCATION. GROWTH. SUSTAINABILITY. 2025

On March 27, 2025 EKA took part in the national applied research conference **“Education. Growth. Sustainability. 2025”** hosted by Riga Technical College. This year’s theme focused on global challenges in modern society, covering socio-economic conditions, security, AI, digitalization, and human capital development.



Edgars Čerkovskis, Director of EKA’s study programmes, **moderated the event and joined the plenary session** to discuss AI potential, disaster medicine, and the future of the electronics industry in Latvia.

The conference provided a dynamic platform for students and academic staff to showcase research and exchange ideas for a sustainable future.

CONGRATULATIONS ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR VITA ZARIŅA



We are proud to share that **Vita Zariņa** has been elected to the position of **Associate Professor** at the **EKA University of Applied Sciences**.

The decision was made by the Professorial Council of Turība University in the field of Social Sciences on March 24, 2025.

Please join us in congratulating our colleague on this well-deserved recognition and wishing her continued success in her academic and creative pursuits!



NEW "APRITPRASME" PODCAST EPISODES

Apritprasme, the podcast dedicated to circular economy and social entrepreneurship, returns with two inspiring episodes that spotlight the power of community in driving sustainable change.

Episode 4: Circular Economy & Creative Communities

- How can creative hubs fuel sustainable business? In this episode, **Ella Ruicēna** and **Edvards Siliņš** share insights from **Viskaļi**—Riga’s largest creative community—and **AkvaRīga**, the EU’s first Humane Aquarium initiative.

Episode 5: Neighborhoods for a Greener Future

- Urban change starts locally. **Edgars Čerkovskis** speaks with **Marta Kotello**, architect and Grīziņkalns community activist, and **Marta Bergmane**, sustainability advocate and founder of Swap Events. The discussion explores how grassroots initiatives reduce waste, reshape consumption habits, and build greener city spaces.

Tune in and get inspired by real-life solutions that prove: sustainable change begins with engaged communities!