



EACES/ LSEE/ Economic Annals Workshop

3RD WORKSHOP ON THE COMPARATIVE ECONOMICS OF SOUTH EAST EUROPE

25-26 April 2024

University of Belgrade – Faculty of Economics and Business

CALL FOR PAPERS

Background

Following the multiple shocks of transition to a market economy, the global financial crisis, the Covid pandemic and the destructive effects of the wars in Ukraine and Gaza, the economies of South East Europe (SEE) and EU neighbourhood and other peripheral countries are under increasing strain. In the context of weak convergence to European levels, what are the main drivers and barriers to growth in the economies of the SEE region? Recently, the EU has launched a new Growth Plan for the Western Balkans. But will this be sufficient to make a difference to economic growth prospects? Is there evidence that EU candidature or membership makes a real contribution to economic convergence? How far has military conflict impacted the economies of these regions and how is this likely to affect convergence prospects in SEE, the EU neighbourhood and other peripheral countries? Research evidence on these issues can be derived from multiple axes of analysis including research on the effects of different macroeconomic policies on growth; on different forms of industrial organisation on the efficiency of business operations; the impact of barriers to entry of new firms on the development of the SME sector; the role of industrial policy; opportunities for technological innovation and leapfrogging derived from the adoption of new digital technologies including artificial intelligence; emerging skill shortages and skill mismatches; the role of financial systems and financialisation in supporting economic growth; the influence of green policies in driving economic growth; the effect of institutions and state capture in hindering economic growth in the region; and the impact of economic growth on labour markets and the distribution of incomes. These and other issues can be discussed at this workshop.

Aims

The workshop series provides a forum for presentation of research on all aspects of economic transition and European integration in South Eastern Europe. Papers are welcome from all traditions of economic theory and analysis. Empirical papers focusing on the comparative analysis of economies of the region are encouraged, while individual country studies related to the workshop themes are also welcome. After the workshop, papers will be considered for publication in a thematic issue of *Economic Annals* to be published in autumn 2024. The following themes can be covered at the workshop, as can any other topic in the field of comparative economic studies.

Workshop Themes

Comparative economics of SEE, EU neighbourhood and other peripheral economies
Drivers and barriers to economic growth and convergence in SEE economies
The effects of EU candidature and membership on economic growth
Macroeconomic policies and economic growth
Financial economics and financialisation
Political economy of transition in SEE
Effects of military conflict on economic development
Business organisation and performance
Industrial policy and innovation
Labour markets, human capital, and migration
Green investments and the environment

Abstracts

Abstracts of up to 400 words should include the following fields: title, author(s) name and affiliation, contact details, abstract text, keywords, and JEL classification. Please ensure that your abstract clearly states the motivation and aims of the paper, the methodology used, and the expected findings. To streamline the submission process, we are using Google Forms for abstract submissions. Use this link (<https://forms.gle/1ck7M4dBkr82wdXM6>) to access the form. Abstracts should be submitted by 16th February 2024. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact Nikola Njegovan at ea@ekof.bg.ac.rs

Important Dates

16 th February 2024:	Deadline for submission of abstracts
23 rd February 2024:	Notification of acceptance
23 rd April 2024:	Submission of papers
25 th - 26 th April 2024:	Workshop

Arrangements

The conference language is English. The workshop takes place at 12.00-17.00 Thursday 25th April and at 09.00-13.00 Friday 26th April (EACES Board Meeting 14.00-17.00). Participants must pay their own travel and accommodation, while refreshments during the workshop, lunches on the first and second day, and the workshop dinner on the first evening is provided by the organisers.

Local Organising Committee

Nikola Njegovan (University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics and Business)
Mladen Stamenković (University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics and Business)
Žaklina Stojanović (University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics and Business)

Scientific Committee

Milojko Arsic (University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics and Business)
Jovo Ateljević (University of Banja Luka, Faculty of Economics)
Sonja Avlijaš (University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics and Business)
Will Bartlett (London School of Economics and Political Science)
Biljana Bogičević Milikić (University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics and Business)
Adnan Efendić (University of Sarajevo, School of Economics and Business)
Radovan Kovačević (University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics and Business)
Gorana Krstić (University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics and Business)
Marjan Petreski (University American College Skopje)
Nebojsa Stojčić (University of Dubrovnik, Department of Economics and Business)

Organisers

The workshop is jointly organised by the Faculty of Economics and Business at the University of Belgrade, the journal *Economic Annals*, the European Association for Comparative Economics (EACES), the LSEE Research Unit on Southeastern Europe at LSE, and with the support of the Scientific Society of Economists of Serbia (NDES) and the Association of Economic Universities of South and Eastern Europe and the Black Sea Region (ASECU).

University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics and Business

The Faculty of Economics and Business was established as the Graduate School for Economy and Trade in 1937. Today, it is the most prominent scientific and educational institution in Serbia in the field of economics. It is the publisher of the refereed journal *Economic Annals*.

Economic Annals

Economic Annals is an academic journal published quarterly since 1955. It is published in English by the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Belgrade. Papers submitted are subject to double-blind refereeing process. The journal is available on the website of the Faculty of Economics at: <http://www.ekof.bg.ac.rs/publikacije/casopisi/ekonomski-anali/>

European Association for Comparative Economic Studies (EACES)

The founding conference of EACES was held in Verona in September 1990. The Association holds regular bi-annual Conferences and workshops. It is a broadly-based organisation in which welcomes all schools of economic thought EACES website: <http://www.eaces.eu>

LSEE

LSEE (LSE Research on South Eastern Europe) is a research unit within the European Institute at the London School of Economics. It provides a forum for research collaboration with research partners in SEE: <https://www.lse.ac.uk/LSEE-Research-on-South-Eastern-Europe>.

Scientific Society of Economists in Serbia (NDES)

The Scientific Society of Economists in Serbia (NDES) is based at the Faculty of Economics and Business at the University of Belgrade. NDES organises conferences jointly with the Faculty of Economics and Business, with participation of other economics Faculties in Serbia.

Association of Economic Universities of South and Eastern Europe and the Black Sea Region (ASECU)

ASECU was established in 1996 and includes Universities and Scientific Centers from the region. Papers accepted for the Workshop can also be submitted for consideration for the *South-Eastern Europe Journal of Economics* (the official journal of the ASECU).