

## **1-st EUT+ ELaRa Conference “Technologies and Techniques to Support Sustainable Education in the Academic Sphere”**

*Conference. Конференция Технологии и техники за подкрепа на устойчивото образование в академичната сфера ELARA. Technical University of Sofia, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s-hxiGJcHbs>*

*Exhibition. Изложба Технологични пространства. Усилията на Сизиф, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pL7uPBs28sq>*

*This research event seeks to encourage a critical dialogue between students, academics and researchers. We aim to promote the student voice within the context of sustainability with a student-centered approach. We also intend to popularise, inspire and share best practices with the purpose of questioning and exploring how to further enhance the learning, teaching and research experience of academics, researchers and students in a digital environment. The event aims to offer a creative space vibrant with participants’ voices debating over innovation and change, thus building a bridge between past achievements, knowledge and expertise, on the one hand, and further investigation, on the other. It is strongly believed that by drawing attention to key educational and pedagogical issues, this academic event will undoubtedly inspire each one of the participants with a clearer vision of the future developments in their respective professional and scientific fields. We are also convinced that the forum will be successful in communicating its message to wider audiences, thus generating stronger public interest by presenting an attractive image of modern science and education, empowered by the innovative technologies as an indispensable part of the teaching, learning and research process in the shared European educational space.*

**Organizers: Technical University of Sofia, Technological University Dublin & EUT+ Partners**

**Venue: Technical University of Sofia**

**Mode: Hybrid**

- **On-site National Center for Mechatronics and Clean Technologies, Conference Hall “Prof. Tsvetan Lazarov” – Block 8, TU-Sofia**
- **Online (on ZOOM )**

**Dates: 14 and 15 December 2022**

**The conference “Technologies and Techniques to Support Sustainable Education in the Academic Sphere”** is an annual pedagogical forum dedicated to discussing a wide range of contemporary methods, methodologies and teaching practices in higher education, the related information and communication technologies, as well as the pedagogical techniques employed by academics in higher education. The event is open to all educators from technical and humanities higher education institutions who are willing to share their scholarly work and experience arising out of the applied and theoretical research in the field of higher education pedagogy.

**The special focus of this year’s edition** will be on encouraging reflection on the teaching experience gained in a digital environment, the implementation of best practices, as well as on proposing solutions to their sustainable integration, leading to the development of pedagogical and methodological models interrelated with technology as an essential part of the pedagogical interaction in the 21-st century.

#### **Suggested topics:**

1. Traditional pedagogy versus innovative pedagogy;
2. Education and Technology: positive experience / negative experience;
3. Is the student / PhD student more knowledgeable than the lecturer usually assumes?;
4. Important, interesting, pragmatic versus archaic, boring, theoretical in contemporary teaching;
5. The student – the PhD student – the academic – co-creators of the New pedagogy;
6. Technologies and Techniques to Support Sustainable Education in Technological Universities;
7. The importance of pedagogy for doctoral students – the missing link?

**The participation includes making a presentation (up to 10 minutes).** Authors are asked to submit a title and an abstract (**150 words**) of their presentations **by 30 November 2022** which will be published in a printed book, as well as in an electronic format on the event website.

**The forum will be livestreamed** on YouTube. Within two months of the scientific event (**by 28 February 2023**), the participants will be able to submit papers which will be published in a special reviewed edition of the scientific journal “Proceedings of TU-Sofia” in an electronic format. There will also be an option for a monograph published by the EUt+ Academic Press.

**The event will be publicised** on the TU-Sofia website, in the University newspaper and by the media partners of the TU-Sofia. It will also be accompanied by two exhibitions:

- **A sculpture exhibition “Technological spaces” (The Labour of Sisyphus)**, a kinetic metal sculpture installation.  
Author: Georgi Velikov  
Venue: Foyer, Block 8, TU-Sofia  
Opening: 14.12.2022.
- **A design and painting exhibition “Design Techniques”** – painting, textile, glass, installation. Author: Prof. Maria Evtimova, PhD  
Venue: *TEHNE* Art Gallery  
Opening: 15.12.2022.

#### Contact persons:

1. Assoc. Prof. Ivaylo Peev, PhD – TU-Sofia: [i\\_peev@tu-sofia.bg](mailto:i_peev@tu-sofia.bg)
2. Sen. Lect. Todor Todorov – TU-Sofia: [todobg@tu-sofia.bg](mailto:todobg@tu-sofia.bg)

## EL@RA CONFERENCE

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### **“Technologies and Techniques to Support Sustainable Education in the Academic Sphere”**

## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

#### DAY 1, 14 December 2022, Wednesday

**09:30 – 10:00 ON-SITE REGISTRATION**

**10:00 – 10:20 OPENING CEREMONY**

Welcome address delivered by **Prof. Eng. Ivan Kralov, PhD, DSc – Rector of TU - Sofia**

Welcome address delivered by **Prof. Eng. Lyubomir Dimitrov, PhD – Vice-Rector of TU - Sofia**

Welcome address delivered by **Assoc. Prof. Eng. Lidia Galabova, PhD – Vice-Rector of TU - Sofia**

Welcome address delivered by **Assoc. Prof. Ivaylo Peev, PhD – Head of the Department of Foreign Languages and Applied Linguistics – TU - Sofia**

**10:30 – Theoretical Framework of Transformative Digital Pedagogical Competences, Dr. Paed. Prof. Velta Lubkina, Riga Technical University**

**11:00** – *Presenting ELaRA (the European Common Laboratory for Pedagogical Action-Research and Student-Centred Learning)*, **Patrick Flynn**, **Technological University Dublin**

**11:15** – *From Research to Practice: Internationalisation at Home in the Post-Pandemic World. Insights from the EPOS project*, **María Victoria Soulé, PhD**, **Cyprus University of Technology**

**11:30** – *Motivation is the Key*, **Assoc. Prof. Sofia Angelova, PhD**, **Technical University of Sofia**

**11:45** – **Open discussion**

**12:00** – **COFFEE BREAK**

**12:15** – *Action Research in Higher Education Teaching Practice: A Sine Qua Non?* **Elis Kakoulli Constantinou, PhD**, **Cyprus University of Technology**

**12:30** – *The Benefits of Developing Emotional Intelligence*, **Petya Atanassova, DFLAL**, **Technical University of Sofia**

**12:45** – *Teachers' Insights into Online In-house Language Teaching For Specific Purposes*, **Paraskevi Vassiliou & Giouli Pappa**, **Cyprus University of Technology**

**13:00** – *Some Aspects Of Online Testing*, **Todora Yaneva, DFLAL**, **Technical University of Sofia**

**13:15** – *The ESP Curriculum for Engineering Students in Cognitive Perspective*, **Assoc. Prof. Boryana Ruzhekova-Rogozherova, PhD**, **Todor Kableshkov** **University of Transport, Sofia**

**13:30** – **15:15** – **LUNCH BREAK**

**15:30** – *Soft Skills*, **Velina Draganova, DFLAL**, **Technical University of Sofia**

**15:45** – *Motivating Language Students in the Post-Pandemic*, **Chief Assist. Prof. Milka Hadjikoteva, PhD**, **New Bulgarian University, Sofia**

**16:00** – *Pedagogy Meets Science for Sustainable Education at Technological Universities*. **Sonia Munteanu, PhD**, **Cristina Campian, PhD**, **Lia Pop, PhD**, **Nadia Barkoczi, PhD** – **Technical University of Cluj-Napoca**; **Assoc. Prof. Ivaylo Peev, PhD**, **Todor Todorov** – **TU-Sofia**; **Lucía Morales, PhD**, **Patrick Flynn** – **TU Dublin**;

Jon-Hans Coetzer, PhD – UNITAR; Daniel Rajmil, PhD – Universitat Oberta de Catalunya.

Presented by Patrick Flynn and Lucía Morales, Technological University Dublin

**16:30** – *Educating for Sustainability at Technological University Dublin – An Active Student Voice Matters.* Intesar Madi, Abrar Alzankawi, Anna Zherdeva, – PhD students from Technological University Dublin, Lucía Morales, PhD and Deirdre McQuillan, PhD – TU-Dublin

**16:45** – *Modern Approaches in Contemporary Education,* Elena Antonova, a PhD student, Technical University of Sofia

**17:00** – *Education for Sustainability – Are we Forgetting the Economic Dimension?* Ozéias Rodrigues da Rocha, Daniel Kamphambale, PhD students from Technological University Dublin, Lucía Morales, PhD, Cormac MacMahon, PhD – TU-Dublin and Jon-Hans Coetzer, PhD – UNITAR

**17:15** – Open Discussion

**17:30** – OPENING THE EXHIBITION “Technological Spaces. A Labour of Sisyphus” by Georgy Velikov, and a COCKTAIL PARTY

### DAY 2, 15 December 2022, Thursday

**10:00** – *A Critical Reflection on the Importance of Education for Sustainable Development,* Daniel Kamphambale, Ozéias Rodrigues da Rocha, PhD students from Technological University Dublin; Cormac MacMahon, PhD and Lucía Morales, PhD – TU-Dublin and Jon-Hans Coetzer, PhD – UNITAR

**10:15** – *Perspective on Academic Staff Competences Development in Riga Technical University,* Mg. Paed. Zane Rostoka-Barene, a PhD student, Riga Technical University

**10:30** – *The Scientific Approach to Problem Solving,* Maria Vlahova, a PhD student, Technical University of Sofia

**10:45** – *Global Insights on the Impact of Economic Sustainability on Transforming Education,* Precious Nwanze, a PhD student, Technological University Dublin

**11:00** – *Business Aspects and Good Practices Applicable in Both Fields of Education and Internal Databases,* Radoslav Keremidchiev, a PhD student, Technical University of Sofia

**11:15 – Open discussion**

**11:30 – Coffee break**

**11:45 – *Fostering a Sustainability Mindset in Engineering Students***  
**Todor Todorov – Technical University of Sofia**

**12:00 – *Education and Technology: An Assessment of Learning Opportunities in the Corporate Context***, **Olubunmi Oludipe, a PhD student, Technological University Dublin; Jon-Hans Coetzer, PhD – UNITAR and Lucía Morales, PhD, TU – Dublin**

**12:15 – *Education and Training Through Research in Micro- and Nanosystems Fabrication at TU-Sofia***, **Assoc. Prof. Mariya Aleksandrova, PhD, Rade Tomov, a PhD student, Technical University of Sofia**

**12:30 – *Cyber Security in Industry 4.0***, **Evgeni Sabev, a PhD student, Technical University of Sofia**

**12:45 – Open discussion**

**13:00 – Lunch Break**

**14:00 – *Study of the Effect of the Projective Drawing Techniques on the Aggressive Behaviour of Children***, **Lyu Lingdzhey, a PhD student, National Academy of Art – Sofia.**

**14:15 – *Art Therapy as an Interactive Approach for Environmental Education of Kids for Sustainable Academic Education. Practical Experience of Atelier "HB"***, **Iliya Boyarov, a PhD student, National Academy of Art – Sofia**

**14:30 – *On Chinoiserie of 17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries and the Contemporary Chinese Style***, **Chen Simou, a PhD student, National Academy of Art – Sofia**

**14:45 – *Методи за ускорено и трайно запаметяване в образованието (Methods for Fast and Sustained Memorization in Education)***, **Marin Marinov, a PhD student, Technical University of Sofia**

**15:00 – *Study of the Attitudes and Interest in Listening to Audiobooks among Students at Elementary and Secondary Education Levels in Bulgaria in English Language Learning***, **Teodora Genova, PhD, University of Library Studies and Information Technologies, Sofia**

**15:15 – *Online Testing and Assessment in Foreign Language Teaching* –**

*Changes Ad Hoc, Angelina Radeva, Technical University of Sofia*

**15:30** – *The Monitorial (Lancasterian) System in the Digital Age*, **Assoc. Prof. Ivaylo Peev, PhD, Technical University of Sofia**

**15:45** – *Възможно ли е ефективно чуждоезиково обучение в условията на нисък хорариум? (Is Effective Foreign Language Teaching Possible Under Conditions of Reduced Number of Teaching Hours?)*, **Diana Borimechkova, Rakovski National Defence College, Sofia**

**16:00** – *Приобщаване и подкрепа на младите учители чрез наставничество – приложимост на андрагогическия подход между традицията и иновацията, (Providing Inclusiveness and Support for Young Teachers Through Mentoring – Applicability of the Andragogical Approach Between Tradition and Innovation)*, **Assoc. Prof. Vanya Bozhilova, PhD, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”**

**16:15** – *The Figure of Teacher: a Missioner or a Profession*, **Assoc. Prof. Yoana Pavlova, PhD, Technical University of Sofia**

**16.30** – *Transdisciplinarity – a problem of multiplying languages*, **Claudia Marian, PhD, Nadia Barkoczi, PhD, Lia Pop, PhD, Iulia Stefan, PhD, Sonia Munteanu, PhD, Cristina Campian, PhD – Technical University of Cluj-Napoca; Lucía Morales, PhD, Patrick Flynn – Technological University Dublin; Ivaylo Peev, PhD; Todor Todorov – TU-Sofia; María Victoria Soulé, PhD; Elis Kakoulli Constantinou, PhD – Cyprus University of Technology**  
**Presented by Nadia Barkoczi, TU of Cluj-Napoca**

**16:45** – *In, Between and Beyond Disciplines, Through Technology, in the Context of Real-Life Challenges*, **Iulia Stefan, PhD, Lia Pop, PhD, Eng. Mihaela Covrig, Technical University of Cluj-Napoca**  
**Presented by Iulia Stefan, TU of Cluj-Napoca**

**17:00** – Open discussion

**17:30** – CLOSING

**Contact persons:**

1. Assoc. Prof. Ivaylo Peev, PhD – TU-Sofia: [i\\_peev@tu-sofia.bg](mailto:i_peev@tu-sofia.bg)
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