ECIU University Forum
Call for Sessions 2024

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1. ECIU University Forum

The ECIU University Forum is an annual community building event that brings together the entire ECIU University community – focusing on learners, academic and administrative staff of our member institutions.

With “Education for a Resilient and Sustainable Society” chosen as the main theme for 2024, the two-day intensive and interactive event strives to generate ideas, establish new relationships between ECIU University community members, and encourage educational collaborations.

The forum will highlight the potential and opportunities the ECIU University ecosystem offers, deepen connections within the educational community to build a sustainable society, and inspire teachers, researchers, learners, and external stakeholders to foster creativity and enthusiasm for challenge-based learning while sharing their expertise, knowledge, and best practices.

2. Organizer

In 2024, the Forum will take place at Kaunas University of Technology (Kaunas, Lithuania) on June 6th and 7th. It is organized by the ECIU University under the framework of the ECIU University (ECIUn+) project, co-funded by EU, and led by an Education Committee composed of the following members.

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3. Purpose of the call for sessions

ECIU University Forum is intended to be a meeting place where the ECIU University community including learners, academic and non-academic staff and external stakeholders from different fields come together to generate ideas, forge new relationships between ECIU University community
members, and promote educational collaborations.

Joining this community means that you will be part of an ecosystem committed to co-creating meaningful solutions to help shape the cities and the world that we want to live in; only by working together will we be able to tackle them.

The ECIU University Forum sessions should relate to the main theme of the event: Education for a Resilient and Sustainable Society. There are four types of sessions proposed.

- **Lightning Talk** – You want to share in a short presentation one of the achievements made via ECIU University in relation to Education
  - **Format:** Short, focused presentations typically lasting 10-15 minutes and followed with Q&A session (30 min or 45 min session in total with the Q&A session)
  - **Purpose:** Efficiently communicates a specific idea, project, or concept in a concise manner.
  - **Example:** ECIU University is now delivering Micro-credentials!

- **Panel discussion session** – let’s explore a specific topic, bringing together a group of people with different perspectives to share their viewpoints in front of the audience
  - **Format:** A group of experts sits on a panel and discusses a specific topic, moderated by a facilitator.
  - **Purpose:** Offers diverse perspectives, encourages debate, and allows for interaction between panelists and the audience
  - **Example:** Experts on Erasmus grants discuss directions of EU funding schemes

- **Training Session** – Are you an expert on a topic or do you have techniques and experiences that you want to teach to participants? Give a training session! This should be a very interactive session in which the participants are trained in a certain topic.
  - **Format:** Interactive sessions where participants engage in hands-on activities, discussions, and exercises.
  - **Purpose:** Focused learning, skill development, and practical application of concepts.
  - **Example:** Training session on Challenge-based learning

- **Workshop (Net)working Session** – Share your idea and invite colleagues to collaborate on the development of an ECIU Learning Opportunity, project, or European project proposal and find colleagues who can help you or want to work with you in this development process. For example, you can present what you are doing research on and find partners both for research and for creating ECIU learning opportunities. As long as you leave the room with new inspiration on how to tackle your challenge!
4. **Who can participate**

The ECIU University Forum, although focused on Education, is aimed at learners, teachers, staff, researchers and external stakeholders from all ECIU institutions and ecosystems. Any student, teacher, support staff, researcher, at a university in the ECIU network is eligible to join. Further, external stakeholders from ecosystems.

5. **Presentation of proposals**

To enter in the running call for sessions, please fill in the form available online. Proposals must be submitted electronically via this website and must conform to the terms and conditions here included. If you are planning a different setting, please contact events@eciu.eu.

More information about the support provided for applicants to attend the conference is available on the main page dedicated to the event on the ECIU website.

The form and all complementary information will have to be filled out entirely in English. Proposals in other languages will not be accepted.

The organisation reserves the right to ask for any clarification or additional information about the submitted documents.

No additional documents submitted to the web form will be accepted, unless requested by the organisation.

The web form to be fulfilled require, among other details:

1. Choose the format that best suits the session you want to propose
2. Title for your session (max. 100 characters including spaces)
3. Information about the session speakers (Please provide a short bio (max. 300 characters including spaces)
4. Please describe the structure and content of the session, (max. 300 characters including spaces)
5. How much time would you need for your session - you can tick more than one target audience!
   a. 30 min
   b. 45 min
   c. 1h
   d. 2hrs (with a break in between)

6. Does your session target specific audiences? (select the target audience(s) that fits the most to your session)
   - Academic & Research staff of an ECIU member university
   - Administrative staff of an ECIU member university
   - Students of an ECIU member university
   - Private sector
   - Public sector
   - All the ECIU Community mentioned above

6. Entry deadline

   The call will be open until February 29, 2023, 08:00 CET

7. Evaluation criteria

   The quality of each proposal will be assessed against the criteria described below. For each aspect, a score is awarded on a scale of 3=excellent, 2=good, 1=weak, depending on the extent to which the submission demonstrably meets each of the criteria listed:

   - **Relevance to Forum theme:** the proposed session directly relates to the overarching theme of the Forum.
   - **The session and its intended outcomes** are clearly described.
   - **Audience relevance:** Consider the target audience of the Forum. Sessions should be tailored to meet the needs and interests of the attendees, providing them with valuable insights, knowledge, and skills.
   - **The session encourages audience engagement and interaction.** It has potential to develop further collaborations and activities after the event.
   - **The session will encourage diverse and balanced participation including gender-balance and a mix of external stakeholder’s involvement.**

Extra merit will be considered for proposals that:

- involve more than two institutions
- involve external stakeholders in the application
8. Evaluation process

The evaluation criteria process is divided in two phases:

1) Regular compliance. The organization will conduct a first evaluation to check the session proposal suggested complies with the requirements. Proposals could be subject to additional requests for information or clarification.

2) Education Committee Evaluation. The Education Committee will evaluate the proposals by topic and decide which proposals are selected for participation. The number of sessions is subject to consideration by the Education and the Organizing committee.

9. Selection communication

The proposals selected will be informed starting from March 15, 2024. No registration fee shall be paid for attendance at the ECIU University Forum. Mobility grants will be opened for application, but they are not guaranteed.

10. Intellectual and industrial property rights

The participant is responsible for the authorship of the submitted proposal; the participant is the owner of the intellectual property and, where applicable, industrial property rights thereof. The participant is accountable for the proposal submitted not violating intellectual property rights, industrial rights, copyright and image rights, and assumes complete responsibility regarding third parties; the organization is free of liability.

11. Data protection

The ECIU University Forum organizers, the coordinator and the members of the Education Committee guarantee to keep identity of participants and the content of their proposals confidential outside the sphere of the event. This also includes information about its current state of use or development. Once the proposal has been selected, the organizers may make public any details considered as public (author, company/organization/institution/university, title, brief, abstract, website and topic).

12. Queries and suggestions

If you have any queries or suggestions, please email to: events@eciu.eu
If you are interested in opportunities to collaborate with ECIU University or want to know more about the opportunities that ECIU University can offer you, please contact ECIU University team or your Institutional Coordinator: https://www.eciu.eu/about-eciu#board-members
ECIU University Forum 2024

Education for a Resilient and Sustainable Society

6 - 7 June
Kaunas University of Technology