



Mednarodna fakulteta
za družbene in poslovne študije
International School
for Social and Business Studies
Celje • Slovenia • Europe

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17TH MakeLearn, TIIM & PIconf INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN BANGKOK

In May, the 17th MakeLearn & TIIM & PIconf International Conference, titled **“Accelerated Innovation (AI): Sustainability for Better Humanity,”** took place in Bangkok. ISSBS once again co-organized the event together with three foreign universities.

More than 100 participants from around the world discussed **artificial intelligence, sustainability, entrepreneurship, and academic excellence.** The event strengthened global partnerships and announced the next conference, which will take place in **May 2026 in Ljubljana.**



21-24 May 2025  Bangkok, Thailand

STUDENT CONFERENCE KoMe IMPRESSED ONCE AGAIN!

The Student Council of ISSBS successfully organized the **traditional student conference KoMe**, which this year focused on current topics in the field of digital marketing. Guest speakers from industry shared valuable insights with participants — from growth marketing and sales funnels to personal entrepreneurial stories from the digital world. The event provided an excellent opportunity for learning, networking, and inspiring young people toward entrepreneurial and digital breakthroughs.



CELEBRATING KNOWLEDGE WITH 109 GRADUATES AND A NEW DOCTOR OF SCIENCE

In **March 2025**, ISSBS held a formal **graduation ceremony** for graduates of all its

study programs. Awards were also presented to the best students, graduates, tutors, and the author of the best master's thesis. The ceremony was further distinguished by the promotion of a **new Doctor of Science, Dr. Simone Lewis from Grenada**, who earned her doctorate with a dissertation entitled **“Building Resilience in the Water Sector in Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS): Transcending Barriers to Knowledge Sharing (KS) and Knowledge Transfer (KT).”** The event celebrated academic excellence, dedication, and the pursuit of knowledge across disciplines, reflecting the faculty's commitment to fostering global learning and research impact.



EXPERIENCE FIRSTHAND: LEARNING THAT GOES BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Our students not only acquire knowledge but also actively apply it in real-life settings. They



participate in **professional** and **international events** where they gain insight into the functioning of key institutions and meet experts from diverse fields.

- A visit to the **Bank of Slovenia** provided students with valuable insight into the operations of the country's central financial institution.

- Meetings with **guest speakers from practice** — including Dr. Darko Zupanc (RIC), Aleš Cipot (Adria Media), Tina Koler (CREATICO), Mag. Mitja Skitek (Agency for Public Oversight of Auditing), and Mag. Sabina Lamut (LamutS) — offered students up-to-date knowledge and perspectives on current challenges in the business world.

- As part of the **summer school** "Data Science for Business" in **Portugal**, students deepened their understanding of data science and gained valuable international experience.



- Within the **PBL – Problem-Based Learning Project**, students developed an idea for a Youth Reuse Center in Celje, contributing to the advancement of the circular economy.

- They are also actively engaged in **European projects** such as TransDinarica and DIGIFUNCOLLAB, developing innovative ideas in the field of social entrepreneurship. The result of all these activities is the acquisition of new knowledge, connections, and valuable experiences that open doors for students to successful careers both in Slovenia and abroad.

ROUND TABLE: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND NEW GEOPOLITICAL DYNAMICS

In March, ISSBS hosted a highly engaging round table discussion focusing on **key shifts in global relations** following Donald Trump's re-election in the United States. The event brought together distinguished experts and professionals, including:

- **Medeja Lončar**, Managing Director of

Siemens Slovenia and President of Siemens Croatia and Serbia,

- **Tomaž Benčina**, Director of the Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry Celje,
- **Vid Habjan**, Head of the Department for Foreign Direct Investment at SPIRIT Slovenia,
- **dr. Anže Logar**, former Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The discussion shed light on current geopolitical tensions, China's evolving global role, challenges facing the European Union, and Europe's strategic future. The round table was moderated by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gorazd Justinek**, visiting professor at MFDPS.



ERASMUS+ MOBILITIES AS OPPORTUNITIES FOR GLOBAL LEARNING

At ISSBS, the international spirit continues to grow stronger. Our student **Vanja Muraus** spent two months in **Thailand** within the framework of the Erasmus+ programme, collaborating with Kasetsart University and the MTEC Research Center in Bangkok. Her experience combined academic learning, research engagement, and cultural exploration in a dynamic international environment. International exchange, however, is not limited to our students going abroad. In Slovenia, we welcomed **Tian**, a student from **Thailand**, who completed his internship at **Riedl d.o.o.** In addition, ISSBS hosted three **international professors** from Ghana, Albania, and Italy. Together with our faculty members, they exchanged knowledge, delivered lectures, discussed new opportunities, and built connections for future joint projects.



These activities further emphasize MFDPS's commitment to fostering international cooperation, academic excellence, and intercultural learning. For our students, professors, and visiting partners, **Erasmus+ mobilities** represent an exchange of knowledge, culture, and limitless opportunities — experiences that enrich both individuals and our faculty as a whole.

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS AS BRIDGES OF KNOWLEDGE AND CONNECTION

We are an active partner in **eight Erasmus+ projects**, through which we are co-shaping the future of education and research. Our representatives have participated in project meetings held in **India, Zambia, Botswana, Poland, Romania, and Slovenia**, contributing to the advancement of **open science, dual education, leadership competencies**, and digital solutions for both education and industry. These collaborations strengthen ISSBS's role in building a global academic network and fostering innovation through shared knowledge and international cooperation.



We participated in the Open Science Forum and the **Open Asia** project consortium in India, in the **OSCAR 2.0** project meeting in Zambia, and in the **Upscale** project in Botswana. Our representatives also took part in the **FreINDs** meeting in Poland and the **DigiFunCollab** project event in Timisoara, Romania. In Slovenia, we hosted partners from the **LEADALKO** and **QA-SURE** projects, participated in a study visit organized by WSPA Lublin, and presented our work at the EM-HERI 2025 International Conference in Portorož.

All these collaborations reaffirm our commitment to co-creating an innovative and open higher education space, where knowledge, experience, and good practices connect people across the world.