The aim of the NIER international conference "Economic Scientific Research - Theoretical, Empirical and Practical Approaches”- ESPERA, initiated in 2013 by the "Costin C. Kirițescu” National Institute for Economic Research (NIER), is to present and evaluate the economic scientific research portfolio, to argue and substantiate the Romanian development strategies - including European and global best practices.

The 2020 edition of the Conference will be held on 26th-27th November, under the title: "30 Years of Inspiring Academic Economic Research – From the Transition to Market Economy to the Interlinked Crises of 21st Century”.

The event, dedicated to the 30th anniversary of NIER and its economic research network of the return under the auspices of the Romanian Academy, will include a scientific program of wide diversity initiatives, bringing together researchers from all NIER institutes and centres, members of the Romanian Academy, Romanian academic researchers and also guests from other countries.

Researchers are encouraged to present articles on economic scientific research that they have focused most over the past 30 years, summarizing as much as possible paradigm shifts and dialogue between currents of thought, developments and trends in national, European and international economic realities. The recent developments in the world economy and the interlinked crises which are shaping up over the horizon of an increasingly uncertain future in this Century should also be essential reflection topics for challenges and opportunities trading-off.

The Conference is organized in such a way as to provide an academic platform for debates, covering the broadest approaches, enabling an interactive exchange of ideas on state-of-the-art knowledge and the latest results and findings, including those emerged in economic science arising from both fundamental and empirical researches and promoting evidence-based policy making. The contributions and views that will be expressed, on a meritorious and wide-ranging level, will be disseminated, as in previous years, in a volume - Proceedings of the International Conference ESPERA 2020, that will be submitted to EBSCO and also for evaluation and inclusion in Conference Proceedings Citation Index by Clarivate, Web of Science.

As a novelty, 2020 edition of the Conference will take place online and all correspondence with the authors will take place, through a dedicated platform, with direct access on ESPERA Conference website.
Conference parallel sessions

1. Romania's sustainable economic and social development. Models, scenarios, evaluations

2. Natural resources patrimony - costs and benefits of its valorisation

3. Knowledge, innovation, smart development and human capital

4. Economy dynamics and structural changes for a competitive growth

5. European integration and globalisation - new challenges

6. Economic instability and stabilisation policies

7. Development and improvement of economic and social forecasting tools

8. Food safety and security – challenges for agriculture economic development

9. Assessment of economic-social and political experiences and thoughts

10. Contributions to the New Encyclopaedia of Romania

11. Quality of life and social policies evaluations

12. Demographic facts and figures

13. Mountain Economy

14. PhD and post PhD students debates

15. Business ethics – economic strength or weakness in a global world
Conference schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abstract submission</td>
<td>10th-16th November 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notification of acceptance/rejection</td>
<td>19th November 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper Submission</td>
<td>25th November 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Conference</td>
<td>26th November 2020 – Plenary Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27th November 2020 – Parallel sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper Submissions</td>
<td>20th January 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notification of:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- acceptance;</td>
<td>20th February 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- acceptance with minor changes;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- acceptance with major changes;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- rejection.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper Submissions - final version after review</td>
<td>10th March 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Paper Submission

Authors are invited to submit full text papers that report original unpublished research, which are not under consideration for publication elsewhere. For Romanian contributors, the Romanian language version of the paper is also required.

The official languages of the conference are English and Romanian.

The paper should be submitted according to the ESPERA 2020 Conference paper Template with the Authors originality declaration, available on the international conference website, through a dedicated platform, with direct access on ESPERA Conference website.
Publication of papers

All the submitted papers will go through a double blind review process, with the help of the Conference Scientific Committee.

The most valuable papers will be published by Sciendo (De Gruyter) in an Open Access Conference Proceedings Volume with ISSN and ISBN - Proceedings of the International Conference ESPERA 2020, that will be submitted for evaluation and inclusion in Conference Proceedings Citation Index by Clarivate, Web of Science.

Sciendo is a leading provider of publishing services and solutions to academic and professional organizations. Sciendo currently publishes over 600 Open Access journals owned by universities and other academic institutions. The company is a part of De Gruyter Group, a renowned academic publisher with a company history of over 260 years. As part of the De Gruyter group, Sciendo can therefore offer world-class publishing solutions and services tried and tested on our own books and proceedings.

De Gruyter publishes more than 1300 books and proceedings a year and has a backlist of about 100,000 published titles. Sciendo publish conference proceedings online in Open Access Model, meaning that everybody can read, cite and disseminate the electronic version of the proceedings.