Economically successful regions tend to be those with high levels of both entrepreneurship and innovation. Whilst this may be increasingly recognized, the nature of the processes and mechanisms involved are less clear. In this context, the conference will investigate the relationships between entrepreneurship [in its different forms], innovation and regional development. At the same time, regional development has a social as well as an economic dimension. As a consequence, the conference welcomes contributions that deal with social inclusion as well as economic development issues.

The aim is to explore these issues both theoretically and practically. Good practice public policy should be underpinned by sound theory, whilst at the same time conceptual development can benefit from practitioner experience. As a consequence, contributions from practitioners and policy makers as well as academics are encouraged, since one of the aims of the conference is to promote dialogue between these different groups. The focus will be on new member states of the European Union, and the Baltic states in particular. Experience from other countries is welcome, particularly if there are lessons which countries in the New Europe can benefit from being exposed to.

Held for the first time in Ventspils in 2013, this conference is organized in Tartu, Estonia by University of Tartu in cooperation with Ventspils University College, Tallinn University of Technology, SSE Riga and ISM University of Management and Economics. The aim is to promote entrepreneurship research in the Baltic countries and beyond in the context of the New Europe.
Abstracts

The conference committee welcomes any contribution that will advance our understanding of the role of the theory and practice of entrepreneurship and innovation in a regional context. However, we are particularly keen to receive papers that focus on entrepreneurship education or entrepreneurship innovation and regional development. Specific issues include:

- Good practice approaches to entrepreneurship education
- SMEs and innovation systems, with particular reference to regions of low population and business density
- Entrepreneurship in the informal economy
- Linkages between foreign direct investment and SME development
- Comparing different approaches to the promotion of economic development in peripheral regions
- The role of local government in economic development
- Migration and regional development
- High growth SMEs and regional development
- Entrepreneurship and social inclusion
- Social entrepreneurship and regional development

Please send abstracts of between 400-500 words by 01 July 2014 to the conference secretary on e-mail: Entrep.Conference@ut.ee. Feedback on the abstracts will be given by 14 July 2014. To be included in the conference proceedings, completed papers must be submitted to the conference secretary by 01 September 2014.

Participation fee

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Participation fee includes coffee breaks, lunches, gala dinner and conference materials.
Conference host

The conference host is University of Tartu, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration (FEBA), Chair of Entrepreneurship.


More about Tartu: http://www.visittartu.com/

Conference committee

Prof. David Smallbone [CEIRD; Professor at Kingston University, U.K. Chair of the scientific committee]
Dr. Elina Kallas [University of Tartu, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Estonia]
Dr. Vilius Kontrimas [Director of Strategic Development at ISM University of Management and Economics, Lithuania]
Dr. Karlis Krezlings [CEIRD, Ventspils University College, Latvia]
Dr. Arnis Sauka [Centre for Sustainable Business, Stockholm School of Economics in Riga, Latvia]
Prof. Urve Venesaar [Professor at Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia]
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