

UNIVERSITY OF NIŠ
announces
Roundtable Discussion
**Innovation Trends and Sustainability
Practices in Insurance Industry**

May 24th, 2021 Niš, Serbia

Dear colleagues,

We are pleased to invite you to take active part in the roundtable discussion, which is organized within the Jean Monnet module *Sustainable Finance and Insurance: EU Principles, Practices and Challenges* (SUFIN), an Erasmus+ Project of the European Union coordinated by the University of Niš (Ref. No. 611831-EPP-1-2019-1-RS-EPPJMO-MODULE). SUFIN Module offers a variety of teaching and research activities aiming at promotion of EU principles of sustainable development at the University of Niš. Research activities are targeting enhancement of the scientific base of the University of Niš in this field of science, considering the importance of Sustainable Finance, which has become an anchor of sustainability in the EU's financial regulatory framework.

ROUNDTABLE THEMES

Digital revolution and demands for sustainability are the most important determinants of the economic development in the last years. Considering a miscellaneous role of insurance industry in the society, its engagement in sustainability issues can be considered as a milestone in achieving a sustainable financial system and, moreover, a sustainable economic development. The Principles for Sustainable Insurance that are launched at the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development are a framework for the global insurance industry to address environmental, social and economic risks and further straighten the initiative to build a green economy. Implementation of ICT in insurance can have numerous benefits, such as expansion of scope and reducing the cost of risk pooling, as well as novel risk insights. Moreover, included in multi-stakeholder and policy and regulatory actions, insurance companies may utilize its potential for the purpose of achieving sustainable development.

This roundtable discussion will bring together academics, business people and policymakers to discuss recent research on a broad array of topics on *sustainable insurance and tech trends in insurance industry*. Proposed topics include, but are not limited to:

- **Innovative insurance products and how to narrow the protection gap**
- **Digital transformation in insurance industry**
- **Sustainable insurance - the current trend at EU level**

This event will be organized online, through Moodle platform of the SUFIN Module, and the participation is free of charge for registered participants.

If you would like to join the Roundtable, please register until May 22nd, 2021 through the following link: <http://apps.eknfak.ni.ac.rs/moodle/course/view.php?id=24>.

Speakers' short biographies



Professor Karel Van Hulle lectures at the Economics and Business Faculty of the KU Leuven and at the Economics Faculty of the Goethe University in Frankfurt where he is attached to the International Centre for Insurance Regulation (ICIR). He is a member of the Public Interest Oversight Board and of the Board of the Bermuda Monetary Authority.

He served as head of insurance and pensions at the European Commission until March 2013, where he was responsible for the development of Solvency II. In that capacity, he represented the EC within EIOPA and was a member of the technical committee of the IAIS.

He joined the EC in 1984 after serving eight years with the Belgian Banking Commission. Before becoming head of insurance and pensions in 2004, he was responsible at the EC for financial reporting, auditing and company law, including corporate governance.

Van Hulle is a lawyer by training. He studied law at the KU Leuven and at the Marquette University Law School in Milwaukee. He is a member of the executive board of the ICIR at the Goethe University in Frankfurt.

Professor Van Hulle was nominated Distinguished International Lecturer in Accounting by the American Accounting Association in 1990, Distinguished Fellow of the IAIS in 2013 and Honorary Fellow of the UK Institute and Faculty of Actuaries in 2014.



Gorazd Čibej, LL.M, has been the Director of the Insurance Supervision Agency of Slovenia (AZN) since January 2018 and since November 2017, he has also been President of the Council of Experts of AZN. He is a member of the Board of Supervisors of the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority (EIOPA) and has also been appointed as a substitute member of the Mediation Panel. He is a regional coordinator for the CEET region within the Executive Committee of the IAIS. Since 2019 he has also been a member of the Council of Securities Market Agency of Slovenia.

He graduated cum laude from the Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana in 2000 and he holds a Master's Degree in European Law (LL.M) from Lund University, Sweden, which he obtained in 2001. In 2016, he completed the Certified International Business Negotiation programme at the Mitchell Hamline University, USA and in 2017 he participated in additional training in the field of Corporate Governance at the Harvard University, USA. Gorazd is a regular speaker at insurance conferences home and abroad.



Michael Brandstetter is Manager of EU and International Affairs at the Austrian Insurance Association (VVO) based in Vienna. He is responsible for VVO's relations with EU institutions and the insurance markets in Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe (CESEE). He joined the VVO in 2014.

Before joining the VVO Michael was from 2008 until 2014 advisor at the EU-office of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber (WKO) at the Austrian Permanent Representation to the EU in Brussels and responsible for financial services, trade policy, tax policy and foreign trade promotion.

In his previous positions he was member of the founder team of the start-up company Lightglass and advisor at the Ministry of European and International Affairs of Austria in the context of the Austrian EU presidency.

Michael was born in 1978 and has Austrian nationality. He holds a master degree in International Economic and Business Studies and a master degree in Political Science of the University of Innsbruck. During his studies he had spent a study year at the International Management School IECS in Strasbourg, France. He holds a postgraduate Diploma of the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna.



Professor Klime Poposki lectures at the insurance department of the University of St. Kliment Ohridski. He served as President of the Council of Experts, the management body of the Macedonian Insurance Supervision Agency, since the establishment of the authority in 2009, running two terms till 2019.

He started his professional career in 1995 as a banker on treasury department for a period of 4 years. After 1999, Poposki joined the University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Ohrid as a teaching assistant, starting with building his academia career as a researcher and lecture. After he earned his Ph.D from the Faculty of Economics, University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius" in 2006, Poposki was elected as an Assistant Professor and since 2013 as an Associate Professor, teaching risk management and insurance.

Professor Poposki is a member of the Board of Governors of the Asia Pacific Risk Insurance Association, member of the European Group of Risk and Insurance Association and International Insurance Society. During his Chairmanship at the Insurance Supervision Agency, Poposki participated in several working groups at the International Association of Insurance Supervisors, including his membership in the Supervisory Forum, Task Force on Insurtech. In the field of scientific research work he has given his contribution through published research papers in international and domestic journals and held numerous presentations on domestic and international conferences with special focus on digitalization of insurance services.