

RESOLUTION of the
9th INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE ALMA MATER EUROPAEA
“IT’S ABOUT PEOPLE”, 12 –19 March 2021

The Programme Committee of the 9th international scientific conference *IT’S ABOUT PEOPLE: Digital Transformation in Science, Education and Arts* organised by AMEU and EASA between 12 – 19 March 2021, held under the auspices of the President of Republic Slovenia, and with the active participation of the European Commissioner, Universities, and other academic and public institutions from 36 countries, proclaims the following **final memorandum**:

1. **Digital transformation is a new development process** accelerating implementation in various areas of social life and a development challenge that became a necessity during the Covid-19 pandemic.
2. **The conference organisers will continue** studying the digital transformation from sustainable development towards green and digital transformation in Europe.
3. **The “IT’S ABOUT PEOPLE” conference** in the field of digital transformation continues holistically to emphasise the ethical and social aspects necessary for the balanced, sustainable development of a digitised and green Europe and human dignity.
4. **Middle Europe** or the Danube region, with its specific geographical, ecological, demographic, and cultural challenges, needs special attention and scientific research and higher education, all in the perspective of the harmonious, sustainable development of a green digital Europe.
5. **The “IT’S ABOUT PEOPLE” conference organisers, AMEU and EASA, invite** academic and other public institutions, particularly EASA members, **to participate creatively** in continuing the AMEU and EASA mission.
6. Following their mission, the organisers of the conference will **explore all possibilities**, in cooperation with universities and other academic and national institutions, to make the best use of all available academic potential, human and material, to achieve sustainable development of a digitised and green Europe.
7. **The conference proposes that the institutions of the European Commission and national governments**, within the framework of existing mechanisms, provide the necessary organisational, infrastructural, material, and substantive support and enable rational use and utilisation of free material and human resources.
8. The conference proposes to establish a **Centre for Digital Transformation at AMEU**, which will:
 - involve and connect interested competent academic resources in research,
 - monitor needs, develop programmes, and offer training and knowledge for successful digital transformation, considering the principles of relevance, quality, and rationalisation,
 - provide appropriate publicly valid documents under the European and national legislation.

AMEU reaffirms its intention to pursue the achievement of the above objectives with academic and other stakeholders.

JUSTIFICATION

The 9th International Scientific Conference Alma Mater Europaea *IT’S ABOUT PEOPLE 2021: Digital Transformation in Science, Education and Arts* was held under the patronage of the President of the Republic of Slovenia, **Borut Pahor**, and co-organised with the European Academy of Sciences and Arts. It was opened by the **European Commissioner** for Education, Youth and Sport, **Mariya Gabriel** and the **President of the European Academy of Sciences and**

Arts (EASA), prof. Dr Klaus Mainzer, followed by representatives of the European, World Academy of Sciences and Arts and the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts and many European and world-famous researchers and scientists such as **prof. Dr Jeffery Sachs**, one of the leading economists and experts on sustainable development, **prof. Dr Peter Lichtenberg**, President of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) and **prof. Dr Emma Stokes**, President of the World Federation of Physiotherapists.

The conference was attended by over **3000 participants** from more than **50 countries**. Over **330 written contributions** were presented in 12 study areas of Alma Mater Europaea study programs, with four top academic sections on digital transformation in education and science, sustainable development, the rule of law and competitiveness in higher education. The discussion in health sciences, physiotherapy, nursing, integrative medicine, and social gerontology was inspiring, especially emphasising the need to educate in line with ethics and aesthetics for the needs of a digital society. The International Assembly of Archivists particularly underlined the possibilities of digitisation to preserve cultural heritage, especially in the ethnically diverse Central Europe. The gathered scientists and artists in the humanities and the art of dance stressed the need for ethics and aesthetics in the new reality, where “the whole world has become a stage”.

The invited speakers and panellists highlighted and identified the need for further study of the digital transformation of the society with expanded content from a humanist and social point of view and the need for implementation to achieve sustainable development of a green and digital Europe.

The words that especially marked the conference were **humanity**, emphasised by the President of the Republic of Slovenia Borut Pahor, **ethics** echoed in the words of world-renowned economist Jeffery Sachs from Columbia University, and **values** exposed by European Commissioner Maria Gabriel. In various sections, Klaus Mainzer and many other guests especially emphasised the need for further humanist evaluation of digital transformation, considering **ethics** and **aesthetics**.

From the organisational point of view, the need to study these issues in an institutionalised form was emphasised especially at the level of the European Union, Central Europe, with the involvement of academic institutions and individuals to develop European identity at national, regional, and European level. The aspects and needs of the development of the European University and the European Academic Space, which co-creates the image of Europe in the direction of digital transformation, were highlighted as well in the sense that Europe invests in data, cloud computing and artificial intelligence for the digital single market 2021-2030. The challenges of this development will be confronted with the conference’s findings, which in 2022 will offer new perspectives on green digital transformation from the point of view of ethics and aesthetics.

The organisers of the conference will take care of the publication of the conference results, the publication of monographs and the promotion of scientific findings and proposals of individual sections and the conference as a whole.

Maribor, 24 March 2021

Programme & Scientific Committee
Prof. Dr Klaus Mainzer

Organisation Committee
Prof. Dr Ludvik Toplak

Alma Mater Europaea
Prof. Dr Felix Unger, President