

9th annual NKL Conference

**Theme:** Digital Innovations

**Date:** May 9-10th 2025

**Location:** University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

**Language:** English

**Celebration:** In 2025 the NKL Network celebrates the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its constitutive meeting, September 2015 in Zagreb.

The [Navigating Knowledge Landscapes \(NKL\)](#) research network facilitates multidisciplinary discussions for the ongoing changes brought on individuals, institutions and societies by digitalization. The NKL conferences encourage presentations of new empirical examples and analysis, they develop new insights on conceptual as well as political and policy-related implications of digitalization. The NKL Network is a cross-disciplinary Network that welcomes new members and encourage them to contribute in our work to support societal sustainability, democracy and human rights, health and welfare of citizens (see previous NKL conference programs; NKL list of publications).

The three post-COVID-19 conferences focused on democracy (2022 in Vienna), food and nutrition (2023 in Fulda), vulnerability risk and disasters (2024 in Beograd). This year the overall theme is Digital Innovation. The digital innovations are expected to bring solutions, advancements and assist in adaptation to the challenges of digital society arising for the individuals, organizations or society as a whole. How is digital innovation developed, understood, adapted, regulated, implemented? Technological innovations are designed for a purpose, at the same time as we know that innovations will become important for other purposes than first intended and may generate new challenges as it is implemented. What are important new technological innovations of today, what are the expectations to these innovations, how do they work when being implemented, and how does it affect citizenship, democracy, health and welfare services? Technological innovation demands access to material and manpower, has costs, creates waste and risks. Where are the resources of technological innovation and production located, how and by whome are they brought into the process, secured and governed?

The theme of the 9th annual NKL conference is, therefore, focused on the ways how to create, understand and adapt digital innovations. The aim of the conference is to explore the position of innovativeness in the digital society, and identify challenges, benefits and risks surrounding it.

Example of areas of interest:

- Digital transformation in health and welfare services
- Smart society
- Circular economies
- AI in education
- Collective intelligence
- Knowledge governance
- Dual use of technologies

The contributions on other topics related to the conference theme and/or knowledge landscapes are also very welcomed.

If you are interested in participating, please submit an **abstract** of 450 words before **February 28, 2025** [subject line: 9th NKL conference 2025] to: [srecko.gajovic@mef.hr](mailto:srecko.gajovic@mef.hr)

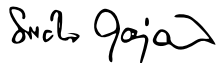
You will be informed about the status of your submission no later than March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

The annual NKL conference has no conference fees. However, the participants are expected to cover their own expenses of travel and stay. Papers presented at the conference will have the opportunity to be published in the selected journals supporting the conference topics.

**OBSERVE:** This year the NKL conference is organized in collaboration with the Losinj Days of Bioethics. The adjacent event of Losinj Days of Bioethics (LDB) in sense of abstracts and topics is supported by the NKL conference, although it is an independent event. Therefore, to those wishing to attend (and many of us will do) the LDB at the island of Losinj, May 11-14<sup>th</sup>, 2025., please follow the information distributed in relation to LDB (which is as well be distributed by NKL Network), but keep in mind that the abstract submission and all arrangements will be done separately by LDB organization. NKL will have a special session at LDB.

For those attending the NKL event at the LDB, please notify Srecko Gajovic, the NKL member coordinating this event ([srecko.gajovic@mef.hr](mailto:srecko.gajovic@mef.hr)) that you intend to go to LDB, then, submit the abstract there (not exactly the same as for the NKL conference), and we will ensure that you participate in the NKL session in Losinj. In this regard, the information on LDB conference will follow later.

In the name of NKL Conference organizers



Srećko Gajović  
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