



*International Scientific Conference*

***“Global Challenges and Opportunities: Interdisciplinary Perspectives  
from the Philippines and Croatia”***

In 2023, a promising collaboration between Far Eastern University in the Philippines and the University of Zagreb began. This partnership was fuelled by a shared commitment to academic excellence and a desire to foster international cooperation in research and education.

Today's world is fraught with a myriad of risks, ranging from political instability and economic uncertainties to environmental challenges and migration crises. In such a complex landscape, it is imperative for scientists and scholars from different parts of the globe to come together, exchange knowledge, and pool their expertise. The upcoming conference is a testament to this collaborative spirit, aiming to facilitate meaningful dialogue and knowledge-sharing among experts.

This year's one-day conference will be structured around three key themes, each addressing pressing issues of our time: **Political Agenda** (Super elections 2024: challenges for world democracy; Rethinking Global Relations: Changes, Disruptions, and Opportunities in a (hyper)globalized world; Climate changes, green transition, and state responses), **Economic Agenda** (Challenges of growing global inequality: Global North vs. Global South; Protectionism and trade wars as economic tools in achieving national economic interests; Economic and political consequences of the energy crisis), **Migration Agenda** (Strategic framework and policies of migration management; Migration trends: immigration, emigration, push and pull factors; Economic migrations and experiences from Croatia and the Philippines: brain drain as a cause of deepening global inequality).

The overarching goal of the conference is to provide insights into these critical areas, foster the exchange of experiences, and further strengthen the collaboration between academic communities in the Philippines and Croatia. By bringing together experts and scholars from diverse backgrounds, the conference seeks to stimulate interdisciplinary discussions, spark innovative ideas, and pave the way for future research collaborations.

The joint scientific conference represents a significant milestone in the ongoing partnership between Far Eastern University and the University of Zagreb. It serves as a platform for intellectual exchange, academic cooperation, and the advancement of knowledge, with the ultimate aim of addressing global challenges and building a better future for all.

To register for the conference, please contact Associate Professor Robert Mikac, PhD ([robert.mikac@fpzgz.hr](mailto:robert.mikac@fpzgz.hr)). Thank you!

***“Global Challenges and Opportunities: Interdisciplinary Perspectives from the Philippines and Croatia”***

Faculty of Economics & Business, University of Zagreb

Trg J.F. Kennedy 6

**DRAFT PROGRAMME**

**SEPTEMBER 9, 2024**

**9:00 Opening remarks**

Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia, H. E. Nebojša Koharević

Ambassador of the Republic of Philippines, H. E. Evangelina Lourdes A. Bernas

Consul General of the Republic of the Philippines in the Republic of Croatia, Mr. Davor Štern

Mr. Holger Haibach, Head of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation office in Croatia

Mr. Diego Jose R. Abad, Dean of the Institute of Arts and Sciences, Far Eastern University

Professor Andrija Henjak, Dean of the Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb

Professor Sanja Sever Mališ, Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Zagreb

**09:30 – 9:45 Special lecture**

**Ambassador of the Republic of Philippines, H. E. Evangelina Lourdes A. Bernas**

**“Foreign policy of the Philippines with indications of action in Europe and Croatia”**

**09:45 – 10:00 Photo session**

**10:00 – 11:30 Panel 1: Political Agenda (possibility of three parallel panels)**

- a) Super elections 2024: challenges for the world democracy
- b) Cooperation between European Union and ASEAN
- c) Rethinking Global Relations: Changes, Disruptions, and Opportunities of a (hyper)globalized world
- d) Climate changes, green transition, and state responses

Discussion

**11:30 – 12:45 Coffee break**

**11:45 – 13:15 Panel 2: Economic Agenda (possibility of three parallel panels)**

- a) Challenges of growing global inequality: Global North vs. Global South
- b) Protectionism and trade wars as economic tools in achieving national economic interests
- c) Economic and political consequences of energy crisis

Discussion

**13:15 – 14:00 Lunch**

**14:00 – 15:30 Panel 3: Migration Agenda (possibility of three parallel panels)**

- a) Strategic framework and policies of migration management
- b) Migration trends: immigration, emigration, push and pull factors
- c) Economic migrations and experiences from Croatia and Philippines: brain drain as a cause of deepening of global inequality

Discussion

15:30            **Closing remarks**