

# **First Annual FORTHEM Conference FORTHEM - For the Future**

**Wednesday, 6 March 2024 - Friday, 8 March 2024**

**ONLINE**

## **Scientific Programme**

## General sessions

### **Europe as a hub for inclusiveness and democratic values**

The conference session, "**Europe as a Hub for Inclusiveness and Democratic Values**", offers a dynamic exploration of Europe's pivotal role in fostering inclusiveness and upholding democratic principles.

As we navigate the complexities of our rapidly changing world, this session invites participants to delve into the unique and influential position that Europe occupies on the global stage and share insights into Europe's historical commitment to democracy, human rights, and social inclusiveness.

Attendees can expect in-depth discussions on various aspects, including policy frameworks, social initiatives, and the promotion of diversity.

### **Cultural heritage, a testimony of the past and reference book for the future**

The conference session, "**Cultural Heritage: A Testimony of the Past and Reference Book for the Future**," invites attendees to embark on a captivating journey through time and culture.

This session will delve into the rich tapestry of our global heritage, exploring how it serves as both a testament to our history and a guidebook for our future.

The speakers and experts will illuminate the significance of preserving and celebrating cultural heritage, demonstrating how cultural artifacts, traditions, and historical sites are not merely relics of the past but living repositories of wisdom, identity, and inspiration.

The session expects to discuss innovative techniques and strategies employed to safeguard and restore our cultural treasures, ensuring they endure for generations to come and explore how cultural heritage can be a powerful tool for fostering international understanding, cooperation, and peace.

This session promises to be a thought-provoking exploration of the profound connections between our past and future, emphasizing the enduring importance of cultural heritage in shaping our world. Join us in celebrating the diversity and resilience of our shared human legacy.

### **Physical and mental health in complex times of crisis, and economic and political instability**

The conference session, "**Physical and Mental Health in Complex Times of Crisis, Economic, and Political Instability**," provides a critical platform for addressing the multifaceted challenges faced by individuals and communities during turbulent times.

In an era marked by crises, economic uncertainties, and political upheavals, this session focuses

on the holistic well-being of individuals and societies.

The session expects enlightening discussions on key areas such as - the impact of crisis on health (exploring issues such as stress, anxiety, trauma, and the role of healthcare systems in addressing these challenges), resilience and coping strategies, interplay between economic and political instability and their effects on healthcare access, social services, and overall well-being, policy and community responses.

## **Overpopulation and overconsumption triggering hunger, resource scarcity, migration, climate change, and the pollution of the atmosphere, the soil and the oceans**

This conference session, "**Overpopulation, Overconsumption, and Their Consequences**," delves deep into the interconnected issues of overpopulation and overconsumption, examining their far-reaching impacts on our planet. In an era characterized by pressing challenges such as hunger, resource depletion, migration, climate change, and environmental pollution, this session provides a comprehensive exploration of the root causes and potential solutions.

This session offers a platform to engage in a nuanced conversation about the critical issues that our world faces, aiming to inspire collaboration and action to mitigate the adverse effects of overpopulation and overconsumption on our planet's well-being and future.

## **Role of life sciences in an increasingly aging society**

"**Role of Life Sciences in an Aging Society**" conference session provides a captivating exploration of the pivotal role that life sciences play in addressing the challenges and opportunities presented by our increasingly aging global population.

As the world experiences a demographic shift towards older age groups, this session sheds light on the innovative solutions and advancements within the life sciences field. Gain insights into the latest research and breakthroughs in understanding the biology of aging, longevity, and how to promote healthier aging. Discover how life sciences are driving medical breakthroughs, from precision medicine and regenerative therapies to disease prevention and management.

Explore the impact of an aging population on healthcare systems, social structures, and economic landscapes, and discuss strategies for adapting to these changes. Delve into the ethical and moral questions surrounding aging, life extension, and healthcare access.

## **The chemistry of the Green Deal**

"**The Chemistry of the Green Deal**" conference session champions the imperative of interdisciplinarity in our collective pursuit of a sustainable future. It emphasizes the central role of chemistry as a bridge between various fields, highlighting its capacity to unlock innovative solutions in the context of the European Green Deal.

The participants will delve into multifaceted discussions addressing the Chemistry's transformative power in green energy solutions and circular economy practices, witness the synergy between chemistry and other scientific domains in driving the ambitious goals of the Green Deal.

Join us in recognizing the transformative potential of interdisciplinary collaboration in realizing the ambitious goals of the European Green Deal and securing a sustainable future for all.

## **Digitization and artificial intelligence as key drivers for education and science in the future**

The conference session, "**Digitization and artificial intelligence as key drivers for education and science in the future**," delves into the transformative power of digitization and artificial intelligence (AI) in shaping the future of education and research. This session serves as a compelling exploration of how these technological advances are revolutionizing the educational and scientific landscape, discussing data-driven science, automation and optimization, intersection of digitization and AI with various scientific domains, ethical considerations.

As a platform for interdisciplinary dialogue this session aims to fostering innovative cross-pollination of ideas and methodologies.

## **Cross-disciplinary sessions for Early-Stage Researchers**

### **The Social Sciences and Humanities – Creative research ideas and their potential societal impact**

"**The Social Sciences and Humanities: Creative Research Ideas and Their Potential Societal Impact**" conference session places early-stage researchers at the forefront, recognizing their role as catalysts for innovation and change.

This session is dedicated to nurturing creativity and fostering cross-sectoral collaboration within the fields of social sciences and humanities, as well as beyond, to drive meaningful societal impact.

### **Natural Sciences – Be innovative and shape the future in your field**

The conference session, "**Natural Sciences: Fostering Innovation and Empowering Early-Stage Researchers to Shape the Future**," stands as a dedicated platform for early-career scientists to drive innovation, collaborate across sectors, and contribute to the advancement of their respective fields.

This session aims to inspire and empower the next generation of natural scientists, fostering a culture of innovation, collaboration, and forward-thinking.

## **Poster session**

### **Posters**

