

06 **innoLab**

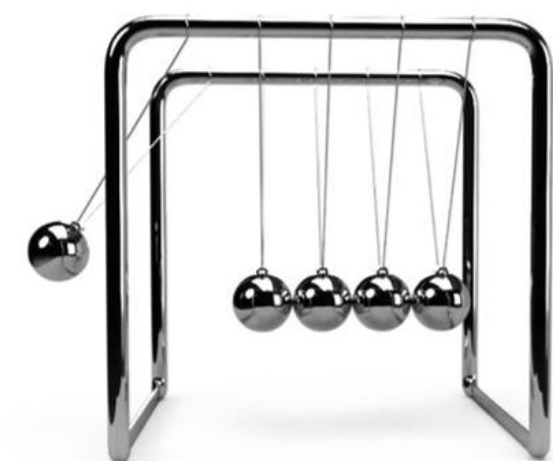
ASEF HIGHER EDUCATION

**Universities' Role in Developing Skills for an
AI-Powered Future**

2-5 December 2025

Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice | Košice, Slovakia

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW



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A E 4 A I
NETWORK

Monday, 1 December 2025

Day 0: Participant Arrival and Hotel Check-in

18:00 – 19:00 Pre-registration at Hotel Yasmin Košice

Tuesday, 2 December 2025

Day 1: Setting the Scene: AI Skills for the Future

08:30 Participants' departure from hotel to venue

08:30 – 09:00 Registration

09:00 – 09:50 Opening Session

- **Ambassador Roman BUŽEK**, ASEF Governor for Slovakia
- **Prof Daniel PELLA**, Rector, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice
- **Mr Denis NEDELKA**, Director of Internationalisation of Higher Education Department, Ministry of Education, Development, Research and Youth of Slovakia
- **Mr Radoslav ŠTEFÁNEK**, State Secretary II., Ministry of Investments, Regional Development and Informatization of Slovakia [Video]

09:50 – 10:30 Group Photo & Morning Break

10:30 – 12:00 Keynote Speeches

The Role of Universities in an AI-Driven World: From Strategy to Skill Building

- **Prof John SHAWE-TAYLOR**, UNESCO Chair for Artificial Intelligence; Director, International Research Centre on Artificial Intelligence under the auspices of UNESCO & Director Centre for Computational Statistics and Machine Learning, University College London

Cross-Cultural Excellence in Digital Education and Innovation in an AI-Driven World

- **Dr Tuan TRINH**, Regional Director East, European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) Digital

12:00 – 13:00 Setting the Scene, Getting to Know Each Other

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch Break

14:00 – 14:30 Moderated Group Session:
Revisiting the Academic Papers Track

- **Dr Claudio RIVERA**, ASEFInnoLab6 Strategic Advisor, Director of Academic Affairs & Director of Undergraduate Programmes, Riga Business School, Riga Technical University, Latvia

	• Dr Lafifa JAMAL, ASEFInnoLab6 Expert Facilitator, Professor at Department of Robotics & Mechatronics Engineering, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh • Ms Alice XIE, Springer Nature <i>[Online]</i>
14:30 – 15:30	Paper Presentation and Discussion Bridging the AI Skills Gap in Higher Education: A Scenario-Based Framework for Rapid Micro-Credential Development in Asia and Europe <i>AP8's presentation of their paper will be followed by a peer feedback session with an assigned team and an open Q&A segment with the cohort and resource persons.</i> • Dr Nadeem MAHMOOD, Associate Professor, University of Karachi, Pakistan • Dr Tehreem MASOOD, Head of Department / Associate Professor, Superior University, Pakistan • Mr Joel Naoki Ernesto CHRISTOPH, PhD Researcher in Economics, European University Institute, Italy <i>[Online]</i>
15:30 – 16:30	Paper Presentation and Discussion Institutions at the Edge of AI: Policy and Ethics for Cross-Regional Innovation in Higher Education <i>AP27's presentation of their paper will be followed by a peer feedback session with an assigned team and an open Q&A segment with the cohort and resource persons.</i> • Dr Vanessa CAMILLERI, Senior Lecturer, University of Malta, Malta • Dr Tiong Hoo LIM, Associate Professor, Universiti Teknologi Brunei, Brunei Darussalam
16:30 – 17:00	Afternoon Break
17:00 – 18:00	Moderated Discussion <i>Cohort to reflect on insights from paper presentations and contributions to the ASEFInnoLab6 Kosice Manifesto</i>
18:00 – 20:00	Welcome Dinner

Wednesday, 3 December 2025

Day 2: Team Presentations, Reflecting on Core Research Insights

08:30	Departure from hotel to venue
09:00 – 10:00	Keynote Talk • Mr Matej ŠTEFÁNIK, Head of the International Cooperation and EU Digital Legislation Unit, Ministry of Investments, Regional Development and Informatization of Slovakia
10:00 – 10:30	Morning Break

10:30 – 11:30	Paper Presentation and Discussion Artificial Intelligence Development and Governance: Ethical and Regulatory Lacunae, Cross-Cultural Challenges, and Practical Solutions <i>AP28's presentation of their paper will be followed by a peer feedback session with an assigned team and an open Q&A segment with the cohort and resource persons.</i> • Dr Zsolt ALMÁSI, Head of Department and Associate Professor, Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Hungary • Mrs Jolanta PIETRKIEWICZ-KNECHT, Of Counsel, WKB Lawyers, Poland • Mr Henry ENCABO, Center Manager - Mindanao Center for Educational Research, Training and Innovation, University of Southeastern Philippines, Philippines
11:30 – 12:30	Paper Presentation and Discussion Building An Inclusive AI Ecosystem: Insights from Selected Higher Educations in Europe and Asia <i>AP32's presentation of their paper will be followed by a peer feedback session with an assigned team and an open Q&A segment with the cohort and resource persons.</i> • Dr Manmeet KAUR, Associate Professor, Jindal Global Law School, O.P. Jindal Global University, India • Dr Quoc Cuong NGUYEN, Director, Dong Nai Institute for Innovation, Vietnam • Ms Leila BENABDALLAH, President, OCEANS Network, France • Ms Thi Kim Anh VO, Lecturer, Ton Duc Thang University, Vietnam
12:30 – 13:00	Moderated Discussion <i>Cohort to reflect on insights from paper presentations and contributions to the ASEFInnoLab6 Kosice Manifesto</i>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 – 18:00	Site Visit <i>Matsuko, Steelpark & Košice sightseeing</i>
Evening	Free Time

Thursday, 4 December 2025

Day 3: Team Presentations, Reflecting on Core Research Insights

08:30	Departure from hotel to venue
09:00 – 10:00	Networking Session <i>Meet and greet between ASEFInnoLab6 x ASEM Digitalisation and AI Expert Group Members</i>

10:00 – 10:30	Morning Break	[SEPARATE PROGRAMME] Meeting of the ASEM Expert Group on AI and Digitalisation
10:30 – 12:00	Keynote Talks The Role of Universities in Building an Innovative Knowledge Economy • Mr Ronald BLASKO, Director, Research and Innovation Authority (VAIA) The Role of Universities in Governing AI within the Institution • Prof SHEN Yi, Professor of SIRPA & Director of the International Research Institute of Global Cyberspace Governance, Fudan University, China [Online]	
12:00 – 13:00	Paper Presentation and Discussion Reframing Creativity: AI's Emerging Influence on Art and Design Pedagogy from Studio to Screen <i>AP41's presentation of their paper will be followed by a peer feedback session with an assigned team and an open Q&A segment with the cohort and resource persons.</i> • Assoc Prof Peipei YU, Associate Professor / Director of School, University for the Creative Arts, United Kingdom • Dr Muhammad Zahid IQBAL, Assistant Professor in Immersive Technologies, Teesside University, United Kingdom	
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00 – 15:00	Campus Tour	
15:00– 16:00	Paper Presentation and Discussion Breaking Barriers: Generative AI Access in Higher Education Towards a Minimum Access Standard for Educators in Europe and Asia <i>AP34's presentation of their paper will be followed by a peer feedback session with an assigned team and an open Q&A segment with the cohort and resource persons.</i> • Prof Sabrina SCHARPEN, Professor of Creative Producing and Audiovisual Media, BHT – Berlin University for Technology, Germany • Prof Judel ROMAN, Dean, National Teachers College, Philippines	

	• Prof Sravani BHARANDEV, Assistant Professor, BITS Pilani Hyderabad, India • Dr Mildred LIBOT, Chief Education Program Specialist, Commission on Higher Education, Philippines
16:00 – 16:30	Afternoon Break
16:30 – 17:30	Paper Presentation and Discussion The AI Creativity Paradox: Is AI becoming a shortcut or an amplifier for the thinking process? <i>AP40's presentation of their paper will be followed by a peer feedback session with an assigned team and an open Q&A segment with the cohort and resource persons.</i> • Dr Saltanat AKHMADI, Instructor, Nazarbayev University, Kazakhstan • Dr Madhuri ISAVE, Associate Professor, Tilak College of Education, India • Dr Aneela YASMIN, Vocational Education Teacher, RMIT University, Australia
17:30 – 18:00	Moderated Discussion <i>Cohort to reflect on insights from paper presentations and contributions to the ASEFInnoLab6 Kosice Manifesto</i>
Evening	Free Time

Friday, 5 December 2025

Day 4: Showcasing Progress, Conclusions, and Ways Forward

08:30	Departure from hotel to venue
09:00 – 10:00	Keynote Talk Ethics and Integrity in Research in the Age of AI • Dr Soňa FTÁČNIKOVÁ, National Contact Point for Ethics and Integrity in Research, HORIZON EUROPE Preparing Universities for an AI-Powered Future in the Global South • Dr Vicente PITOGO, AI in Education Coordinator, AE4AI Network & Vice President for Academic Affairs, Caraga State University, Philippines
10:00 – 10:30	Morning Break
10:30 – 11:30	Paper Presentation and Discussion Effortless Effort? Investigating the Cognitive Impact of Generative AI Assistance on Student Learning Across Asia and Europe <i>AP42's presentation of their paper will be followed by a peer feedback session with an assigned team and an open Q&A segment with the cohort and resource persons.</i>

- **Prof Ram B. RAMACHANDRAN**, Professor and Vice Dean, O.P. Jindal Global University, India
- **Dr Fernaz NARIN NUR**, Professor, Military Institute of Science and Technology, Bangladesh
- **Mr Anshumaan GOEL**, PhD Scholar, O.P. Jindal Global University / Government of India
- **Mrs Ika Noer SYAMSIANA**, Head of Industrial Automation Laboratory, State Polytechnic of Malang, Indonesia
- **Dr Dalma Lilla DOMINEK**, Associate Professor, Ludovika University of Public Service, Hungary

11:30 – 13:00

Roundtable Discussion

“Higher Education for an AI-enabled future: Balancing Innovation, Equity, and Autonomy amid New Opportunities and Challenges”

Facilitated session with the members of the ASEM Expert Group Digitalisation and AI.

*Moderator: **Ms Stefanie ENGERT**, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)*

- **Mr Yerzhan IRGEBAYEV**, Deputy Director, Higher Education Development National Centre, Kazakhstan
- **Prof Bundit THIPAKORN**, Associate Professor & Advisor to the President, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi, Thailand
- **Prof Karanam PUSHPANADHAM**, Faculty of Education and Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Gujarat, India
- **Ms Vera Lucke**, Deputy Head, ASEM Education Secretariat (AES)
- **Ms Christelle Mae AGUSTIN**, Director for Knowledge Maximisation, Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation-Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED)
- **Mr Alessandro BROLPITO**, Senior Human Capital Development Expert - Digital Skills and Learning, European Training Foundation (ETF)
- **Mr Marco COMOTTI**, Web Project Administrator, Erasmus Student Network (ESN)

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch Break

14:00 – 14:15

Networking Icebreaker

14:15 – 15:45

Roadmap Ahead and Finalising Manifesto

Review of the tasks ahead after the conference and finalising the ASEFInnoLab6 Kosice Manifesto.

15:45 – 16:15

Afternoon Break

16:15 – 17:15

AE4AI Induction Ceremony

- **Dr Vicente PITOGO**, AI in Education Coordinator, AE4AI Network & Vice President for Academic Affairs, Caraga State University, Philippines
- **Dr Vanessa CAMILLERI**, Senior Lecturer, University of Malta
- **Dr Renata BAČÁROVÁ**, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice

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Closing Session

- **Mr ZHANG Lei**, Deputy Executive Director, Asia-Europe Foundation
- **Prof Gabriel SEMANIŠIN**, Vice-Dean for Development and Quality Management, Faculty of Science, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice
- **Dr Renata BAČÁROVÁ**, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice
- Closing remarks from ASEFinnoLab Expert Facilitators

17:15 – 17:30 Reflections for the Day and Final Reminders

Evening Cultural Programme / Farewell Dinner
Tokaj Wine Region

Saturday, 6 December 2025

Day 5: Hotel Check-out and Participant Departure



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