**2nd International PhD Conference**

**University of Maribor and members of ATHENA**

**April 17–18 2025, University of Maribor**

**»Sustainable Innovation & Technology: Bringing Science and Society Closer Together«**

**Call for Abstracts**

In the face of climate change and environmental degradation, the need for green transition and sustainable technology has never been more urgent. Achieving true sustainability requires collaborative efforts across all sectors of society, with academia serving as a cornerstone for driving innovative research and solutions in sustainability and technology.

Through interdisciplinary research, educating the next generation of leaders, and fostering partnerships with key stakeholders, academia holds the potential to accelerate the green transition and lay the groundwork for a more innovative and resilient future of society.

This doctoral conference aspires to provide a vibrant platform for doctoral candidates, researchers, and academic staff to engage in meaningful dialogue, share groundbreaking research, and discover innovative solutions at the intersection of sustainability and technology. It aims to unite doctoral students from diverse disciplines and [ATHENA universities](https://athenauni.eu/), fostering discussions on academia's vital role in advancing sustainable innovation. Join us to exchange ideas, showcase your research, and explore how academia can bring science and society closer together.

Do you aspire to leverage your doctoral research to tackle global sustainability challenges and drive technological innovation? We invite you to connect with fellow doctoral students from the ATHENA network to discuss the pivotal role of innovative research in creating a greener, more sustainable tomorrow. This international doctoral conference provides a unique opportunity to present your work, collaborate with researchers across Europe, and position your research within the broader movement toward sustainable innovation and technological advancement. Together, we can contribute to a deeper, collaborative understanding of how to shape a sustainable future.

We warmly invite doctoral students from all research fields within ATHENA to join this conference, which **will take place in person at the University of Maribor**. Each participant will give a 15-minute oral presentation, followed by interactive discussions. All contributions will be compiled in a book of abstracts, printed or on-line.

**WHO CAN PARTICIPATE**

Doctoral students from all ATHENA universities.

**HOW TO PARTICIPATE**

Doctoral students can apply by filling out the application form with a short abstract of up to 250 words. Send the application form to your university at the address listed below. A total of 20 openings are available for the doctoral conference. Registration will remain open until all openings are filled.

The abstract must include a title, the author(s)' name(s), and a summary of research/doctoral topic results and any interesting facts.

**Abstract submission** **deadline:** March 3 2025 (list of contacts available below)

**Notification of acceptance**: March 7 2025

**Conference**: April 17 and 18, 2025

**Book of abstracts**: June 2025

**List of contacts:**

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