

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Faculty of Political Sciences and Law of “Aleksandër Moisiu” University of Durrës, in Albania, announces the organisation of the 9th International Scientific Conference “The state, society and law at the crossroads of the European Project: Democracy, Rule of Law and Integration”, on May 11th 2026.

This conference invites scholars, researchers, and practitioners to explore the evolving relationships between state, society, and law within the broader context of the European project. At a time marked by complex political, legal, and socio-economic transformations, questions surrounding democracy, the rule of law, and integration remain central to both European and global debates.

Europe Week offers an opportunity to reflect critically and constructively on Albania’s European path. For more than three decades, European Union integration has been declared a strategic national objective and consistently supported by the overwhelming majority of Albanian citizens.

This conference aims to provide a scholarly forum for researchers, legal experts, public administration experts, political scientists, policymakers, and doctoral candidates to engage in evidence-based discussion on the future of Albania’s European integration and its implications for democracy and the rule of law. The Faculty of Political Science and Law invites scholars to contribute to a constructive, rigorous, and forward-looking discussion on Albania’s European future and its implications.

While the conference adopts a broad and comparative perspective, it also seeks to highlight developments and challenges relevant to Albania, situating them within wider regional and international dynamics.

We welcome contributions on, but not limited to, the relevant topics as follows:

I. Law, rule of law and European Integration

- Rule of law and democratic governance in transitional and consolidated systems;
- Regional developments and challenges in the rule of law
- Legal reforms and judicial independence, including judiciary strengthening as a pillar of peace and security;
- Anti-corruption, organized crime and their impact on democracy
- Human rights and fundamental freedoms, particularly in times of crisis and conflicts
- Legal aspects of migration and asylum
- Cybersecurity, data protection, and privacy (including gender and digital dimensions)
- European Union law: challenges, implementation, and future perspectives
- European integration and enlargement, including negotiation processes and the *acquis communautaire*
- National legal approximation to EU standards (including the Albanian experience)
- Sustainable Development Goals and emerging legal frameworks
- Local governance and legislative reforms in a global context

II. Politics, democracy and international relations

- Democracy and democratization processes in historical and contemporary contexts
- Leadership, populism, and political decision-making
- Challenges to democracy within political parties and institutions
- Elections, representation, and democratic standards (EU and wider European context)
- European integration policies and political dimensions
- Governance in times of crisis: migration, conflict, and digital transformation
- Corruption and its impact on political and institutional development
- International relations and global order in times of conflict
- War, civil rights, and democratic resilience
- Regional and global security challenges
- NATO, EU, and international interventions

III. Public administration, economy and good governance

- Public administration reforms in the context of European integration
- Good governance, transparency, and accountability
- Digital transformation and its impact on public services and governance
- Financial management and performance of public institutions
- Public policy, economic growth, and sustainable development
- Globalisation and its impact on national economies
- Labour markets and migration dynamics
- Local governance, decentralisation, and autonomy
- Economic security and development in a global and regional context
- National and international cooperation and its economic implications

IV. Media, information and democracy in the digital age

- The role of independent journalism in strengthening democratic institutions
- Disinformation, fake news, and political manipulation
- Media responsibility in times of crisis and conflict
- Social media and digital platforms in political mobilization and public discourse
- Artificial intelligence, algorithms, and their influence on public opinion
- Media regulation, ethics, and freedom of expression in the digital era

Submission Guidelines

Abstract should be approximately 300-500 words. It should include title, author (s), affiliation and contact details, research question, methodology and preliminary results if available.

Submissions should clearly outline the research question, methodology and expected contribution.

Submission can be done at the link

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc35_GUCHw8zrj9GCjsydRfPSwwppiGPjPL2IjYzENfxCO6UQ/viewform?usp=publish-editor

KEYDATES AND DEADLINES:

Abstracts due	April 27th, 2026
Notification of acceptance	May 4th, 2026
Conference fee	Na
Conferencedate	May 11th, 2026

