

Call for Papers

Sustainability, Competitiveness, and Security: Perspectives from Bremen and Gdańsk

Conference at the University of Gdańsk on 16th – 18th November 2026

About the conference

As Europe faces growing challenges related to sustainability, economic competitiveness, technological transformation, and security, understanding their implications for regional development has become increasingly important. This international conference brings together scholars and practitioners to discuss these issues through the experiences of Bremen and Gdańsk and their metropolitan regions.

On 12 April 1976, the City of Gdańsk and the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen signed an agreement establishing their partnership. In 2026, we celebrate the 50th anniversary of this milestone in the long-standing relationship between the two cities.

The event will be held in **English** and will mark the **50th anniversary of the city partnership between the Hanseatic Cities of Bremen and Gdańsk**, while celebrating **the long-standing academic cooperation between the partner universities**. It will include an international academic conference (on 16th and 17th November), a cultural gathering, and student panels (17 and 18th November).

Building on the 2016 symposium, the 2026 conference seeks to assess the implications of the evolving EU policy framework, particularly its growing emphasis on sustainability, competitiveness, and security.

We warmly welcome you to participate in this unique meeting in mid-November!

Christiane Trüe (University of Applied Sciences, Bremen)
Joanna Bednarz, Magdalena Markiewicz (University of Gdansk)

Conference themes

We invite submissions for an interdisciplinary international symposium examining how the European Union's strategic priorities of sustainability, competitiveness, and security influence regional development and transformation.

It aims to analyse how these trends have shaped regional economic performance, governance, innovation systems, and industrial transformation, with a particular focus on technology and digitalisation in both Bremen and its Northwest Metropolitan Region and the Gdańsk–Sopot–Gdynia Metropolitan Area.

We welcome contributions from **economics, international economic relations, law, political science, public policy, finance, and related disciplines**. Topics include implementing EU priorities, regional innovation and competitiveness, industrial clusters, legal and political frameworks, regional governance, and comparative analyses of best practices. The event aims to foster interdisciplinary dialogue between researchers and practitioners, strengthen international academic collaboration, and identify policy lessons that support the sustainable development of European regions.

Submission guidelines

Participants are invited to register for the conference and submit an abstract (maximum 600 words, excluding keywords) **no later than 30 September 2026** using the online registration form: [Registration for the Conference: HSB and Uni Gdansk, 16-18 November 2026](#)

Important dates

- ☐ **30 September 2026 – abstract submission/title of the presentation**
- ☐ **16-18 November 2026 – conference**
- ☐ **10 January 2027 – full paper submission**

Additional information

- ☐ **Place:** The venue of the conference is the Faculty of Economics, University of Gdańsk, ul. Armii Krajowej 119/121, 81-824 Sopot, Poland
- ☐ During **registration**, participants are requested to indicate:
 - whether they will attend in person or online/hybrid;
 - on which conference day they plan to participate;
 - whether they intend to present a paper (abstract submission deadline: 30 September 2026);
 - whether they plan to submit a full paper for the conference proceedings (submission deadline: 10 January 2027).

Abstract submission:

Presenters are invited to submit abstract details (in English, max. 600 words) no later than **September 30, 2026**, via the MS Forms registration system: [Registration for the Conference: HSB and Uni Gdansk, 16-18 November 2026](#), or to contact the organisers by email.

Abstracts should include the following elements: (1) Title of the paper and Author(s) name(s) and affiliation(s); (2) Background and research context, including the research problem and the knowledge gap addressed; (3) Objectives of the paper; (4) Results (the most important outcomes or expected results or preliminary findings); (5) 3–5 keywords.

Contact:

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