



The 4th International Summer School of the Faculty of Economics and Business "Sustainability in International Business" has been concluded

At the **6-day 4th International Summer School** of the Faculty of Economics and Business "Sustainability in International Business", which began with a virtual event on 5 and continued live from 8 to 13 September 2025, **25 undergraduate and master's students from ten universities in six EU member states** – Croatia, Germany, Poland, Estonia, Portugal, and Hungary – were accepted. Students acquired and upgraded their knowledge in the field of sustainable business practices of international companies, their sustainability reporting, national, European, and global mechanisms for promoting and strengthening sustainable business practices, challenges in implementing sustainability, and the necessary approaches and characteristics of managers who promote and support sustainable operations. Through interactive workshops, peer discussions and social gatherings, and discussions with guests and professors, students developed communication skills, creativity and competencies that are key to their personal and career development.

The summer school program included **twelve presentations and discussions on good practices** in implementing or supporting the introduction of sustainability into international business practices, **seven educational workshops** on the concept, implementation factors, metrics and support mechanisms, challenges in implementation, and anticipated future trends in the field of sustainability implementation, as well as **a professional excursion to work environments** in Koper. **Twelve internationally active companies/organizations from ten industries** shared their good practices in the field of sustainability implementation and support with students: **Unichem d.o.o, Slovenia, Solviks d.o.o., Slovenia, Atlantic Droga Kolinska d.o.o., Slovenia, Systemair, Slovenia, Nomago, Slovenia, EK Elpro Križnič Slovenia, Cerkno Tourism Institute, Center Rinka - Institute for Tourism and Sustainable Development of Solčava, Paradajz Slovenia, Institute for the Development of Social Responsibility (IRDO), Slovenia, TÜV Austria Servis, Slovenia, and Lidl Slovenia**, while **academic workshops** were conducted by **professors from the Faculty of Economics and Business**. In addition to individual and team interactive work at presentations and workshops, **students also prepared research and presentations of good practices** in the field of sustainability implementation in

selected companies from their countries, including innovative proposals for their upgrade or improvement.

During a field trip to Koper, students learned about **Koper as a tourist destination, with an emphasis on the development of the so-called green city**; **Representatives of the Institute for Youth, Culture, and Tourism Koper** enabled students to learn about an important part of the city's cultural heritage and the Institute's activities in the field of sustainable international tourism development at one of Slovenia's most internationally exposed tourist destinations at the Institute's headquarters, the Pretorska Palace. In the second part of the field trip, students visited Marezige near Koper to learn about the sustainable tourism offer of **the Slovenian Istria tourist accommodation facility »Hiške slovenske Instre«**, a key part of which is the offer of local food and accommodation that preserves the historical cultural heritage of Slovenian Istria. The tenant guided the students through the history of this destination and the gastronomic characteristics of the Istrian breakfast.

In addition to daily socialising over refreshments during breaks between presentations and workshops, the informal summer school programme included **three organised social events coordinated by the University of Maribor** – a welcome party, a guided tour of Maribor, and a film evening – as well as **a visit to the Maribor Regional Museum, coordinated by the Faculty of Economics and Business**. This year's summer school also ended with the awarding of certificates of participation and active engagement to the students.









