

32nd International Conference *Interdisciplinary Information Management Talks (IDIMT 2024)*

Petr Doucek¹ | *Prague University of Economics and Business, Prague, Czech Republic*

Lea Nedomová² | *Prague University of Economics and Business, Prague, Czech Republic*

The *Interdisciplinary Information Management Talks* conference is traditionally organized by the Department of Systems Analysis of the Faculty of Informatics and Statistics at the Prague University of Economics and Business, in co-operation with the Institute of Networks and Security of Johannes Kepler University Linz. This year's 32nd annual conference, which took place from September 4th to 6th in Hradec Králové, was held under the general title "Changes to Information and Communication Technology, Management and Business Processes through Artificial Intelligence". The whole meeting was divided into eleven sessions, one of which was devoted to presentations by PhD students. We have chosen the following eleven topics for the IDIMT 2024 conference:

- AI Support for Crisis Management,
- Cyber Security,
- AI in Virtual Collaboration, Teaching & Learning,
- Autonomous Vehicles and Smart Environments,
- ICT Systems and Business,
- Digital Transformation and Digital Business Models,
- Social Media and the Role of AI,
- Data and AI in Supply Chain Management,
- Academic Business Co-operation,
- Ethical Integrity of Research in AI,
- Special doctoral session: Early Career & Student Showcase.

A total of 54 papers from 126 authors, 66 of them from abroad, were presented in parallel sessions. The authors come from 11 different countries: Armenia, Austria, Czechia, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain.

As the overall title of the conference suggests, one of its very important topics was artificial intelligence and its potential and actual deployment in economic and academic life. This topic was the subject of the opening panel discussion immediately after the opening ceremony, which was conducted by Michael Sonntag from Johannes Kepler University in Linz. During the discussion invited guests from Germany, Austria, Slovakia and Czechia exchanged views not only on the possible application of artificial intelligence in practical informatics for business applications, but also on its use to improve the quality of scientific work. In addition to positive views on the future of business informatics under the baton of artificial

¹ Faculty of Informatics and Statistics, Prague University of Economics and Business, W. Churchill Sq. 4, 130 67 Prague 3, Czech Republic. E-mail: doucek@vse.cz.

² Faculty of Informatics and Statistics, Prague University of Economics and Business, W. Churchill Sq. 4, 130 67 Prague 3, Czech Republic. E-mail: nedomova@vse.cz.

intelligence, there were also critical views that assessed the emerging risks such as the possibility of very high quality plagiarism without the creative power of the authors, especially in scientific and research activities, as well as the need for ever more training data, which we might be running out of soon.

The panel discussion was smoothly followed by the “Special doctoral session: Early Career & Student Showcase”, which was dedicated to the presentation of doctoral students’ dissertation topics. Here, the PhD students had the opportunity to present the results of their work, but also to get feedback from the experts present at the international forum. There was a great interest in the individual sessions among the conference participants. Traditionally high quality sessions included those devoted to cyber security and ethical aspects of informatics related to the use of information technology and the deployment of artificial intelligence. Nevertheless, this year’s outstanding session was the “AI Support for Crisis Management” session, which was mainly devoted to the issues of crisis management and the application of information technology and artificial intelligence in these situations. In their well-prepared presentations, the staff of AGES (Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety) and AIT (Austrian Institute of Technology) demonstrated the possibility of fulfilling the protection of human lives and values in crisis situations using computing and artificial intelligence. Two sessions were devoted to the classical application of information systems in business practice, namely “Data and AI in Supply Chain Management”, led by colleagues from the Technical University of Košice and the Faculty of Business Administration of the University of Economics in Košice, and the session “Digital Transformation and Digital Business Models”, led by the University of Maribor in Slovenia.

The benefits and possibilities of artificial intelligence in education were presented in the session “AI in Virtual Collaboration, Teaching & Learning”, which was held under the auspices of Dr. Anne Jantos from the Technical University of Dresden.

We will therefore look forward again to the next IDIMT conference to see what new issues it will bring. The event will traditionally take place next year in Hradec Králové in September 2025. For more information about the conference and previous editions, please visit the website <<https://idimt.org>>.

As a result of the conference, besides the presented results of the scientific work, the collaboration between Prague University of Economics and Business, Johannes Kepler University Linz and other universities and research institutions from Germany, Slovakia, and Slovenia, which were represented in the wide plenary of participants, was deepened.

This conference was partially co-funded through project IGA 409033 of the Faculty of Informatics and Statistics, Prague University of Economics and Business, and Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria.