



UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB  
FACULTY OF LAW

## **2<sup>nd</sup> CEE-LOC CONFERENCE 2024**

**Local Government Studies in Central and Eastern Europe**

The Institute of Economics, Zagreb and University of Zagreb, Faculty of Law

**26–27 September 2024, Zagreb, Croatia**

Honorary Patronage of the Mayor of the City of Zagreb



# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2024		FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2024	
9:00 – 10:00	Registration and welcome coffee	9:00 – 9:30	Registration and welcome coffee
		9:30 – 10:00	Invited lecture
10:00 – 11:30	Opening and plenary session	10:00 – 11:30	Parallel session 4
11:30 – 11:40	Group photo of the first day	11:30 – 11:40	Group photo of the second day
11:40 – 12:00	Coffee break	11:40 – 12:00	Coffee break
12:00 – 13:30	Parallel session 1	12:00 – 13:30	Parallel session 5
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch break	13:30 – 13:45	Closing ceremony
14:30 – 16:00	Parallel session 2	13:45 – 14:45	Lunch
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee break	15:30 – 16:00	Visit to the City Assembly of the City of Zagreb (optional)
16:30 – 18:00	Parallel session 3	16:00 – 18:00	City tour of Zagreb on foot: The best of Zagreb (optional)
19:30	Conference dinner		

## Note:

In a session with **three** or **two papers**, each paper is presented for up to 10 minutes, the discussant has up to 8 minutes, and about 12 minutes remain for general discussion.

In a session with **four papers**, each paper is presented for up to 8 minutes, the discussant has up to 5 minutes, and about 10 minutes remain for the general discussion.

## Location of the conference:

The Institute of Economics, Zagreb

Trg J. F. Kennedyja 7, 10000 Zagreb

*Meeting room – first floor and EIZmetrics – ground floor*



## THURSDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER 2024

9:00 – 10:00	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Registration and welcome coffee</b></p> <p><i>Corridor in front of the meeting room – first floor</i></p>
10:00 – 10:30	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Opening session</b></p> <p><b>Words of welcome</b></p> <p><i>Meeting room – first floor</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dubravka Jurlina Alibegović</b>, Co-head of the Organizing Committee, The Institute of Economics, Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia</li> <li>• <b>Mihovil Škarica</b>, Co-head of the Organizing Committee, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Law, Zagreb, Croatia</li> <li>• <b>Paweł Swianiewicz</b>, Founder of CEE-Loc conferences, Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences, Wrocław and National Institute for Local Governments, Łódź, Poland</li> <li>• <b>Ivana Rašić</b>, Acting Director, The Institute of Economics, Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia</li> <li>• <b>Ivan Koprić</b>, Dean, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Law, Zagreb, Croatia</li> <li>• <b>Tomislav Tomašević</b>, Mayor of the City of Zagreb</li> </ul>
10:30 – 11:30	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Plenary session</b></p> <p><b>Keynote lectures</b></p> <p><i>Meeting room – first floor</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Carmen Navarro</b>, Associate Professor, Autonomous University of Madrid, Department of Political Science, Madrid, Spain, <i>Amalgamation reforms in Europe: Outcomes and open issues</i></li> <li>• <b>Hubert Heinelt</b>, Retired Professor, Technical University of Darmstadt, Institute of Political Science, Department of History and Social Sciences, Darmstadt, Germany, <i>Is there something like a Central and Eastern Europe kind of local government? An examination of these assumptions on the basis of statements by local politicians on their attitudes and perceptions of political contexts</i></li> </ul>
11:30 – 11:40	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Group photo of the first day</b></p> <p><i>Stairs in front of the entrance to the Institute of Economics, Zagreb</i></p>
11:40 – 12:00	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Coffee break</b></p> <p><i>Corridor in front of the meeting room – first floor</i></p>

## Parallel session 1

### Session A. Local finance – Chair: Dubravka Jurlina Alibegović

Meeting room – first floor

- **Lucie Sedmihradská** (Prague University of Economics, CZ) & **Desislava Kalcheva** (Sofia University, BG), *Tax sharing and intergovernmental fiscal transfers in Bulgaria and the Czech Republic*, discussant: Mihaela Bronić
- **Sabina Hodžić & Tanja Fatur Šikić** (University of Rijeka, HR), *Local government debt towards green transformation in the European Union member states*, discussant: Agnieszka Kopańska
- **Paweł Swianiewicz** (Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences, Wrocław and National Institute for Local Governments, Łódź, PL), *Rescaling urban regimes – Case studies from Polish cities*, discussant: Ivo Bischoff

12:00 – 13:30

### Session B. Local elections – Chair: Mihovil Škarica

ElZmetrics – ground floor

- **Petr Voda** (Masaryk University, CZ) & **Petra Vodova** (University of Hradec Králové, CZ), *Party-voter congruence about importance of issues on local level*, discussant: Jarosław Flis
- **Adam Gendźwiłł** (University of Warsaw, PL), *Different strokes for different folks: Does the “local list” label make voters less vigilant?*, discussant: Petr Voda
- **Damir Kasum** (Palacký University Olomouc, CZ), *Local politics in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Do Bosnian municipal councillors have a trust issue?*, discussant: Vedran Đulabić
- **Jakub Jusko** (Masaryk University, CZ), *Is rain the “silent killer” of second-order elections? Investigating weather effects on turnout in different types of contests*, discussant: Agnieszka Pawłowska

13:30 – 14:30

## Lunch break

Corridor in front of the meeting room – first floor

## Parallel session 2

### Session A. Amalgamation issues and intermunicipal cooperation – Chair: Željka Kordej-De Villa

Meeting room – first floor

- **Paweł Swianiewicz** (Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences, Wrocław and National Institute for Local Governments, Łódź, PL), **Veli Kreci** (South East European University, MK) & **Julita Łukomska** (University of Warsaw, PL), *Long-term impact of municipal amalgamation on local democracy in multi-ethnic society*, discussant: Sabina Hodžić
- **Petr Voda** (Masaryk University, CZ), *Political efficacy in amalgamated municipalities*, discussant: Irena Bačlija Brajnik
- **Edít Somlyódyne Pfeil** (Széchenyi István University of Győr, HU), *Typology of the Hungarian local government system in international comparison based on the analysis of task allocation, public service organisation and inter-municipal cooperation*, discussant: Wirginia Aksztejn
- **Zoltán Pámer** (Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, HU), *Cross-border cooperation between Hungary and Slovenia and Croatia – territorial patterns based on 2014-2020 programme data*, discussant: Marta Lackowska

14:30 – 16:00

### Session B. Local finance – Chair: Tanja Broz

EIZmetrics – ground floor

- **Monika Banaszewska** (Poznań University, PL), *The political economy of budget forecasts at the local level: Evidence from Poland*, discussant: Lucie Sedmihradská
- **Agnieszka Kopańska** (University of Warsaw, PL), *Does strong treasurer mean strong local government finance? The political (in)dependence of the treasurer and its influence on local finances in Polish local governments*, discussant: Anna Kołomycew
- **Diana Zarbailova** (Technische Universität Braunschweig, DE) & **Nikita Zakharov** (University of Freiburg, DE), *COVID-19 cash transfers and incumbent's approval: Quasi-experimental evidence from Russia*, discussant: Remigijus Civinskas

16:00 – 16:30

## Coffee break

Corridor in front of the meeting room – first floor

## Parallel session 3

### Session A. Local public services – Chair: Paweł Swianiewicz

Meeting room – first floor

- **Jaroslav Dvorak** (Klaipėda University, LT), **Mirna Varga** (University of Zagreb, HR) & **Remigijus Civinskas** (Vytautas Magnus University, LT), *Innovation in the improvement of local refugee integration systems: The roles of Lithuanian and Croatian municipalities*, discussant: [Iva Lopižić](#)
- **Branko Stanić, Simona Prijaković & Mihaela Bronić** (Institute of Public Finance, HR), *The efficiency of public primary education in Croatian cities*, discussant: [Desislava Kalcheva](#)
- **Tanja Broz, Ivana Rašić & Sunčana Slijepčević** (The Institute of Economics, Zagreb, HR), *The capacities of Croatian cities to perform municipal services*, discussant: [Paweł Swianiewicz](#)

16:30 – 18:00

### Session B. Political parties and local decisions – Chair: Adam Gendźwiłł

EIZmetrics – ground floor

- **Jarosław Flis & Dariusz Stolicki** (Jagiellonian University, PL), *Territorial tilts – Polarization of electoral bases of mayors and regional parties*, discussant: [Jakub Jusko](#)
- **Agnieszka Pawłowska, Anna Kołomycew & Bogusław Kotarba** (University of Rzeszów, PL), *Report and debate on the state of municipality. A tool for accountability or political competition?*, discussant: [Damir Kasum](#)
- **Joanna Siwińska-Gorzelał & Grażyna Bukowska** (University of Warsaw, PL), *Partisan politics and intragovernmental transfers: Party alignment bias or the “connectedness effect”? A quasi-experimental study of fiscal and electoral consequences of mayor’s affiliation*, discussant: [Petra Vodova](#)
- **Pedro Camões** (University of Aveiro, PT) & **Katarzyna Szmigiel-Rawska** (University of Warsaw, PL), *Measuring governance and subsidiarity by financial flows in local services in Poland*, discussant: [Diana Zarbailova](#)

19:30

## Conference dinner

Restaurant “Kaptolska Klet”, Kaptol 5, <https://kaptolska-klet.hr/kontakt/>

## FRIDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER 2024

9:00 – 9:30

### Registration and welcome coffee

Corridor in front of the meeting room – first floor

9:30 – 10:00

### Invited lecture

Meeting room – first floor

- **Damir Habijan**, Minister, Ministry of Justice, Public Administration and Digital Transformation, *Priorities of the Government of the Republic of Croatia relating to local and regional self-government in the mandate period (tbc)*

10:00 – 11:30

### Parallel session 4

#### Session A. Local development and governance – Chair: Desislava Kalcheva

Meeting room – first floor

- **Irena Bačlija Brajnik** (University of Ljubljana, SLO), *Policy brief: Composite indicators of local development in Slovenia*, discussant: [Monika Banaszewska](#)
- **Marta Lackowska & Joanna Krukowska** (University of Warsaw, PL), *Democratic innovation and Weberian organizational structure*, discussant: [Mihovil Škarica](#)
- **Wirginia Aksztejn** (University of Warsaw, PL), **Rob Atkinson & Andrew Tallon** (University of the West of England, UK), *Local leaders and local development in Bristol and Gdańsk: Does leadership make a difference?*, discussant: [Jaroslav Dvorak](#)

#### Session B. City governments vs. central governments – Chair: Vedran Đulabić

EIZmetrics – ground floor

- **Ilona Pálné Kovács & Balázs Brucker** (Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, HU), *The city diplomacy activities of Budapest and Warsaw between 2019 and 2023: Bypassing the central governments?*, discussant: [Peter Spáč](#)
- **Vedran Đulabić & Iva Lopizić** (University of Zagreb, HR), *Reforms without reforming: Trends in local and regional governance in Croatia*, discussant: [Gábor Dobos](#)

11:30 – 11:40

### Group photo of the second day

Stairs in front of the entrance to the Institute of Economics, Zagreb

11:40 – 12:00

### Coffee break

Corridor in front of the meeting room – first floor

<b>Parallel session 5</b>	
<b>12:00 – 13:30</b>	<p><b>Session A. Social networks and local authorities – Chair: Iva Lopžić</b></p> <p><i>Meeting room – first floor</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Gábor Dobos</b> (University of Public Service, HU) &amp; <b>Márton Bene</b> (Eötvös Loránd University, HU), <i>Local information hubs or partisan promoters? Communication strategies of Hungarian mayors on Facebook</i>, discussant: <a href="#">Katarzyna Szmigiel-Rawska</a></li> <li>• <b>Abeer Ibtisam Aziz &amp; Ivo Bischoff</b> (University of Kassel, DE), <i>Social media deployment and voter turnout. Evidence from municipalities in the German states of Hesse and Brandenburg</i>, discussant: <a href="#">Adam Gendźwiłł</a></li> </ul>
	<p><b>Session B. Local transparency and identity – Chair: Irena Bačlija Brajnik</b></p> <p><i>EIZmetrics – ground floor</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Peter Spáč</b> (Masaryk University, CZ), <b>Daniela Pastarmadzhieva</b> (University of Plovdiv, BG) &amp; <b>Jozef Zagrapan</b> (Slovak Academy of Sciences, SK), <i>Local transparency and administrative burden. An experimental study</i>, discussant: <a href="#">Edit Somlyódyiné Pfeil</a></li> <li>• <b>Tamás Lóránd Zab</b> (University of Pécs, HU), <i>The New World Order was started from Somogy. The rise and fall of a local collective identity forming project through a historical narration</i>, discussant: <a href="#">Balázs Brucker</a></li> <li>• <b>Wirginia Aksztejn, Marta Lackowska</b> (University of Warsaw, PL), <b>György Hajnal &amp; Krisztian Kadar</b> (Corvinus University, HU), <i>Cities against authoritarianism? Polish and Hungarian capitals facing centralistic pressure</i>, discussant: <a href="#">Tamás Lóránd Zab</a></li> </ul>
<b>13:30 – 13:45</b>	<p><b>Closing ceremony</b></p> <p><i>Meeting room – first floor</i></p>
<b>13:45 – 14:45</b>	<p><b>Lunch</b></p> <p><i>Corridor in front of the meeting room – first floor</i></p>
<b>15:30 – 16:00</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Visit to the City Assembly of the City of Zagreb (optional)</b></p> <p>A visit to the City Assembly of the City of Zagreb and a dialogue with Mr. Joško Klisović, the President of the City Assembly of the City of Zagreb, who will present the strategic projects of the City of Zagreb.</p> <p><a href="https://skupstina.zagreb.hr/">https://skupstina.zagreb.hr/</a>  <a href="https://skupstina.zagreb.hr/josko-klisovic-92/92">https://skupstina.zagreb.hr/josko-klisovic-92/92</a></p>
<b>16:00 – 18:00</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>City tour of Zagreb on foot: The best of Zagreb (optional)</b></p> <p>Those interested in the tour should contact the Organizing Committee during registration.</p> <p><a href="https://www.infozagreb.hr/hr/istrazi-zagreb/razgled-grada/povijesni-razgledi/razgled-grada-zagreba-pjesice">https://www.infozagreb.hr/hr/istrazi-zagreb/razgled-grada/povijesni-razgledi/razgled-grada-zagreba-pjesice</a></p>

## LOCATION OF THE CONFERENCE

### Location:

The Institute of Economics, Zagreb

Trg J. F. Kennedyja 7, 10000 Zagreb

Meeting room – first floor and EIZmetrics – ground floor

### 2<sup>nd</sup> CEE-Loc Conference 2024 is organized jointly by:

The Institute of Economics, Zagreb

University of Zagreb, Faculty of Law



## ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



**Dubravka Jurlina Alibegović**

Co-head of the Organizing Committee, The Institute of Economics, Zagreb



**Mihovil Škarica**

Co-head of the Organizing Committee, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Law

**Željka Kordej-De Villa** – Organizing Committee Member, The Institute of Economics, Zagreb

**Ivona Krezić** – Organizing Committee Member, The Institute of Economics, Zagreb

**Samah Oreč** – Organizing Committee Member, The Institute of Economics, Zagreb

**Vedran Đulabić** – Organizing Committee Member, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Law

**Iva Lopižić** – Organizing Committee Member, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Law

## CONFERENCE DINNER



Source: Restaurant "Kaptolska Klet"

### Restaurant "Kaptolska Klet"

Kaptol 5

10000 Zagreb, Croatia

<https://kaptolska-klet.hr/kontakt/>

An irresistible combination of traditional flavours and modern culinary techniques. The restaurant Kaptolska Klet is a place where every dish is carefully prepared to provide the ultimate taste experience.

## RECOMMENDED ACCOMMODATION



Source: Zagreb Tourist Board

### Hotel Dubrovnik

Ljudevita Gaja 1

10000 Zagreb, Croatia

**Email:**

[reservations@hotel-dubrovnik.hr](mailto:reservations@hotel-dubrovnik.hr)

**Phone:**

+385 1 4863 503

+385 1 4863 501

<https://www.hotel-dubrovnik.hr/hr/>

## VISIT TO THE CITY ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY OF ZAGREB

Those interested in the tour should contact the Organizing Committee during registration.

A visit to the City Assembly of the City of Zagreb and a dialogue with Mr. Joško Klisović, the President of the City Assembly of the City of Zagreb, who will present the strategic projects of the City of Zagreb.



Source: City Assembly of the City of Zagreb



### CITY ASSEMBLY

The City Assembly is the representative body of the citizens of the City of Zagreb elected by universal suffrage at direct elections by secret ballot in the manner provided by the law. The current session of the City Assembly was constituted on 17 June 2021, after the elections on 16 May 2021.

<https://skupstina.zagreb.hr/>

<https://skupstina.zagreb.hr/josko-klisovic-92/92>



Source: Pixabay

#### **Meeting place:**

In front of Ban Josip Jelačić Statue on Ban Josip Jelačić Square

(Croatian: Trg bana Josipa Jelačića).

## CITY TOUR – City tour of Zagreb on foot: The best of Zagreb

Those interested in the tour should contact the Organizing Committee during registration.

<https://www.infozagreb.hr/hr/istrazi-zagreb/razgled-grada/povijesni-razgledi/razgled-grada-zagreba-pjesice>



Source: Zagreb Tourist Board



Source: Pixabay

Zagreb is a city with a thousand-year history. Remnants of the Middle Ages, baroque, art nouveau, modernism, and socialism are visible in its streets, buildings, and parks. Rulers ruled from Zagreb, revolutions took place on its streets, works of art were created in its attics. In this tour, visit all the best that the capital has to offer from Jelačić Square, through Kaptol, Dolac, and Gornji Grad, all the way to green Zrinjevac.



Source: City Assembly of the City of Zagreb

### **Meeting place:**

In front of the City Assembly  
(Ćirilometodska ulica 5).