



Department of Economics, SRM University-AP  
presents

# ESC 2026

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Emerging Scholars Conference

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April 17 - 18, 2026

SRM University-AP, Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh, India

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Conference Theme

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**New Thinking for a New World:  
Reimagining Globalization and Development**



# About ESC 2026

The Emerging Scholars Conference (ESC) is a pioneering initiative conceived by the Department of Economics, Easwari School of Liberal Arts, SRM University-AP, India, to provide a dynamic academic platform for doctoral and early-career researchers to learn, present, discuss, and polish their innovative scholarly research. Instituted with the mission to foster academic excellence and global intellectual collaboration, ESC seeks to establish itself within multidisciplinary economics, connecting ideas from other social science fields.

Organised by PhD candidates in their advanced/final stage, with the support of faculty members, the conference offers a platform that ignites the spirit of academic curiosity, leadership, mentoring, peer learning, and innovation. It aims to provide an inclusive and enriching environment for emerging scholars to engage with contemporary debates, propose new theoretical and empirical frameworks, and contribute to advancing knowledge for global goals and social progress.

Each edition of the ESC conference shall be guided by a unique central theme based on the organising PhD candidates' theses/research areas and on contemporary and evolving global issues. Through keynote sessions, panel discussions, paper presentations, and workshops, the conference will promote constructive dialogue among researchers, mentors, and practitioners. Finally, ESC aspires not just to build a legacy of scholarship that transcends disciplinary and geographical boundaries, but also to empower early-career researchers to become the next generation of thinkers to shape the world.

## About the Conference

The global economy currently stands at a complex and defining crossroads, with shifting geopolitical alliances, technological disruptions, polycrisis, deepening inequalities, and pressing demands for sustainability, all of which are reshaping how nations integrate into the world and develop. The conference, themed *"New Thinking for a New World: Reimagining Globalization and Development"* invites young and established scholars as well as think-tank analysts to rethink traditional paradigms of global interconnectedness and development pathways through fresh, interdisciplinary, and pluralistic perspectives. The conference seeks to explore how institutions, governance, and policy innovations can foster inclusive and sustainable development across the world in an era marked by heightened uncertainty and transition. By bridging insights from economics, political science, environmental and development studies, management, and digital transformation, this event aims to generate intense academic dialogue that will challenge orthodox models and thinking and advance new trajectories for equitable and swift global development. Through this conference, participants will examine how reimagined global frameworks can help achieve shared prosperity, institutional resilience, and sustainability in the decades ahead.



# Conference Tracks and Topics (but not limited to):

Empirical, theoretical, and policy-targeted papers that engaged with the following thematic tracks are invited for submission to the conference:

## 1. Rethinking Globalization and Development

- Macroenvironmental dynamics in globalization-development outcomes nexus
- The future of increasing fragmented globalization: Implications of global value chains for trade resilience and development outcomes
- Financial globalization and the reconfiguration of global North-South relations
- Public-private partnership for inclusive growth and sustainable development
- Measuring and understanding multidimensional poverty in a globalized world
- Climate finance, adaptation, and resilience in a new world of the Global South
- Clean technologies and green growth

## 2. Institutions, Governance, Inclusive Growth, and Social Protection/Inclusion

- Institutional quality, governance, and economic transformation
- The political economy of inequality and development in the Global South
- The role of institutional reforms in fostering sustainable development
- Globalization, labour market, income inequality, and public health

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## 3. Uncertainty, Risk, and Global Crisis

- Economic policy uncertainty, geopolitical risks, and development outcomes
- The polycrisis era: lessons for resilience and reforms
- Global shocks, financial stability, and poverty outcomes
- The role of digital transformation and innovation in crisis response

## 4. Digitalization, Innovation, and Future of Work

- The digital divide and inclusive technological transformation
- Automation, artificial intelligence, and labour market disruptions
- Digital finance, digital innovation, financial inclusion, and development outcomes
- Innovation ecosystems and economic diversification

## Panel Discussion Session: Reimagining Development Economics





## Keynote Speaker

**Prof. N R Bhanumurthy**

Director, Madras School of Economics

## Conference Timelines



## Registration Details

### Registration Fees

Category	Domestic	International
<b>Presenters:</b> PhD student and early-career researcher	4,720 INR*	\$100*
<b>Attendees:</b> (Student, Faculty and others)	2,360 INR	\$50

## Notes:

- Presenters must be registered PhD students or early-career researchers, who have completed their doctoral degree.
- All selected presenters (PhD students and early-career researchers) will be provided 3 nights' twin-sharing accommodation, with complimentary breakfast and dinner. Other attendees are required to arrange their own accommodation.
- The registration fee covers conference kits, certificate, lunch, and refreshments during the conference.
- Registration fee once paid are non-refundable and is GST-inclusive.
- Both presenters and attendees are required to arrange their travels.

## Abstract submission:

We invite extended abstract of 500-700 words from PhD scholars and early-career researchers. The abstract should include problem statement, research questions/aims/objectives, data and methodology, key findings (or expected results), and contributions. NB: Only one submission per emerging scholar and authors is allowed; additionally the abstract should not contain the author's details to ensure blind peer review.

Submission link: [bit.ly/ESC-2026](https://bit.ly/ESC-2026)



## Publication Opportunity

Selected papers from each thematic tracks of the conference will be invited for submission to a Special Issue in *Scopus Indexed Journal*.

All submissions will undergo the journal's regular standard double-blind peer-review process.

## Patron

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## Conveners

**Dr Manish Kumar**  
Head of Department  
manish.k@srmmap.edu.in

**Dr Prakash Kumar Shukla**  
Assistant Professor  
prakashkumar.s@srmmap.edu.in

**Prof. Parag J Waknis**  
Professor  
paragjayant.w@srmmap.edu.in

**Dr Adviti Devaguptapu**  
Assistant Professor  
adviti.d@srmmap.edu.in

**Sodiq Olaide Bisiriyu**  
Organising PhD Candidate  
bisiriyusodiq\_olaide@srmmap.edu.in

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SRM University-AP Amaravati - 522240  
Andhra Pradesh, India.

[www.srmap.edu.in](http://www.srmap.edu.in)

Email Us: [conf.esc2026@srmap.edu.in](mailto:conf.esc2026@srmap.edu.in)



Organised by the Department of Economics