

Think Tank Academy Spring Conference 2026

Disruptions and Innovation in Global Higher Education

20 - 21 April 2026

Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania

19 April Sunday	Local Time (Eastern European Time – EET)
10:00 am 13:00 pm	EC Meeting
13:00 am 14:00 pm	EC Lunch (Recommendation to taste Lithuanian cuisine at " Berneliu smukle ", K. Donelaičio g. 11)
14:00 pm 17:00 pm	EC Meeting
17:00 pm 19:00 pm	Kaunas guided tour kindly offered by KTU to all TTA participants. (Meeting point: Church of St. Michael the Archangel)
20:00	EC Dinner

20 April Monday	Local Time (Eastern European Time – EET)
08:30 am 09:00 am	Welcoming of participants at Kaunas University of Technology Campus
09:00 am 09:30 am	Think Tank Academy Spring Conference Opening by Dr. Arnim Heinemann - SGroup President Dr. Professor Eugenijus Valatka – Kaunas University of Technology Rector Introduction to KTU by Dr. Giedrė Šadeikaitė-Gjorsheski , Director of International Relations (KTU)
09:30 am 11:00 am	TT4Future Reflection and discussions on the Annual Topic of SGroup Reflections of the current situation of HEI's Dr. Arnim Heinemann - SGroup President Kathleen O'Connor- University of Lille Peter Zakar – University of Szeged
11:00 am 11:30 am	Coffee Break, kindly offered by KTU
11:30 am 13:00 pm	TTSMU Workshop & Engagements: SM, research, knowledge acquisition, and exchange: what does good/innovative practice look like in the social mission arena Moderator: Adina Fodor Wrap-up and Conclusions
13:00 pm	Lunch (on site)

14:00 pm	
14:00 pm	Parallel Meetings: PhD Schools Meeting – TTPhD
15:30 pm	“Effectiveness and Collaboration in Doctoral Education: Doctoral Schools, Joint Programmes, and Co-tutelle Models” Language Schools Meeting: Introducing the research group 'NTES- New Trends in English Studies. Aims and future activities
15:30 pm	Sharing of results from the PhD Schools Meeting and the Language
16:00 pm	Schools Meeting
16:00 pm	Coffee Break, kindly offered by the KTU
16:30 pm	
16:30 pm	Site Visit: Campus Tour
17:30 pm	
19:00 pm	Coordination dinner kindly offered to the Executive Committee, SGroup Office, and Think Tank Coordinators at restaurant DIA

21 April Tuesday	Local Time (Eastern European Time – EET)
08:30 am	Welcoming of participants at Kaunas University of Technology Campus
09:00 am	
9:00 am	The SGroup’s Think Tank Academy Strategy
9:45 am	Dr Arnim Heinemann – SGroup President
9:45 am	TTAsia& Pacific: Global Disruptions, Regional Opportunities
11:15 am	and Responses: Advantages/Resources/Assets and Insights from the SGroup Associate members in the Asia–Pacific Region Moderator: Philipp Dengel Speakers; <i>Dr. Xiaohong MAO (SISU); La Trobe (TBC); Dr. Astria Nur Irfansyah (ITS); Prof. Dr. Vijay Khare (Phule Pune University)</i> Group/Panel Discussion: Asian Pacific Perspectives on Disruptions and Innovation in Global Higher Education Wrap-up and Conclusions
11:15 am	Coffee Break, kindly offered by KTU
11:30 am	
11:30 am	TT Africa: Global Partnerships - Funding Opportunities for Higher Education
13:00 pm	- Opportunities and perspectives from Africa Moderator: TBC Wrap-up and Conclusions

13:00 pm 14:00 pm	Lunch (on site)
14:00 pm 15:30 pm	TT Americas: Global Partnerships, Local Funding: Opportunities for Higher Education - Opportunities and perspectives from the Americas Moderator: TBC
	Wrap-up and Conclusions
15:30 pm 16:00 pm	Coffee Break, kindly offered by KTU
16:00 pm 16:30 pm	Departure of participants