

# Special Issue Call for Papers “Albanian Journal of Economy and Business – 1FUTURE Issue: Climate and Sustainability

**ISSN 2219-3200**

## *Introduction*

In recent decades, the discourse surrounding the topics of sustainability and climate change has gone beyond mere academic debate to become a pressing global imperative. The interconnectedness of environmental, social and economic systems has underscored the urgency for concerted action to address the multifaceted challenges posed by climate change and its implications for sustainable development (Beg et al., 2002; Hildén et al., 2017; Stokke, 2018).

Climate change driven largely by human activities such as greenhouse gas emissions, deforestation, and industrialization has ushered in an era of unprecedented environmental disruption (Shine and Forster, 1999; Driga et al., 2019; Oreggioni et al., 2021). Rising global temperatures, shifting weather patterns, rising sea-levels, and the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events are among the manifestations of this planetary crisis. The consequences of climate change extend far beyond environmental degradation, permeating every aspect of human society and exacerbating existing vulnerabilities and inequalities (Parnell et al., 2007; Kaijser and Kronsell, 2014). The impacts of environmental degradation and climate-related hazards are disproportionately felt by vulnerable and marginalized communities, exacerbating existing inequalities and threatening progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As we stand at a critical juncture in human history, the need for innovative solutions, interdisciplinary collaboration and evidence-based research has never been more pronounced. It is against this background that we invite contributions for a special issue of **Albanian Journal of Economy and Business- 1Future Issue: Climate and Sustainability, ISSN 2219-3200** that is dedicated to the exploration of different avenues of research on the complex interfaces of sustainability and climate change.

## *Rationale for the Special Issue*

There is a call for universities and research institutions to take action to manage complex global challenges. Journals are important means for the dissemination of knowledge and research by connecting multiple disciplines, scientists, scholars, policymakers, business leaders, students and communities. In the Western Balkan Region, there is a lack of climate change and sustainability research and scholarly journals. Therefore, it is necessary to establish an open access academic journal for researchers as well as to provide scientists with adequate options in order to promote their research in a more reachable way and to a broader audience.

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This Special Issue, as a means of knowledge dissemination, will fill the gap between available research and community needs in the scope of sustainable development. It will help to create a better communication platform between researchers and the community. Practice-oriented papers will be published with the contribution of EU partners.

The special issue will be part of the current academic publication of the Faculty of Economics, University of Tirana. The guest editorial board of the journal will be composed of academics from EU and WB Higher Education Institution, partners of the EU funded 1FUTURE project<sup>1</sup>. Peer review procedures will be established. All articles being published in this journal will be accessible free of charge to readers on the project website. This international open access journal will contribute to an increasing international collaboration through international authors and institutions.

This special issue seeks to provide a platform for scholars, practitioners, policymakers and stakeholders to engage in rigorous research, dialogue and knowledge exchange on topics related to sustainability and climate change. By bringing together diverse perspectives and expertise, it is aimed to advance understanding, to foster critical discourse, and to catalyze action towards a more sustainable and resilient future.

## *Aim and Scope*

This special issue is dedicated to advance knowledge and to foster innovative solutions in the fields of sustainability and climate change, with a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary research.

The scope includes, but is not limited to, the following areas:

- Natural Sciences: Climate science, atmospheric science, ecology, and geosciences, offering insights into the physical mechanisms, trends, and impacts of climate change.
- Social Sciences: Economics, sociology, psychology, anthropology, and political science, exploring the societal, cultural, and behavioural aspects of sustainability and climate change, as well as the policy and governance frameworks needed for effective mitigation and adaptation.
- Engineering and Technology: Renewable energy systems, sustainable infrastructure, green technology, and innovations that reduce environmental impacts and enhance resource efficiency, environmental safety engineering.
- Biological Sciences: Biodiversity conservation, ecosystem services, and the relationships between ecosystems and climate change.
- Health Sciences: Research on the health implications of climate change, including the spread of diseases, air quality, and the intersection of public health with sustainability.
- Humanities and Arts: Exploring the ethical, philosophical, and cultural dimensions of sustainability and climate change, as well as creative expressions and narratives that inspire action and awareness.
- Urban Planning and Design: Sustainable urban development, smart cities, urban mobility planning, and inclusive urban planning that addresses the challenges of climate change in metropolitan areas.

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<sup>1</sup> More information on the background and scope of the project can be found in the project web page: <https://1future.feut.edu.al/>

- Agriculture and Food Systems: Sustainable agriculture practices, food security, and the resilience of food systems in the face of changing climate conditions.
- Business and Management: Sustainable business models, corporate social responsibility, and strategies for integrating sustainability into organizational practices and supply chains.
- Energy and Resource Management: Efficient resource utilization, circular economy principles, e-mobility, and sustainable resource management to reduce environmental impact.
- Education and Communication: Innovative methods for public engagement, science communication, and educational initiatives aimed at raising awareness and promoting informed action on sustainability and climate change.

## Submission Guidelines

Authors are invited to submit original research articles, reviews, case studies, and perspectives that contribute to the advancement of knowledge and the understanding in the field of sustainability and climate change. All submissions must be original and may not be under review by another publication. Articles will undergo all the journal's standard peer review and editorial processes outlined in its submission guidelines (<https://feut.edu.al/konferenca-botime/revista-shkencore>).

All interested scholars should pursue the following guidelines to draft and submit their manuscript.

- [Paper Template](#)
- [Statement of Originality Template](#)
- [Declaration of Conflict of Interest](#)

All articles shall be sent in the following addresses:

[aljeb@feut.edu.al](mailto:aljeb@feut.edu.al)

[1future@feut.edu.al](mailto:1future@feut.edu.al),

specifying the subject: Submission for the Special Issue: **Albanian Journal of Economy and Business-1Future Issue: Climate and Sustainability**

## Important Dates

Deadline for manuscript submission: submission starts on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024, and it will remain open until 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

Notification of acceptance: 30<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Publication of Special Issue: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025

## Editorial board

**Lead Guest Editor:** Henrik Hassel, Division of Risk Management and Societal Safety, Lund University, Sweden

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