



Invitation

ESSEC Business School Romania Foundation
has the honour to invite you to the conference

“Quality challenge and its differentiation in a changing landscape of higher education: Place and impact of university rankings” .

The conference will be held at Casa Academiei, Luxemburg Room
Calea 13 Septembrie nr. 13, Bucuresti

Monday 26th of April at 14:30

by Dr. Jan Sadlak

Dr. Jan Sadlak has more than twenty-five years of experience in the field of higher education, international relations and economics. He is a member of the editorial boards of the leading journals in the field of higher education and social policy, among them Higher Education Management (published by OECD). He is a member of the governing and advisory boards of various organizations, such as: ESMU-European Centre for Strategic Management of Universities, Belgium, and the Scientific Board of the Higher Education Management Program at the Danube University Krems, Austria.

He holds a PhD (1988) in Educational Administration and Comparative Education from the SUNY/ University of Buffalo, USA, and a M.A. (1968) in Economics from “Oskar Lange” Academy of Economics in Wroclaw, Poland. He was awarded several high-level distinctions and five honorary doctorates (Doctor honoris causa), among them from the Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca and “Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu.

He has been Director of UNESCO-European Centre for Higher Education (UNESCO-CEPES) and Representative of UNESCO in Romania (1999 – July 2009).

He is currently Vice-Rector for International Cooperation at the Warsaw Academy of Social Sciences and Humanities (SWPS) (www.swps.pl). He is a Visiting Professor at the Faculty of European Studies of the Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca. In October 2009, he has been elected as the President of the IREG Observatory on Academic Ranking and Excellence.



The present day developments are of such dimension that we can talk about new landscape of higher education. In other words, higher education plays increasingly central role for economic health and social progress. In this context there is a keen interest from various stake-holders to get inside look into various aspects of functioning and performance of higher education at the system, institutional and program level. Politicians, employers and not to mention potential students and their families are in need of quantified evidence about quality and performance without going too much into workings of a particular institution or for not less valid argument of not having sufficient capacity to undertake a fully-fledged analysis. Emergence, popularity and relevance of “university rankings” is a relatively new phenomenon and needs to be analyzed in above mentioned context of the changing landscape of higher education. The presentation is going to analyze above presented contextual developments. And be followed by looking at the following specific to university rankings issues such as: what is ranking about and types of ranking; why it is done and by whom; and uses and misuses of rankings.

PROGRAM

14:30 - 14:45	Short presentation of the two partners (ESSEC Business School Romania Foundation and the Institute for Economic Forecasting)
14:45 - 15:45	Conference held by Dr. Jan Sadlak
15:45 - 16:45	Discussions and questions
16:45 - 17:15	Coffee and interaction
