

## EDITORIAL

These proceedings present the contributions delivered at the 8th International Scientific Conference ToSEE – Tourism in Southern and Eastern Europe: “Shaping the Future: Digital Tourism and Sustainable Development”, organised by the University of Rijeka, Faculty of Tourism and Hospitality Management, and held from 15 to 17 May 2025.

ToSEE 2025 is an established conference that provides a multidisciplinary platform connecting the academic community, destination managers, industry experts, the public sector, and students.

The opening keynote presentations were given by renowned international speakers: Dogan Gursoy (*Washington State University, USA*), Carlos Flavián (*University of Zaragoza, Spain*), and Raffaele Filieri (*Audencia Business School, France*).

Of the 54 abstracts originally submitted, 32 full papers were received and, after a double-blind peer-review process, 26 articles were published in these conference proceedings. The papers were authored by 63 contributors from fifteen countries: Croatia, Slovakia, Montenegro, Serbia, Romania, Morocco, Indonesia, Slovenia, Spain, Portugal, Czech Republic, Italy, Germany, Greece, and France.

Aligned with the main theme of the conference and reflecting the diversity of the authors, the papers cover a wide range of research topics, including digitalisation in tourism, sustainability challenges, tourism impacts, human resource management, destination management, participatory approaches, stakeholder involvement and perceptions, crisis management, and technology use in tourism.

We are proud that ToSEE 2025 achieved its goal of bringing together academics and researchers from the tourism sector to foster discussion and critical thinking on the importance of digitalisation in tourism and the empowerment of stakeholders in ensuring sustainable tourism.

Finally, we would like to thank all authors for their contributions and express our sincere gratitude to the reviewers for their valuable insights and suggestions, which significantly enhanced the quality of the papers. We hope the contributions in these conference proceedings will inspire greater engagement and empowerment in sustainable tourism.

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