

Preface

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The International Association for eScience (IAFeS) was founded in December 2013 in Vienna by members from Great Britain, Greece, Romania, Finland and Austria. Since that moment, new institutional and individual members joined each year. They are all working together in order to achieve the aims of the association: to promote development, education and research in all areas of eScience and, especially, to encourage young researchers in these areas by offering an exchange platform for international co-operation.

Each year, the association organizes a conference called NETTIES (Networking Entities). The first edition was organized in 1994 in Vienna, Austria, under the umbrella of EATA (European Association for Telematics Applications). As a continuator of that association, IAFES continued to organise the NETTIES conference. The 17th edition NETTIES 2019 conference took place May 2nd – 4th, 2019 in Pristina, Kosovo, being hosted by the University of Pristina. The subject of the conference was „Innovation and Digitalization in Emerging Economies”. The NETTIES conference this year attracted researchers and presenters from Kosovo, Greece, Austria, Ireland, Romania, United Kingdom, Oman and China, as well as participants from some other countries.

This book contains the proceedings of the conference in the hope that readers will be inspired to follow up on the research and ideas of this broad and generous subject.

A special mention should be addressed to the local organizers. As a very young country, Kosovo tries to find its own identity based on its cultural roots and specificity. At the same time, the University of Pristina experienced some difficulties in the last period, being able to build its own way toward academic success based on its solid historical background and strength. Their hospitality and openness to discussions was remarkable, helping international guests to better understanding the Kosovo reality and their view towards a common European future! This made a huge contributin to the success of the conference.

Thank you, University of Pristina!

Thank you, Kosovo!

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