Bucharest University of Economic Studies
Department of Statistics and Econometrics

The 19th International Conference on Applied Statistics

ICAS 2026

Statistical Thinking in a World of Crises: Economic and Financial Perspectives

November 13-14, 2026

"Ion Gh. Rosca" ASE Training Center
Predeal, Romania

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ICAS 2026 Conference Keynote Speakers



DR VALERIO FICCADENTI is an Associate Professor in Business Research Methods at London South Bank University (UK), where he leads the Business and Economics Insights Research Group and coordinates the Business and Management Studies submission to the UK Research Excellence Framework. He holds a PhD in Quantitative Methods for Economic Policy from the University of Macerata (Italy) and teaches at undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral levels. His research focuses on quantitative methods, rank-size laws, text mining and natural language processing, with applications in economics, finance and politics.



PIOTR WOJCIK is an associate professor at the Faculty of Economic Sciences of the University of Warsaw (Poland) and a head of the Department of Data Science and the Data Science Lab research group. Head and lecturer of the postgraduate studies: "Data Science in business applications – practical workshops". His research interests are focused on two areas: regional science, spatial analyses and quantitative finance. Both areas of interest involve the use of machine learning and deep learning algorithms together with explainable artificial intelligence (XAI). Contractor and principal investigator of research and R&D projects financed by the Polish National Science Center, Polish Ministry of Regional Development, European Commission, Polish National Center for Research and Development, Polish Agency for Enterprise Development. Thematic editor in two journals: Miscellanea Geographica – Regional Studies on Development and Digital Finance. Expert in data processing and advanced statistical and econometric modeling with many years of professional experience as a quantitative analyst in the financial, telecommunications and marketing research industries.



ALIN ANDRIES is a Professor of Finance and Banking at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration at the Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, as well as a Research Fellow at the Institute for Economic Forecasting of the Romanian Academy. He was previously a Go8 Senior Research Fellow at the School of Banking and Finance at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia, and a SCIEX Senior Research Fellow at the Swiss Institute of Banking and Finance (s/bf-HSG) at the University of St Gallen in Switzerland. Professor Andries has published in the European Economic Review, the Journal of Banking and Finance, Economics Letters, the Journal of Comparative Economics, the International Journal of Central Banking, the Journal of Financial Stability, and the International Business Review, among other journals. He is currently associate editor of the Romanian Journal of Economic Forecasting (RJEF). His research interests focus on financial intermediation, household finance, risk management, and systemic risk.

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Overview of the Conference Programme

Conference venue: "Ion Gh. Roșca" Training Center, Predeal, Romania

Day 1 – Friday, 13th of November

09:00–09:30	**Room: AMPHITEATRE** Registration
Plenary Session	**Room: AMPHITEATRE**
09:30–10:00	**Opening session** Prof. Alina Mihaela DIMA, Vice-rector of Bucharest University of Economic Studies Prof. Erika MARIN, Director, DSE Prof. Claudiu HERTELIU, Dean, CSIE
10:00–10:45	**Keynote lecture:** **Can LLMs Count Like Benford?** Valerio FICCADENTI, London South Bank University, UK
10:45–11:30	**Keynote lecture:** **Earnings Inequality and Dynamics in a Fast-Converging Economy** Alin ANDRIES, "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University, ROMANIA

11:30–12:00	**Coffee Break**		
Parallel sessions	**Room AMPHITEATRE**	**Room SEMINAR 4, 1ST FLOOR**	**Room SEMINAR 5, 1ST FLOOR**
12:00–13:30	**Session 1** *Demography, Migration and Applied Statistics in Social Science*	**Session 2** *Quantitative analysis in the business environment, audit and evaluation*	**Session 3** *Algorithms and applications for statistical purposes*
13:30–14:30	**Lunch**		
14:30–15:15	**Keynote lecture:** **Predicting restaurant survival using nationwide Google Maps data** Piotr WOJCIK University of Warsaw, POLAND		
15:15–15:30	**Coffee Break**		
Parallel sessions	**Room AMPHITEATRE**	**Room SEMINAR 4, 1ST FLOOR**	**Room SEMINAR 5, 1ST FLOOR**
15:30–17:00	**Session 4** *Statistical Modelling in Macroeconomics*	**Session 5** *Regional economics and applied spatial data analysis*	**Session 6** *Entrepreneurship & Innovation in the new economy – quantitative approaches*
19:00	**Conference Dinner**		

Day 2 – Saturday, 14th of November		
Parallel sessions	**Room AMPHITEATRE**	**Room SEMINAR 4, 1ST FLOOR**
09:30–11:00	**Session 7** *Human capital, economic development and inequalities*	**Session 8** *Statistics for innovations*
11:00–11:15	**Coffee Break**	
11:15–12:15	**Room AMPHITEATRE** **Round table:** ***Artificial Intelligence at the Crossroads of Ethics, Education and Business*** **Moderator:** Erika MARIN (Bucharest University of Economic Studies) **Panelists:** Alin ANDRIES (“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iasi) Claudiu HERȚELIU (Bucharest University of Economic Studies)	
12:15–12:30	**Closing ICAS 2026**	
12:30–14:00	**Lunch**	

Full Programme of the Parallel sessions

Friday, 13th of November **ICAS 2026**

12:00–13:30

Parallel session 1 **Room**
Demography, Migration and Applied Statistics in Social Science **AMPHITEATRE**
Chairs: Monica ROMAN (BUES, București)
Mircea ASANDULUI (UAIC, Iași)

1. **Developing a Multidimensional Framework for the Comparative Assessment of Health Determinants**
   Simona CAFIERI, Fenicia Carmen LIMONE
   ISTAT, Italy

2. **Demographic Change in Europe: Between Longevity and Decline?**
   Ana-Maria Marcu, Răzvan VASILE
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

3. **Parameterization and application of the 'Bimodal structure of women's participation in paid labor' model (1979). The boom in female entrepreneurship in Iași, 2020–2026**
   Elisabeta JABA, Christiana SANDU, Irina-Maria JABA, Alina BOTEZAT, Alina IONESCU, Mihai ROMAN
   "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași, Romania

4. **FROM INITIAL ALLOCATIONS TO ACTUAL EXPENDITURE: A STATISTICAL ASSESSMENT OF ROMANIA'S PER-CAPITA**
   Victor DRUGA
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

5. **Equal Skills, Unequal Pay? A Statistical Analysis of Gender Differences in Returns to Workplace Skills across Europe**
   Gianina-Maria PETRAȘCU, Cristina BOBOC
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania (online)

6. **Digital Readiness, Human Capital and Undeclared Work: Regional Evidence from Central and Eastern Europe**
   Maria-Bianca Bolboașă, Marina-Diana Agafiței, Adriana AnaMaria Davidescu
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania (online)

12:00–13:30

Parallel session 2
Quantitative analysis in the business environment, audit and evaluation **SEI 1**
Chairs: Erika MARIN (BUES)
Ciprian TURTUREANU (UAIC, Iași)

1. **Do environmental and energy expenditures pay off? Evidence on firm-level productivity in Romania**
   Alexandra-Anca PURCEL
   Babeș-Bolyai University, Romania

2. **Green Bonds and Decarbonisation in the European Union: The Role of Initial Fossil-Fuel Dependence**
   Roxana-Elena MATEI
   West University of Timișoara, Romania

3. **Journal "Economic Computation and Economic Cybernetics Studies and Research": brief bibliometric inquire on 1966-1989 archive**
   Claudiu HERȚELIU, Nicholas Victor Julius ALEXANDER
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

4. **Export controls and trade rerouting: A statistical screen of Central and Eastern European customs data**
   Petre-Cornel GRIGORESCU
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania (online)

5. **Navigating Governance Structures For Innovation: Performance-Mediated Insights From Global**
   Simona Andreea APOSTU, Nosheen KHAN, Anwar HUSSAIN, Ploypailin KIJKASIWAT, Daniel BALSALOBRE-LORENTE
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania
   Babeș-Bolyai University, Romania

6. ***Anomaly* Detection*, Lag Correlation and Composite Scoring of Cyber-Induced Operational Risk in Security Logs***
   Florina-Mondana NEAG, Adrian OTOIU
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania (online)

12:00–13:30

Parallel session 3
Algorithms and applications for statistical purposes
Chairs: Adriana AnaMaria DAVIDESCU (BUES)
Ravi ALARIA (UD)

Room SEMINAR 5, 1ST FLOOR

1. **Predicting Baccalaureate failure using Machine Learning**
   Victor-Mihai ROMAN, Emanuelle-Ioana PERTA, Gina Cristina DIMIAN, Monica Mihaela ROMAN
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

2. **Informal work, social networks and mental health in the digital era: evidence from the Life in Transition Survey**
   Eduard-Mihai MANTA, Camelia-Maria DAN, Adriana AnaMaria DAVIDESCU, Cristina-Rodica BOBOC
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

3. **Forecasting India's Consumer Price Index in the Post-COVID Period: Evidence from Machine Learning Models**
   Ravi ALARIA
   University of Delhi, India

4. **Value and Volume Tell the Same Story: A Dual-Unit PPML Gravity Model of Romania's Maritime Trade and the Trans-Caspian Corridor**
   Adriana AnaMaria DAVIDESCU, Maria Alina CARATAS, Ioana BIRLAN, Maria Cristina GEAMBASU
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

5. **System *One vs. System Two: Evaluating Non-Generative Decision Models against Large Language Models for Textual Misinformation Detection***
   Ștefan BOLOTĂ
   "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași, Romania

6. **Silence in Social Media Discourse and Bitcoin Market Dynamics**
   Alexandra Ioana CONDA, Daniel Traian PELE, Miruna Mazurencu-Marinescu-Pele
   The Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

7. **Does Complexity Pay Off? Comparing Statistical And Machine Learning Models For Predicting Happiness In Later Life Using Share Data**
   Alexandru-Floris HARABAGIU, Alexandra-Cristina SIRBU, Adelina PANAITE, Mircea ASANDULUI
   "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași, Romania (online)

15:30–17:00

Parallel session 4 | **Room**
Statistical Modelling in Macroeconomics | **AMPHITEATRE**
Chairs: Viorica CHIRILĂ (UAIC, Iași)
Mihaela MIHAI (BUES)

1. **Multi-Market Financial Connectedness, Shock Transmission and Economic Cybernetics in Central and Eastern**
   Viorica *CHIRILĂ*, Ciprian CHIRILĂ
   "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași, Romania

2. **Inflation and Sectoral Stock Market Returns in Poland: Evidence from GARCH and Quantile Regression Approaches**
   Chirilă *Ciprian*; Chirilă Viorica
   "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași, Romania

3. **Okun's Law in Romania: An Assessment of Its Relevance After 63 Years**
   Ciprian TURTUREAN, Laura Asandului
   "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași, Romania

4. **Artificial Intelligence in Anomaly Detection**
   Diana-Ioana MICU, Stefan GAMAN, Daniel Traian PELE, Rahul TAK
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

5. **Family as a safety net? Intergenerational financial transfers and well-being in an ageing Europe**
   Mircea ASANDULUI, Adelina PANAITE, Alexandra-Cristina SÎRBU, Alexandra-Maria CHIPER, Maria-Manuela NECHITA, Ștefan BOLOTĂ
   "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași, Romania

6. **Why Are We Uncertain About What Is Right? Evidence From The World Values Survey**
   Stefan-Teodor GEORGESCU, Maria-Manuela NECHITA, Mircea ASANDULUI
   "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași, Romania

7. **Forecasting Romanian Cash Demand under Changing Seasonality: Denomination Shifts and Limits of Interpretation**
   Alexandra-Elena DUMITRESCU, Sonia Andreea Ştefania IANI, Adriana AnaMaria DAVIDESCU, Eduard Mihai MANTA
   The Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania (online)

15:30–17:00

Parallel session 5
Regional economics and applied spatial data analysis
Chairs: Smaranda CIMPOERU (BUES, București)
Ciprian CHIRILĂ (UAIC, Iași)

Room SEMINAR 4, 1ST FLOOR

1. **Do Regional Ai Prices Narrow Affordability Gaps?**
   Lilia-Eliana POPESCU-APREUTESEI, Mihai-Sorin IOSUPESCU
   "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași, Romania

2. **Spatial dependence and socioeconomic determinants of Life expectancy across the European Union: a spatial panel approach**
   Smaranda CIMPOERU, Vlad Andrei PETRE, Elena Maria PRADA
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

3. **Crack Propagation And Systemic Risk: An Analytical Formalisation Based On Potential Theory**
   Alexandra-Maria CHIPER
   "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași, Romania

4. **Spatial Effects and Uncertainty in Cryptocurrencies–the case of Network ARCH Models**
   Mihai-*Adrian* ACHIM, Ștefana BELBE, Codruța MARE, Philipp OTTO
   Babeș-Bolyai University, Romania

5. **Statistics of Regional Educational Disparities: Socio-Economic Determinants, Digitalization, and Spatial Interdependence in Romania**
   Victor-Mihai ROMAN, Gina-Cristina DIMIAN, Maria-Denisa VASILESCU, Erika MARIN
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

6. **Foreign Direct Investment Across Romanian Development Regions: Patterns, Disparities and Economic Implications**
   Bogdan-*Andrei* BÎNA, Marius-Ilie POPA, Emilia ȚIȚAN, Mihaela MIHAI
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania (online)

7. **UNDERUSED SKILLS OR EXCESS CREDENTIALS? REGIONAL DIFFERENCES IN YOUTH JOB MISMATCH ACROSS EUROPE**
   Simona *Ioana* GHIȚĂ
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania (online)

15:30–17:00

Parallel session 6
Entrepreneurship & Innovation in the new economy – quantitative approaches
Chair: Simona-Andreea APOSTU (BUES)

Room SEMINAR 5, 1ST FLOOR

1. **CYBER RESILIENCE: DETERMINING THE ROLE OF PROFESSIONAL TRAINING, CYBERSECURITY PRIORITIZATION AND OUTSOURCED IT SERVICES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR**
   Elena Luminita STANCU (BROASCĂ), Anastasia COSMA, Gina Cristina DIMIAN, Maria Denisa VASILESCU
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

2. **Understanding Overqualification In European Labour Markets: A Cross-Country Econometric Analysis**
   Simona *Ioana* GHIȚĂ
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

3. **Will AI Take My Job? Youth Participation in Education and the Employment Prospects of Graduates Across the EU - An Exploratory Analysis**
   Iliana *CARAGEA*, Emilia ȚIȚAN, Alexandru Marian Petrișor TĂNASE
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

4. **The Evolution of Hydrogen Production: Determinants, Dynamics and Future Perspectives towards 2030**
   Mirela *PANAIT*, Ștefan Virgil IACOB, Cătălin Marian VOICA, Viorela IACOVOIU
   Petroleum-Gas University of Ploiesti, Romania

5. **Advancing Corporate Responsibility Through Sustainability Targets, CSR Strategies, and Sustainable Governance for Climate Resilience and Environmental Management**
   Cristian *Eugen* Luchian, Iuliana LUCHIAN
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

9:30–11:00

Parallel session 7
Human capital, economic development and inequalities
Chair: Mirela PANAIT (UPC, Ploiești)

Room Amphiteatre

1. **When Are Romanian Government Bonds Safer Than Stocks? A Comparative Analysis of Investment Horizons, Market Conditions, and Risk Dimensions**
   Radu-Anton *MOLDOVAN*, Ana-Maria CONSTANTINESCU, Ana Englitera VIȘAN, Marian-Pompiliu CRISTESCU
   "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu, Romania

2. **Cub–Sentiment Models For Online Review Ratings: External Validation On Amazon Data**
   Iustina Horga, Codruța Mare
   Babeș-Bolyai University, Romania

3. **What does the next-day volatility forecast predict: the overnight jump or the intraday struggle for equilibrium – case study on the Romanian stock market**
   Claudiu *VINTE*
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

4. **Neural Network for predicting electricity demand over the COVID pandemics: the Estonia case**
   Giacomo DI *TOLLO*, Jaan KALDA, Joseph ANDRIA
   Università Politecnica delle Marche, Italy

5. **Statistical Analysis of Income, Consumption Patterns and Youth Well-being in Romania: A Comparative Study across European Union Member States**
   Ana-Maria *TENCIU*
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

6. **Economic Migration between Necessity and Aspiration: The Role of Social Factors in Sustaining Migration**
   Andreea Oana ENACHE
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

9:30–11:00

Parallel session 8
Statistics for innovations
Chair: Alexandra PURCEL (UBB, Cluj)

Room SEMINAR 4, 1ST FLOOR

1. **Measuring Bias In Large Language Models: An Exploratory Bibliometric Analysis**
   Alexandra-Elena DRĂGHICESCU, Vasile-Alecsandru STRAT
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania (online)

2. **Trends and Prospects of Primary Energy Production from Solar Thermal and Photovoltaic Sources in the European Union: Statistical Analysis, 2000–2024, and Outlook to 2030**
   Silvia Elena CRISTACHE, Aniela BĂLĂCESCU, Rodica Manuela GOGONEA
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania (online)

3. **Urbanization And Climate Resilience: Exploring The Role Of Green Spaces In European Cities**
   Bogdan MIREA, Alin-Cristian MARICUȚ, Giani Ionel GRADINARU, Miruna-Ioana MORARASU
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania (online)

4. **Entrepreneurship In The Institutional Context: Evidence From Panel Data**
   Andreea-Oana IACOBUȚĂ, Dan LUPU
   "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași, Romania

5. **From Formal Compliance To Effective Control: Governing Human Oversight Of AI In Romanian Healthcare**
   Andreea-Maria ARGINTEANU, Daniela-Ioana MANEA, Adrian OTOIU
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania (online)

6. **Exploring the Factors of Cultural Consumption in Europe**
   Rareș-Eduard-Ștefan GRIGORESCU, Mihaela COVRIG, Adrian OȚOIU
   Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania