

## **ACUM 2026 International Conference**

### **Call for Abstracts**

#### **Transilvania University of Braşov, Romania**

**4–7 November 2026**

The [Faculty of Sociology and Communication](#) of [Transilvania University of Braşov](#), in partnership with the [Romanian Sociologists Society](#) (SSR), is pleased to invite scholars, researchers, practitioners, and doctoral students to submit abstracts for the ACUM 2026 International Conference, which will take place in Braşov, Romania, between 4 and 7 November 2026.

ACUM is one of the flagship international academic conferences organized by the Faculty of Sociology and Communication and brings together interdisciplinary perspectives from sociology, communication and media studies, organizational studies, human resource management, anthropology, social work, and related fields.

The 2026 edition of the conference will focus on the broad theme of:

#### **Social Dynamics in the 21st Century: Institutions, Digitalization, Resilience, and Social Change**

We welcome theoretical, empirical, and interdisciplinary contributions addressing contemporary societal transformations, including (but not limited to):

- Digital transformation, AI, and society
- Media, democracy, and public communication
- Social inequality and social change
- Organizational resilience and leadership
- Human resource management and the future of work
- Migration, integration, and multiculturalism
- Social work, wellbeing, and community resilience
- Sustainability, citizenship, and alternative economies
- Anthropology of contemporary societies
- Education, youth, and social participation
- Culture, identity, and collective memory
- Political communication, populism, and disinformation
- Digital literacy and digital inequality

- Institutional trust and democratic renewal

The conference will include keynote lectures delivered by internationally renowned scholars, including:

- **Michael Ungar** (Dalhousie University, Canada)
- **Amy Edmondson** (Harvard Business School, USA)
- **Cristina Grasseni** (Leiden University, Netherlands)
- **Eszter Hargittai** (University of Zurich, Switzerland)

(We are attaching presentation flyers for each keynote speaker)

### **Conference Sections and Submission Process**

The thematic sections, panels, and workshops for ACUM 2026 have already been selected following the dedicated call for section proposals.

Participants are invited to submit their abstracts to one of the thematic panels published on the conference website. If a submission does not fit clearly within any of the listed sections, authors may submit their abstract under the general category: *Varia / Open Topics*

We welcome theoretical, empirical, methodological, and interdisciplinary contributions addressing contemporary societal transformations.

### **Submission Guidelines**

Participants are invited to submit abstracts of maximum 500 words (excluding references).

Abstracts should clearly outline:

- the purpose of the paper
- theoretical framework
- methodology (if applicable)
- main findings or expected contribution

Submissions should be made through the conference submission platform available on the conference website.

### **Proposal Evaluation**

Submissions will be evaluated based on:

- Relevance to conference themes

- Academic quality and innovation
- Clarity and coherence
- Interdisciplinary potential
- Contribution to scholarly dialogue

### **Important Dates**

- Abstract submission: 20 May – 1 September 2026
- Notification of Acceptance: 1–15 September 2026
- Registration and Fee Payment: 16 September – 20 October 2026
- Conference Dates: 4–7 November 2026

### **Conference Format**

The conference will be organized in a hybrid format, with both in-person and online participation options available. However, we strongly encourage in-person participation to enjoy the networking and social events offered throughout the conference.

### **Venue**

Transilvania University of Braşov Braşov, Romania

Located in the heart of Transylvania, Braşov is one of Romania's most beautiful and vibrant academic and cultural cities, offering participants the opportunity to engage in stimulating academic dialogue while experiencing the unique atmosphere and heritage of the region.

### **Contact**

For more information or any questions regarding the conference, please contact the Organizing Committee at the e-mail address: [acum@unitbv.ro](mailto:acum@unitbv.ro)

### **Contact Person**

Assoc. Prof. Luiza Mesesan Schmitz, email: [luiza.mesesan@unitbv.ro](mailto:luiza.mesesan@unitbv.ro),

We warmly invite you to join us at ACUM 2026 and contribute to an interdisciplinary dialogue on the challenges and transformations shaping contemporary societies.

We look forward to welcoming you to Braşov.

Organizing Committee ACUM 2026 International Conference Faculty of Sociology and Communication Transilvania University of Braşov