



The Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Banja Luka, is organizing the 5th Scientific Conference with international participation titled: Society and Politics. The theme of this year's conference is:

EVERYDAY LIFE OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: BETWEEN PROCLAIMED INCLUSIVENESS AND CULTURE OF ACCESSIBILITY

Banja Luka, September 27th and 28th, 2024.

CALL FOR PAPERS

For decades, social inclusion of persons with disabilities has been a central topic of political and academic discussions. Many countries and their institutions proudly proclaim their commitment to inclusiveness, emphasizing the value of diversity and equality for all citizens. However, the reality in which persons with disabilities live is often far from this idealized image. In this regard, it is noticeable that inclusiveness is not just a matter of equal inclusion in society but also a demand for achieving a culture of accessibility. The concept of accessibility culture refers to creating environments, services, and products that are available and usable for everyone, regardless of their physical or mental abilities. Unfortunately, many countries and their institutions often neglect this important dimension of inclusiveness, resulting in numerous challenges for persons with disabilities in daily life:

- Inaccessible or partially accessible public spaces;
- Lack of accessible information and communication;
- Limited access to education and employment;
- Limited access to health centers;
- Inaccessible or partially accessible support and rehabilitation services;
- Limited access to cultural and entertainment activities;
- Financial and technical barriers;
- Social isolation.

In line with the above, submitted papers may relate to, but are not limited to, the following sub-themes:

- Concepts and practices of inclusive education;
- Accessibility of public spaces and services;
- Social inclusion and support for persons with disabilities;
- Cultural aspects of the lives of persons with disabilities;
- Activism and advocacy for the rights of persons with disabilities;
- Application of innovative technological solutions.

In addition to proposals related to the main theme of the conference, the Scientific Committee welcomes other relevant topics, aiming to promote interdisciplinary and exchange of ideas and experiences among researchers. In this regard, in addition to researchers from the fields of social work, sociology, political science, journalism, and communication, we expect participation from researchers in other academic fields that examine the possibilities for achieving a culture of accessibility. Based on the received submissions, the Scientific Committee will subsequently organize thematic sections where accepted papers will be presented. Accepted papers will be published in the journal "Society and Politics" (<https://fpndip.fpn.unibl.org/index.php/dip/about>).

The conference will be held in a hybrid format (live at the Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Banja Luka, and online).

Participation in the conference is free of charge. The organizer will provide participants with meals, refreshments, and accommodation. Travel expenses are covered by the participants themselves.

The working languages of the conference are the official languages of Bosnia and Herzegovina and English.

Instructions for participation and submission of papers

The application for participation in the scientific conference should include the author's full name, the full name of the institution where the author is employed (university and faculty), the author's email address, the title of the paper, an abstract (up to 250 words), and keywords (up to 5 words). The abstract and keywords should also be provided in English. Applications should be sent to the official email address of the conference drustvoipolitika@fpn.unibl.org or through the official website of the conference accessible via the link <https://drustvoipolitika.fpn.unibl.org>.

Submission of scientific papers can be done in the same way as the application for participation in the scientific conference. The paper should not exceed 16 pages, including references and appendices. It should be written in Times New Roman font, size 12, with 1.5 line spacing. The use of APA citation and referencing standards is mandatory. Submitted papers will undergo a double-blind review process. Detailed instructions for potential authors of scientific papers are available on the journal's website "Society and Politics" (https://fpndip.fpn.unibl.org/index.php/dip/instructions_authors).

Important dates:

- Deadline for application submission: May 25, 2024.
- Notification of abstract acceptance: June 9, 2024.
- Deadline for participant registration: August 30, 2024.
- Conference dates: September 27 and 28, 2024.
- Deadline for paper submission: October 11, 2024.
- Notification of paper acceptance: November 15, 2024.
- Publication release: December 20, 2024.