

**“AUREL VLAICU” UNIVERSITY OF ARAD**  
**FACULTY OF EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES, PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK**  
**is hosting the International Conference**  
**“INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO CONTEMPORARY TRENDS IN EDUCATION”**  
**4th edition**  
**Arad, 11–12 June 2026**

The fourth edition of the International Conference “Innovative Approaches to Contemporary Trends in Education” (IACTE 2026) continues a timely academic dialogue on the ways in which education, care, knowledge, and human development are being reshaped in contemporary society.

As an interdisciplinary space for academic exchange and dialogue, IACTE 2026 brings together researchers, university and pre-university teaching staff, students, doctoral candidates, practitioners, experts, and institutional partners concerned with understanding and transforming contemporary education. The conference opens a dialogue across educational sciences, psychology, sociology, philosophy, and social work, with particular attention to early childhood education, primary education, and the development of educational communities. Within this framework, participants are invited to engage in critical reflection and practice-oriented dialogue on learning, well-being, equity, identity, community, professional practice, educational leadership, and institutional transformation.

The event highlights research-informed, person-centred educational approaches that are attentive to the complexity of learning, development, and formation processes. Human dignity, social responsibility, and ethical reflection serve as important reference points for academic dialogue, without limiting the interdisciplinary openness of the conference. Digital transformation and artificial intelligence are addressed as relevant directions in current research, in relation to the broader concerns of contemporary education: inclusion, democratic participation, leadership for school development, sustainability, social cohesion, resilience, and lifelong learning.

IACTE 2026 seeks to bring into dialogue theory, empirical research, educational policy, and everyday professional experience. The conference encourages contributions that understand innovation not only as technological change, but also as pedagogical renewal, relational practice, collaborative leadership, professional learning communities, cultural responsiveness, and care for the communities in which education takes shape.

The conference programme will include plenary sessions, thematic panels, interactive workshops, and scientific paper sessions, led by specialists from Romania and abroad.

By cultivating critical reflection and constructive collaboration, IACTE 2026 invites participants to imagine and strengthen forms of education that are inclusive, resilient, rigorously grounded, socially engaged, and responsive to the complex challenges of the 21st century

**The conference will address, among others, the following topics:**

- Contemporary theories, values, and paradigms in education and human development;
- Curriculum, pedagogy, assessment, and reflective teaching practices;
- Early childhood education and primary education: creativity, play, STEAM, literacy, and inclusive learning environments;
- Teacher education, mentoring, professional identity, and continuing professional development;
- Psychology of learning, motivation, emotion, well-being, resilience, and socio-emotional development;
- Equity, inclusion, accessibility, neurodiversity, intercultural education, and social justice;

- Sociology and philosophy of education, democratic citizenship, ethics, and educational policy;
- Social work, community-oriented learning, family-school-community partnerships, and socially engaged practices;
- Educational leadership, school development, adaptive governance, and professional learning communities;
- Digital pedagogy, media and AI literacy, learning analytics, academic integrity, and the ethical use of technology;
- Lifelong learning, career guidance, higher education, adult education, and competencies for the future of work.