



We invite you to

## The International Scientific and Professional Conference BRIDGE 2026: Down Syndrome – Opportunities, Support, and Development

20 March 2026

Faculty of Tourism and Rural Development in Požega  
Vukovarska 17, Požega, Croatia

### Thematic Areas

- Early Development and Early Intervention
- Inclusive Education and Upbringing
- Health and Well-being of Persons with Down Syndrome
- Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Balanced Lifestyle
- Social Support, Family Counseling, and Quality of Life
- Independence, Employment, and Transition to Adulthood
- Therapeutic and Rehabilitation Approaches
- Innovations, Digital Tools, and Assistive Technology
- Interdisciplinary Collaboration and Best Practice Examples
- Research and Scientific Contribution to Understanding Down Syndrome
- Culture, Arts, and Creative Expression
- Policies, Legal Framework, and Social Inclusion
- Role of Community and Civil Society
- Mental Health and Emotional Well-being
- Parental Perspectives and Experiences of Persons with Down Syndrome
- Professional Education and Competence Development
- Ethical Aspects of Work and Research
- Inclusive Sports and Recreational Activities
- Accessibility, Communication, and Participation in Society
- Global Perspectives and Future Directions

Dear participants,

We are pleased to invite you to the International Conference BRIDGE 2026: Down Syndrome – Opportunities, Support, and Development, which will be held at the Faculty of Tourism and Rural Development in Požega, with the option of online participation.

The BRIDGE Conference (*Building, Research, Inclusion, Development, Growth, Education*) aims to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and to connect professionals, researchers, and representatives of institutions from various fields, emphasizing the importance of an interdisciplinary approach to lifelong support and inclusion of persons with Down syndrome.

We look forward to your participation.

### Important Dates

- Paper Submission: 31 December 2025
- Notification of Reviews: 30 January 2026
- Final Acceptance of Papers: 10 February 2026
- Registration: by 1 March 2026

### About the Conference

**Organizers:** Educational Center for Down Syndrome and the Faculty of Tourism and Rural Development in Požega, with the support of partner institutions.

**Official Languages:** Croatian and English.

**Registration Fee:** No registration fee.

**Ways of Participation:** plenary lectures, poster presentations, panel discussions, workshops for children with Down syndrome under professional guidance.

**Accreditation:** accredited by the relevant Croatian professional chambers; certificates provided to participants and reviewers.

**Publication of Full Papers:** in the BRIDGE 2026 Conference Proceedings.

**Paper Submission:** via the OMP system.

**Participant Registration:** via the registration form.

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