

# Call for Papers

## **International Conference on AI-driven Economic Development, Financial Innovation, and Industrial Transformation 2026**

September 29 – October 2, 2026, Bled, Slovenia

AI-DEFIT 2026 is in conjunction with IIKI 2026.

### **Conference Overview**

The **AI-DEFIT 2026** provides a premier global forum for scholars, researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to examine the profound impact of Artificial Intelligence on economic paradigms, financial ecosystems, and industrial frameworks. As digital integration becomes the bedrock of the global economy, AI technologies are not merely augmenting existing processes but are fundamentally redefining financial services, corporate productivity, and economic governance.

AI-DEFIT 2026 seeks to bridge the gap between theoretical and empirical developments, fostering interdisciplinary dialogue on the future of AI-driven economies. Participants will benefit from networking with leading experts, keynote sessions on emerging trends, and opportunities to influence global AI policy. Join us in the picturesque setting of Bled, Slovenia, for insightful discussions that shape innovative and sustainable economic futures.

### **Research Tracks & Topics**

We welcome original research, including theoretical models, empirical studies, and policy-oriented analyses. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

#### **Track A: AI and Economic Development**

##### **Track Chair: Tingqiang Chen**

#### **1. Artificial Intelligence & Economic Dynamics**

- Impact of AI on Total Factor Productivity (TFP) and Growth Models.
- Labor Market Disruptions: Automation, Skill-Biased Technological Change, and Wage Inequality.
- Micro-Foundations of AI Adoption and Firm-Level Performance.
- New Economic Paradigms in the Digital Era.

## **2. Data Economy & Digital Governance**

- Valuation and Market Mechanisms for Data as A Strategic Asset.
- Data Privacy, Algorithmic Transparency, and Cross-Border Data Regulation.
- Ethics of AI-driven Economic Decision-making.

## **Track B: AI-Driven Financial Innovation**

### **Track Chair: Yezhou Sha**

#### **1. Financial Innovation & Fintech Frontiers**

- AI in Asset Pricing, High-Frequency Trading, and Portfolio Optimization.
- Credit Scoring, Fraud Detecting, and Predictive Risk Modeling with AI Technology.
- Decentralized Finance (DeFi), Blockchain Integration, and Digital Currencies.
- Financial Inclusion and the Democratizing Power of AI-Driven Banking.

#### **2. Generative AI & Autonomous Agents in Finance**

- Large Language Models (LLMs) for Financial Sentiment Analysis and Decision Support.
- Multi-Agent Systems (MAS) in Economic Simulations and Market Design.
- Generative AI in Corporate Disclosures and Financial Reporting.
- Governance, Ethics, and Regulatory Frameworks for Autonomous AI Agents.

#### **3. Artificial Intelligence, Finance Innovation, and Societal Impact**

- Systemic Risk and Financial Stability in AI-Dominated Markets.
- Behavioral Finance: Human-AI Interaction and Cognitive Biases.
- Responsible AI and Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## **Track C: AI and Industrial Transformation**

### **Track Chair: Xiaoping Zeng**

#### **1. AI Technologies and Industrial Applications**

- Smart Manufacturing and Data-Driven Production Optimization.

- AI In Supply Chain Management and Operational Efficiency.
- Predictive Maintenance and Intelligent Asset Management.
- Generative AI in Industrial Design and Production Processes.

## **2. Economic and Organizational Implications**

- AI-Driven Industrial Upgrading and Productivity Enhancement.
- Industrial Platforms, Digital Ecosystems, and Platform Governance.
- Human-AI Collaboration and Labor Transformation in Industries.
- AI-Enabled Decision-Making in Complex Industrial Systems.

## **Special Session: Agentic Economy and Blockchain: AI Agents, Decentralized Infrastructure, and the Future of Digital Finance**

### **Session Chair: Ruidong Zhang**

The convergence of AI, autonomous agents, blockchain, and digital finance is creating the foundation for an emerging agentic economy, a new economic paradigm in which AI agents can perceive, decide, negotiate, transact, and coordinate economic activities with limited human intervention. In agentic economy, blockchain can serve as a critical trust infrastructure, enabling verifiable machine-to-machine transactions, decentralized identity, tokenized assets, transparent governance, and programmable interactions.

This special session aims to explore how autonomous AI agents and blockchain-based financial infrastructure may reshape digital finance, market organization, business models, and regulatory frameworks. The session will provide a multidisciplinary forum for researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to discuss both opportunities and risks in AI agent-driven financial ecosystems. It is especially relevant for scholars working at the intersection of fintech, digital assets, AI, decentralized systems, financial regulation, and platform governance.

### **Suggested Topics:**

The session welcomes theoretical, empirical, technical, and policy-oriented papers on topics including, but not limited to:

- Foundations of the Agentic Economy in Digital Finance.
- Autonomous Agents for Payments and Settlements.
- Blockchain as Trust Infrastructure for AI Agents.

- Agent Identity, Authentication, and On-Chain Reputation Systems.
- Tokenization and Agent-Mediated Asset Markets.
- Multi-Agent Coordination, Negotiation, and Market Design.
- DAO Governance and Intelligent Agent Participation.
- Risk Management, Cybersecurity, and Adversarial Behavior in Agentic Finance.
- Regulation, Compliance, and Legal Accountability of Autonomous Agents.
- Real-World Use Cases in DeFi, Banking, Insurance, Trade Finance, and Machine-to-Machine Commerce.

## Submission Guidelines

### We solicit the following submission categories:

- Full research papers (describing original and unpublished work)
- Short papers and position papers (significant work-in-progress or visionary ideas)
- Special session proposals (thematically focused collections of papers)
- Workshop proposals (half- or full-day events on emerging topics)

All submissions must be original and unpublished, and not under simultaneous review elsewhere.

**Submission website:** <https://cmt3.research.microsoft.com/AIDEFIT2026/Submission/Index>

<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Date</b>
Paper Submission Deadline	May 31, 2026
Notification of Acceptance	July 15, 2026
Final Paper Submission	August 31, 2026
Conference Dates	September 29 – October 2, 2026
Location	Bled, Slovenia

## Supporting Journals

The conference organizing committee will select a few outstanding papers from all submissions and recommend them for publication in the corresponding supporting journals according to topics.



**Financial Innovation**  
(SSCI, CAS Q1 journals)



**Journal of Financial Econometrics**  
(ABS3)



**The Financial Review**  
(ABS3)



**Journal of Global Information Management**  
(SCIE/SSCI)



**Journal of Beijing Normal University  
(Social Sciences)**  
(CSSCI, Papers in Chinese only)

***The Financial Review.*** The journal is a partner of the AI-DEFIT2026. *We will recommend some selected articles with related topics to this journal.*

***Financial Innovation.*** A special issue entitled “**Agentic Narrative Finance: Multimodal AI-Driven Market Dynamics and Financial Innovation**” is being organized in partnership with AI-DEFIT2026. *We will recommend selected papers on relevant topics for this special issue.*

***Journal of Financial Econometrics.*** A special issue titled “**Machine Learning in Financial Econometrics**” is partnered with AI-DEFIT2026. *We will recommend selected articles with related topics to this special issue. See the detail at: [Journal of Financial Econometrics | Oxford Academic](#); [Call for Papers | Journal of Financial Econometrics | Oxford Academic](#)*

***Journal of Global Information Management.*** The journal is a partner of the AI-DEFIT2026. *We will recommend some selected articles with related topics to this journal.*

***Journal of Beijing Normal University (Social Sciences).*** The journal is a partner of the AI-DEFIT2026. *We will recommend some selected articles with related topics to this journal.*  
<Notice: Only Chinese Language can be accepted for this journal.>

All papers to these journals will go through a blind review process. If the journal decides to review the paper and rejects it, the author(s) can submit the paper to the journal through the normal submission process. Papers submitted must not be under review at any journals.

## **Conference Organizing Committee**

### **– Sponsors**

- Business school, Beijing Normal University

### **– Co-organizers**

- Ljubljana University, Slovenia
- University of Southampton, UK
- Institute of Big Data in Finance, Business school, Beijing Normal University

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    - Lorna Uden, Staffordshire University, UK
    - APrf Sanjaya Kuruppu, Adelaide University, Australia
    - **More is coming.....**
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 **More Information**

For updates, please visit the conference website: <https://www.lait.fe.uni-lj.si/AI-DEFIT/>

For inquiries, contact: [ai\\_defit2026@outlook.com](mailto:ai_defit2026@outlook.com)