

**esade**  
RAMON LLULL UNIVERSITY

Entrepreneurship  
Institute (EEI)



**ESI** European  
Scaleup  
Institute

# EUROPEAN SCALEUP INSTITUTE (ESI) ANNUAL CONFERENCE CALL FOR PAPERS

22–23 May 2026  
Barcelona

Esade Barcelona Campus  
Av. d'Esplugues, 92-96, 08034 Barcelona, Spain



The European Scaleup Institute (ESI) is pleased to announce its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Scaling and Scaleups, which will be hosted by Esade Business School. Conference sessions will be held on Friday, 22 May and the morning of Saturday, 23 May 2026 at the Esade Barcelona Campus (Av. d'Esplugues, 92-96, 08034 Barcelona, Spain).

### Goal of the conference

Scaling and scaleups have gained significant attention in recent years, as they significantly contribute to economic growth, value and wealth creation, competitiveness, employment, and technological change and can have material social impact. At the same time, scaling poses multiple challenges such as managing rapid growth while attaining or maintaining profitability and organizational control, attracting and retaining resources such as funding and talent while establishing and elaborating organizational processes and structures, rapidly replicating standard practices and business models while adapting to diverse local environments, as well as dynamically responding to shifting competitive, regulatory and geopolitical landscapes while maintaining focus and competitive advantage. Despite emergent insights into underlying drivers and challenges, there is still much to learn about scaling and scaleups. The ESI Conference serves as a platform for discussing original research and insights about the nature, fundamental issues, determinants, and consequences of scaling and scaleups.

### Call for submissions

The conference consists of **academic paper sessions** and a **practitioner roundtable**. We invite scholars to submit cutting-edge **full papers** or **paper proposals** showcasing and explaining their research related to the nature, fundamental issues, determinants, and consequences of scaling and scaleups. We welcome submissions related to scaling and scaleups from a variety of fields, including (but not limited to) strategy, entrepreneurship, management and organization theory, or the social sciences. Papers and proposals can be theoretical or empirical in nature. Proposals should not exceed 4,000 words (including charts/graphs/diagrams, etc.) and may include up to two pages of references.

Authors interested in presenting at the conference should send their papers or proposals to:

- **Academic Chair:** Dimo Ringov (Esade Business School)
- **Email:** [dimo.ringov@esade.edu](mailto:dimo.ringov@esade.edu)
- **Email subject line:** "ESI conference submission"
- **CC:** [josep.alias@esade.edu](mailto:josep.alias@esade.edu) (Manager, Esade Entrepreneurship Institute)

### Important dates

- **Submission deadline: 20 March 2026**
- **Notification of decision by: 31 March 2026**

## Registration

Early Bird (until 21 April): 275 €

Regular Ticket: 375 €

PhD Student Ticket: 275 €

Dinner Downtown: 80 €

## Conference organizers and scientific committee

- **Conference organizer & program chair:** Dimo Ringov (Esade)
- **Scientific committee:** The faculty of the Esade Entrepreneurship Institute & European Scaleup Institute

## Conference location

The conference will be held at **Esade Business School**, Esade Barcelona Campus, Building 3 ([Av. d'Esplugues, 92-96, 08034 Barcelona](#)) in **Barcelona, Spain**.

## Contact and further information

For questions, please contact:

- Dimo Ringov – [dimo.ringov@esade.edu](mailto:dimo.ringov@esade.edu) (Organizer & Program Chair)
- Josep Alias – [josep.alias@esade.edu](mailto:josep.alias@esade.edu) (Manager, Esade Entrepreneurship Institute)

Further information about the conference and logistics will be shared on the ESI website shortly [<https://scaleupinstitute.eu/events>].