Edmond Hajrizi, Ph.D.

Founder, President, and CEO

University for Business and Technology (UBT)

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CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Founder and President of University for Business and Technology - UBT , driving strategic growth, innovation, and operational excellence for over two decades. Expert in education management, fostering relationships with stakeholders, and ensuring high standards of education and research. Led numerous international projects emphasizing digital transformation, sustainability, and educational modernization. Published extensively in international journals and conferences on topics including system management, quality assurance, and technology-driven education. Serving as a professor at the University for Business and Technology (UBT), delivering lectures in management, information technology, and engineering disciplines across Bachelor and Master levels. Active at Vienna University of Technology, Austria, conducting research and teaching in Intelligent Manufacturing Systems, Simulation Techniques, and Robotics since 1996. Contributing as a key member of governance boards, including international collaborations and initiatives to enhance education and technology. Serving as an editor for international journals and conferences, focusing on technology, innovation, and quality assurance in education. Engaged in groundbreaking research at Vienna University of Technology, exploring Intelligent Manufacturing, Robotics, and Digital Transformation.

EDUCATION

Postdoctoral Research Fellow - City University London (2011–2012) Design and Management of Complex Systems

Doctorate in System Management - Vienna University of Technology (1997–2000) Complex System Management, Decision-Making under Certainty, Process Optimization, IT Architecture, Artificial Intelligence

Study Degree in Information Technology – *Vienna University of Technology (1997–2002)*

Master of Science in Advanced Automation Technology - University of Prishtina (1995–1997) Advanced Mechatronics, Automation and Technology Management, Logistics

Bachelor in Engineering (Mechanical Engineering) - University of Prishtina (1989–1993) Production Management, Mechatronic Systems

ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

- Accredited ILEP Lead Assessor for EFQM Model, ILEP Foundation (2012)
- Accredited First Assessor for 4-Level Project Certification, IPMA (2010)
- Accredited Trainer and Examiner for Quality Management, EOQ (2006)
- Certified Quality Management Manager, TÜV Austria (2003)
- Executive Program in Business Administration and Leadership, WIFI Vienna (2003)
- Accredited Trainer for Quality Management Standards, European Organization for Quality (2006)

HONORS AND AWARDS…

- **European Quality Leader First Finalist Award,** by European Organization for Quality (EOQ)
- **ACEEU - Entrepreneurship Educator of the Year**, by ACEEU (Accreditation Council for Entrepreneurial and Engaged Universities)
- **Books for Peace 2022**, by Associations FUNVIC, Brasil Club UNESCO BFUCA-WFUCA Europe, ANASPOL, and IADPES
- **Best ICT Academic of the Year**, by the **Albanian ICT Awards**
- **Global First Prize for EON Power User Award**, by **EON Reality**
- **Gold Medal for Merit**, by **Pan-Albanian Federation "VATRA"**
- **ACEEU - Entrepreneurship Educator of the Year,** by the **Triple E Awards**,
- **Pioneers Award**, presented at the **8th Global Innovation and Excellence Conference**
- **Golden Plaque of Nova Univerza**, by **Nova Univerza** in Ljubljana, Slovenia
- **Recognition from Fan S. Noli University**, by **Fan S. Noli University** in Korça, Albania
- **"Honorary Academic"**, by **Complutense University of Madrid, Spain**
- **"Honorary Professor"** by the **Academy of Social Sciences at Palm Beach University, Florida, USA**
- **Best Innovative Education 2021**: Awarded by the Annual Balkan Business Awards in Sofia, Bulgaria.
- **Personality of the Year in Kosovo**: Recognized for outstanding contributions to education and innovation.

- **Leadership Excellence Award for Education, Science, and Technology**: Honored for exemplary leadership in advancing education and technology sectors.
- **Ambassador for Peace**: Acknowledged for efforts in promoting peace through education and community engagement

ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS

- **University Research Member**:
  o Vienna University of Technology, Austria (Departments: Intelligent Manufacturing Systems, Simulation Techniques, Hand Devices and Robotics, and Continues Education Center).
  o UP
- **Visiting Professor**:
  o Business School - Danube University Krems.
  o University of Tirana – Economic Faculty.
  o University of Ljubljana.
  o Slovak University of Technology.
  o Cracow University of Economics.
  o Corvinus University.
  o Technical Univeristy – Sofia
- **Member:**
  o International Project Management Association (IPMA).
  o European Organization for Quality (EOQ).
  o International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC).
  o European Federation for Modeling and Simulation (EUROSIM).
  o Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP)

PROFESSIONAL AND INDUSTRY BOARD MEMBERSHIPS –

- **Board of Directors**: Post and Telecom JSC, Kosovo. – 2005 - 2008
- **Board of Members:** Kosova Agency of Statistics (KAS)
- **Advisory Board Member:** EON Reality
- **Advisory Board Member:** EU4Dual
- **Chair**: Quality Kosova
- **Head of: Institute for Enterprise Management and Engineering ([IEME](#))**
- **National Contact Point**: HORIZON 2020 (Emerging and New Technologies and ICT).
- **Government Working Groups**:
  o SME Development.
  o European Integration.
  o Standardization and Quality Management.
  o World Bank Consultant for research and innovation
  o BAS Consultant for quality management
  o Job Evaluation and Salary Structuring for IAP (Integra Consult)

SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS

Chair and/or Member of Scientific Committees

- International Conference on Business, Technology and Innovation (2012-2024).
- International Scientific Conference "Insights in Finance, Economics, and Business Research and the Challenges of the New Millennium" (May 17–18, 2014, Vlore, Albania).
- International Scientific Conference ICRA 2014: "Research and Education - Challenges Toward Future" (Shkoder, Albania).
- International Conference "Information Systems and Technology Innovation: Projecting Trends to a New Economy" (June 6–7, 2014, Tirana, Albania).
- International Conference "Information Systems and Technology Innovation Toward a Digital Economy" (June 15–16, 2013, Tirana, Albania).
- International Conference on "Information Systems and Technology Innovation: Their Application in Economy" (June 8–9, 2012, Tirana, Albania).
- International Conference on "Information Systems and Technologies and Their Importance in Economic Development" (June 10–11, 2011, Tirana, Albania).

Editorial Contributions

- **Editor**: International Conference on Business, Technology and Innovation (2012-2024).
- **Editor**: International Journal of Business and Technology (ISSN 2223-8387).
- **Co-Editor**: IFAC SWIIS Scientific Conferences (2006, 2009, 2013).
- **Editor**: UBT Knwolegde Center
- **Editor:** Ethics, the shield of professional journalism, UBT, January, 2025
- **Editor:** Online journalism in Kosovo and the region, ethics and challenges of self-regulation, UBT, February, 2024
- **Editor:** Human sexuality, UBT, July, 2021
- **Editor:** From Modern Urban Planning, Towards Integrated Spatial Planning, UBT, October 2019
- **Editor:** Electrotechnics, January, 2017
- **Editor:** Management and resolution of regional and international conflicts, UBT, January, 2017
- **Editor:** International Criminal Law, UBT, September, 2016

Scientific Events and Projects

- IFAC Technical Committee (9.1; 9.2; 9.4; 9.5).
- Ninth International PhD & DLA Symposium (October 21–22, 2013, Pécs, Hungary).
- UBT Management Forum.
- International Conference "Architecture and Spatial Planning: International Experiences and Urban Challenges in Kosova" (June 26, 2008, Prishtina, Kosova).
- Italy-Ireland-Austria-Kosovo Automation Day (June 11, 2008, Prishtina, Kosova).
- Regional Conference: "Review of Economic Cooperation Between Albania and Kosovo – Problems and Perspectives" (March 8, 2008, Durres, Albania).
- International Forum "Kosova Go International" (2005–2011).

- International IEME Conference "The Privatization Process in Kosova" (2005, Prishtinë, Kosova).
- International IEME Conference "The Modern Enterprise: Management – Engineering – Computing, E-Business, Women in Business and Technology" (2004, Prishtinë, Kosova).
- First Robots Soccer Tournament in Kosova (2003, Prishtinë, Kosova).
- International IEME Conference "2nd European Quality Days in Kosova" (September 26–28, 2003, Prishtinë, Kosova).
- International IEME Conference "1st European Quality Days in Kosova" (September 27–28, 2002, Prishtinë, Kosova).
- Keynote Speaker: 65th European Quality Congress, Reims, France (2024). Presented on "UBT Smart City – The Convergence Platform for Entrepreneurial Education, Research, Science, Technology, and Innovation-Based Ecosystem."
- Representative: Conference of Technology, Bologna, Italy. Discussed global technological challenges and smart solutions in service delivery.

PROJECT AND DEVELOPMENT MEMBERSHIPS

- **Collaboration with International Programs and Organizations**:
  - TEMPUS.
  - ERASMUS+.
  - ERASMUS Mundus.
  - CEEPUS.
  - FP7.
  - GIZZ
  - USAID

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Founder, President, and CEO - University for Business and Technology (UBT)
2001 – Present

- Developed and executed strategic plans aligning with the university's mission and vision, ensuring long-term growth and sustainability.
- Led overall administration, overseeing finance, HR, academic affairs, and student services, driving operational excellence.
- Spearheaded fundraising initiatives and efficiently allocated resources to support educational programs, research, and campus infrastructure.
- Cultivated relationships with key stakeholders including students, faculty, alumni, and government bodies.
- Promoted UBT as a hub for innovation and entrepreneurship.
- Represented the university at national and international forums to promote its interests and expand its global presence.

Post and Telecom JSC, Kosovo,

2005-2008

- Strategic and Business Plan

- Strategic and Operational Policy
- Approval of large operations business activities

Visiting Professor and Researcher - Vienna University of Technology, Austria
1996 – Present

- Lectured on management, IT, and engineering disciplines.
- Conducted research in Intelligent Manufacturing Systems, Simulation Techniques, and Robotics.
- Managed professional and research projects with a focus on innovation and technology application.

Software Project Manager - AUSTRO-TECH GmbH, Austria
1999 – 2002

- Led projects in system architecture development, project management, and software engineering.
- Spearheaded new product development initiatives for IT services and solutions.

University of Prishtina

1993-1996

- Teaching Assistant

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS –

1. Hajrizi, E., Nagy, K. and Gërvalla, M., 2022. Basic Principles for the Development of Sustainable Small-scale Innovation Ecosystem. *IFAC-PapersOnLine*, *55*(39), pp.253-258.
2. Hajrizi, E., 2022, June. UBT 5S (Small Scale Smart Sustainable System). In *2022 29th International Conference on Systems, Signals and Image Processing (IWSSIP)* (pp. 1-4). IEEE.
3. Hajrizi, E., Zylfiu, B. and Menxhiqi, L., 2019. Developing a system for detecting the same content within the UBT academic institution, including special characters. *IFAC-PapersOnLine*, *52*(25), pp.264-268.
4. Hajrizi, E. and Berisha, D., 2019. Application of discrete events simulation for the department of emergency at peja regional hospital case study kosovo. *IFAC-PapersOnLine*, *52*(25), pp.376-381.
5. Hajrizi, E., 2016. Smart solution for smart factory. *IFAC-PapersOnLine*, *49*(29), pp.1-5.
6. Hajrizi, E. and Bytyci, F., 2015. Agile software development process at financial institution in Kosovo. *IFAC-PapersOnLine*, *48*(24), pp.153-156.
7. Hajrizi, E. and Kopacek, P., 2014. Engineering management in Kosovo. *IFAC Proceedings Volumes*, *47*(3), pp.9875-9879.
8. Hajrizi, E. and Gorani, L.L., 2013. Utilization of the sensitive social Projects Life Cycle. *IFAC Proceedings Volumes*, *46*(8), pp.231-234.
9. Hajrizi, E. and Hasani, M., 2013. Kosovo investment climate and foreign investors' perception. *IFAC Proceedings Volumes*, *46*(8), pp.219-224.
10. Hajrizi, E., 2012. Using modern management concepts and tools for developing advanced quality management systems in new higher education institutions. *IFAC Proceedings Volumes*, *45*(10), pp.62-66.
11. Hajrizi, E., Stapleton, L. and Kopacek, P., 2010. The Contribution of UBT for the sustainable development of Kosova. *IFAC Proceedings Volumes*, *43*(25), pp.47-52.

12. Hajrizi, E., Breitenecker, F. and Tauböck, S., 2001. INTSCHED–A DYNAMIC OPTIMISATION MODULE FOR MODELLING AND SIMULATION IN FLEXIBLE MANUFACTURING SYSTEMS. *International. J. of SIMULATION*, *2*(1), pp.50-54.
13. Nagy, K., Hajrizi, E. "The Role of Automatic Control in Ensuring Sustainability" - IFAC-PapersOnLine, 2023
14. Krasniqi, Xh., Hajrizi, E., Qehaja, B. "Challenges in Private 5G Deployments" - ICECCME Conference, 2023
15. Nagy, K., Hajrizi, E. "Quantum Science in Combating Technological Singularity" - PICMET Proceedings, 2023
16. Galia, G., Hajrizi, E. "Energy Optimization in Smart University Campus Microgrids" - Balkan Conference on Communications, 2023
17. Qehaja, B., Hajrizi, E. "Framework for Real-Time Monitoring in E-Health Systems" - IFAC-PapersOnLine, 2022
18. Limani, Y., Hajrizi, E., Larry, S. "The Complexity of Business Process Digitalization and Organisational Challenges" - IFAC-PapersOnLine, 2022
19. Bula, I., Doyle, K., Retkoceri, B., Hajrizi, E. "An Insight into Human Rights in the Engineering Workplace and Education" - IFAC-PapersOnLine, 2022
20. Hajrizi, E., et al. "Basic Principles for the Development of Sustainable Small-Scale Innovation Ecosystem" - IFAC-PapersOnLine, 2022
21. Nagy, K., Hajrizi, E., Kopacek, P. "Responsible Innovation in Support of Society 5.0" - IFAC-PapersOnLine, 2020
22. Qehaja, B., Abazi, B., Hajrizi, E. "Enterprise Technology Architecture Solution for eHealth System" - IFAC-PapersOnLine, 2019
23. Aliu, A., Stapleton, L., Metin, H., Hajrizi, E. "Web-Enabled Business in SMEs in Less Developed Regions" - IFAC-PapersOnLine, 2019
24. Bula, I., Hajrizi, E. "Cost Oriented Autonomous Mobile Service Robot" - IFAC-PapersOnLine, 2019
25. Hajrizi, E., Berisha, D. "Application of Discrete Events Simulation for Emergency Departments" - IFAC-PapersOnLine, 2019
26. Nagy, K., Hajrizi, E. "Building Pillars for Adapting Society 5.0 in Post-Conflict Countries" - IFAC-PapersOnLine, 2019
27. Mehmeti, X., Kopacek, P., Hajrizi, E. "Cost Oriented Control of Humanoid Robots" - IFAC-PapersOnLine, 2019
28. Salihu, A., Metin, H., Hajrizi, E. "The Effect of Security and Ease of Use on Reducing Deficiencies in E-Banking Services" - IFAC-PapersOnLine, 2019
29. Bula, I., Hajrizi, E. "Demonstration of Robotics in Scrap Processing Models for Education" - RTUCON Proceedings, 2019
30. Hajrizi, E., Stapleton, L., Kopacek, P. "Knowledge and Technology Transfer in Developing Countries" - DECOM Proceedings, 2009
31. Hajrizi, E. "Simulation-Based Optimization for Flexible Manufacturing Systems" - DAAAM Symposium Proceedings, 1999

KEY PROJECTS

SHAPE (Sport, Health, and People Network)
2023–2026
Role: Project Manager
Website: shapewb.eu

IoT-ECO (IoT Green Transformation)
2023–2026
Role: Project Manager
Website: iot-eco.eu

TKAEDITE (Digital Transformation in Education)
2023–2026
Role: Project Manager
Website: tkaedite.eu

V.I.R.TU.A.L. (Virtual Learning in Vocational Education)
2023–2025
Role: Project Manager

QUADIC (International Cooperation Development)
2019–2022
Role: Project Manager
Website: quadic.net

AKILEU (Jean Monnet Action)
2024–2027
Role: Project Manager

E-LE.G.A.N.T.S. (E-Learning Gamified and Networked Training for Startuppers)
2023–2025
Role: Project Manager

COWEB (Collaborative Web Education)
2023–2026
Role: Project Manager
Website: cowebproject.eu

Work-Life-Flow
2020–2023
Role: Project Manager
Website: work-life-flow.eu

VTech@WBUni (Virtual Technologies for Western Balkan Universities)
2019–2022
Role: Project Manager
Website: vtech-project.eu

DI-PHDICTKES (PhD Curricula in ICT for Kosovo Education System)
2019–2022
Role: Project Manager
Website: phdictkes.eu

BKSTONE (Natural Stone Industry in Western Balkans)
2019–2022
Role: Project Manager
Website: bkstoneproject.com

GEOBIZ (Business-Driven Learning in Geoinformatics)
2019–2022
Role: Project Manager
Website: geobiz.eu

ELEMEND (Electrical Energy Markets and Engineering Education)
Programme: Erasmus+
Year: 2017
Project Identification: 585681-EEP-1-2017-1-EL-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

DIMTV (Development and Implementation of Multimedia and Digital TV Curricula)
Programme: Erasmus+
Year: 2017
Project Identification: 586318-EPP-1-2017-1-AL-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

BESTSDI (Western Balkans Academic Education Evolution and Professional's Sustainable Training for Spatial Data Infrastructures)
Programme: Erasmus+ KA102
Year: 2016
Project Identification: 574150-EPP-1-2016-1-HR-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

Curriculum Development: Joint European Political Science MA
Year: 2015
Project Identification: 561485-EPP-1-2015-1-AT-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

SIGMA Agile – Critical Skills Learning for Innovation, Sustainable Growth, Mobility and Employability
Programme: Erasmus Mundus
Year: 2014
Project Identification: 552105-EM-1-2014-1-PL-ERA MUNDUS-EMA21

TECH-WB-GREEN TECH WB (Smart and Green Technologies for Innovative and Sustainable Societies in Western Balkans)

Programme: Erasmus Mundus
Year: 2014
Project Identification: 551984-EM-1-2014-1-ES-ERA MUNDUS-EMA21

EM2-STEM (Entrepreneurship and Management Training in STEM)
Programme: Erasmus Mundus
Years: 2011–2014
Project Identification: Erasmus Mundus Action 2/Strand 1/Lot 10 (Western Balkans)-EM2-STEM (2010-4728-001-EMA2)

TEMPUS: Developing and Adapting Professional Programs for Energy Efficiency in the Western Balkans
Programme: TEMPUS
Year: 2013
Project Identification: 530399-TEMPUS-1-2012-1-AT-TEMPUS-JPHES

TEMPUS: Encouraging the Process of Curriculum Development Based on Learning Outcomes and Research Guided Teaching in Private Higher Education Institutions of Kosova
Programme: TEMPUS
Year: 2012
TEMPUS: Supporting and Developing the Structures for QA at Private Higher Education Institutions in Kosova
Programme: TEMPUS
Years: 2010–2012
Project Identification: 159051-TEMPUS-AT-TEMPUS-SMG

TEMPUS Programme 1 & 2
Curriculum Development: Bachelor and Master Study in Mechatronics Management in Kosovo (ULMK & MSMMK)
Highlights: Designed to provide structured education in mechanical, electrical, computer engineering, and management.

ERASMUS MUNDUS Programme – EM2STEM (2010–2014)
Facilitated 264 mobility opportunities for Bachelor, Masters, and PhD levels in a consortium.

ERASMUS MUNDUS Programme – SIGMA (2012–2016)
Promoted global education through 20 mobility opportunities for UBT students.

AEP Academic Exchange Programme
Agreement with Jovik University, Norway, for staff development, teaching, and research.

UBT-City University Joint Research
Established joint research collaboration with City University London.

SEECEL (Southeast European Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning)
Promoted entrepreneurial learning across eight pre-accession countries in Southeast Europe.

Improvement of Investment and Entrepreneurial Climate in Kosovo
Kosovo/EU-Czech Republic/SOROS
Enhanced Kosovo's ability to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and accelerate economic transformation.

Investment-Friendly Municipality
Kosovo/EU-Czech Republic/Local Government
Provided practical advice for FDI promotion to selected Kosovo municipalities.

Feasibility Study for Economic Zone in Gjilan and Novoberde Municipality
Kosovo/EU-Czech Republic/Local Government
Conducted a feasibility study for establishing an economic zone in Llabjan under Czech development cooperation.