



**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
SCIENTIFIC EXPERTS IN TOURISM**

Dufourstrasse 40a  
CH-9000 St. Gallen  
Phone: +41-71-224 25 30  
Telefax: +41-71-224 25 36  
E-Mail: [info@aiest.org](mailto:info@aiest.org)  
<http://www.aiest.org>

**Invitation to and Call for Papers for  
Aiest Research Exchange**

**St. Gallen (Switzerland)  
Sunday, August 23, 2026 (12:00-17:00)**

**In collaboration with  
75<sup>th</sup> Aiest Conference of Ideas**

<https://www.aiest.org/aiest-conference/2026-stgallen-switzerland>

**The International Association of Scientific Experts in Tourism (AIEST) invites you to participate and calls for contributions for its half-day Research Exchange at the AIEST annual meeting, taking place prior to its 75<sup>th</sup> Conference.**

AIEST is an international scientific society, with high shares of European (continental) members. It endeavours:

- to foster friendly relations among its members;
- to promote scientific activity on the part of its members, in particular by developing personal contacts, providing documentation and facilitating exchange of views and experience;
- to support the activity of scientific institutes of tourism, or other centres of research and education specializing in tourism, and to develop relations between them, as well as between them and the members of the Association;
- to organize and cooperate in conferences and other meetings and courses on tourism of a scientific nature.

**The Research Exchange aims at fostering cooperation between members, and providing mentorship for academics regarding their activities, including conducting high-quality research, developing research methodology, publishing results in highly ranked journals, and enhancing the societal impact of tourism research.**

The **Research Exchange**, being organized within the framework of the AIEST Annual Conference, includes short keynote presentations about the current situation and advancements of tourism research designs and methodologies (e.g. questionnaire development, experimental design, scale development etc.). After those presentations, participants are provided with the opportunity to discuss in detail their own challenges and questions regarding their research design and methods, in the format of short, pitch-style contributions (5 minutes each, max. 8 contributions). The workshop is facilitated by advanced tourism scholars who are experts in certain domains.

The Research Exchange is open to anyone wishing to attend.

## Contribution / submission to the Research Exchange

Prepare a short paper with 500 words maximum (including blanks, excluding references; Times New Roman 12 pt, 1.5 spacing), along the following structure (for your reference, we provide an indicative share of each component; this is not binding):

- Introduction/ Context, including rationale and goals of your study as well as its significance and the contribution you intend to make (25%)  
-> *Why are you pursuing this research endeavour and what is new?*  
*What is new? Who cares/ what is going to change?*
- Research questions (20%)  
-> *Along which questions do you plan to align your study?*
- Research design and methodology (50%)  
-> *How do you plan to find out about your research questions?*
- Stage of research (5%)  
-> *Have you already collected primary data? How advanced is the research?*
- At the end, bring forward the three most important/ pressing questions/ challenges you have in relation to your research project (as a guideline for discussion). Those questions are NOT part of the above word count limitation.

Estimated time per contribution: 10' (5' presentation, 5' feedback)

### Please note:

- A maximum of 8 contributions will be accepted. Hence, the approach to this event is competitive. However, and as mentioned before, you can always attend without contributing.

## Deadline for your submission

As we try to set up a peer panel according to the type and disciplinary approach of your submission, we need your contribution by **April 30, 2026**.

Please submit to:

**Judit Sulyok, PhD**

**AIENT Director of Conferences, [sulyok.judit@gtk.uni-pannon.hu](mailto:sulyok.judit@gtk.uni-pannon.hu)**

## Framework and important preliminary information

The cost of the seminar is free, provided you attend the AIENT conference (see separate call at <https://www.aient.org/aient-conference/2026-stgallen-switzerland>).