Early Call for Papers
Accounting and Accountability in Emerging Economies (AAEE)
5th Biennial Conference and Emerging Scholars Colloquium 2027

Centre for Accountability and Global Development, Essex Business School, University of Essex, United Kingdom
In association with the Accounting and Finance in Emerging Economies BAFA Special Interest Group
Emerging Scholars Colloquium: 28 June 2027
Main conference: 29 to 30 June 2027

The Accounting and Accountability in Emerging Economies (AAEE) conference returns to its original home at the University of Essex in 2027 for its 5th Biennial Conference and Emerging Scholars Colloquium. The conference provides an international forum in which academics, doctoral researchers, policy makers, activists and practitioners engage critically with the changing roles of accounting, accountability and governance in societies undergoing profound social, environmental, economic and political transformation.

The 2027 conference theme is:

'Accounting and Accountability in the Majority World'

We retain the AAEE name because it carries the history of this conference series, but we use it advisedly. The language of 'emerging' economies positions most of the world as a late and incomplete version of somewhere else; 'Majority World' names the same regions by what they are, which is where most people live and most work is done. Papers that interrogate this vocabulary, including papers that defend the terms we are questioning, are welcome.

We welcome diverse theoretical and methodological approaches, and particularly work that speaks to the policy, practical and societal implications of accounting and accountability practices in the Majority World and beyond. Comparative, historical and single-site studies are equally welcome, as is work grounded in Western settings.

Key dates

Stage	**Date**
Full papers due (main conference and ESC)	1 March 2027
Notification of acceptance	31 March 2027
Emerging Scholars Colloquium	28 June 2027
Main conference	29 to 30 June 2027

Indicative themes

The list is indicative. Submissions that fall outside it but speak to the theme are welcome.

Accounting, reporting and assurance

- Data analytics and artificial intelligence in accounting and auditing
- Financial reporting and corporate disclosure
- Sustainability and ESG reporting
- Integrated reporting
- Auditing, assurance and accountability

Political economy, ecology and development

- Accounting for development and the Sustainable Development Goals
- Climate change, ecological violence and accounting for nature
- Extractivism, land and natural resource governance
- Sovereign debt, austerity and financialisation
- Aid, humanitarian finance and conditionality

Governance, control and public accountability

- Accounting, accountability and corporate governance
- Business ethics, corruption, transparency and public sector accountability
- Management control systems
- Digitalisation, data governance and algorithmic control

Inequality, injustice and precarity

- Poverty, inequality and labour
- Human rights and corporate accountability
- Gender, race, ethnicity, caste and postcoloniality
- Migration, displacement and refugees
- Religion, nationalism and political economy
- State violence, surveillance and authoritarian governance
- Historical perspectives on accounting, empire and violence

Special panel: accounting and accountability in contexts of conflict, violence and war

The conference will host a special panel bringing together scholars examining the roles of accounting, accountability and governance in armed conflict, occupation, state violence and humanitarian crisis, and in the lived experience of communities affected by violence. Contributions from diverse geographical contexts and methodological traditions are particularly encouraged, and we especially welcome work by scholars writing from within the settings they study.

Emerging Scholars Colloquium

The Emerging Scholars Colloquium on 28 June 2027 is open to doctoral researchers and to scholars in the early stages of their academic career. Participants present work in progress to a small group and receive extended written and oral feedback from experienced faculty, with sessions on publishing, reviewing and building a research programme. Places are limited and are allocated on the basis of the submitted paper. Participation in the colloquium does not preclude presenting a separate paper at the main conference.

Submission

Submission is in a single stage. Authors are asked to submit a full paper, for the main conference and for the Emerging Scholars Colloquium alike, by 1 March 2027. There is no separate abstract stage, and authors whose papers are accepted are not required to resubmit before the conference.

Publication opportunities

Selected papers will be considered for special issues associated with the conference. The participating journals and the process for submission will be announced with the full call for papers.

Registration

Registration is open through the University of Essex online store, where the current fees are listed. Registration is separate from submission.

Further information

The conference and the colloquium will both be held at Essex Business School, Colchester Campus, University of Essex. Keynote speakers will be announced in the full call for papers.

Submit through the online portal: AAEE 2027 submission portal
Register here: AAEE 2027 registration
Conference webpage: AAEE Conference 2027

Contact us for details:

Main conference: AAEE@essex.ac.uk Emerging Scholars Colloquium: ESC.AAEE@essex.ac.uk