



Technology Festival  
13th Edition

# DECODE THE FUTURE

October 11-12, 2024  
Tech Park Prishtina, Kosova



*ProCredit Bank*



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**STIKK**  
KOSOVO ICT ASSOCIATION

THE 13TH EDITION OF THE KOSICT FESTIVAL HERALDED ITS ARRIVAL WITH AN IMPRESSIVE LINEUP OF 30 SPEAKERS AND MORE THAN 3,000 PARTICIPANTS, ONCE AGAIN SOLIDIFYING ITS STATUS AS THE EPICENTRE OF INNOVATION, KNOWLEDGE-SHARING, AND COLLABORATION IN THE TECHNOLOGY SPHERE IN KOSOVO

THIS REMARKABLE CELEBRATION OF TECHNOLOGY TOOK PLACE ON OCTOBER 11TH AND 12TH, 2024, AT THE VIBRANT VENUE OF TECH PARK PRISHTINA.

THE 13TH EDITION OF KOSICT ALSO SERVED AS THE LAUNCHPAD FOR OCTOBERTECH KOSOVA, AN INITIATIVE UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF THE OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER OF KOSOVO, DESIGNED TO FOSTER COLLABORATION AND INNOVATION IN DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY. THIS FESTIVAL WAS SUPPORTED BY ITS GENERAL SPONSOR, PROCREDIT BANK KOSOVA.





# KOSICT 2024 BY THE NUMBERS

**3000**



**PARTICIPANTS**

**104**



**COMPANIES**

**15**



**COUNTRIES**

**30**



**SPEAKERS**

**17**



**MAIN STAGE SESSIONS**

**7**



**DEV. STAGE SESSIONS**

**11**



**INNOVATION FAIR STARTUPS**

**11**



**TRAILBLAZERS FAIR COMPANIES**

**150**



**B2B Meetings**



# WHAT IS KOSICT?

**KosICT** is a tech festival that held its first edition in 2012 with the aim of **bridging the gap between the local and international ICT markets** by highlighting and bringing the latest technological trends and developments to the Balkans, through local, regional, and international experts who would share their experiences and knowledge with the audience comprised out of software developers, **ICT** enthusiasts and experts, C-level Executives, Academia Representatives, and Students.

Another very important goal of the **KosICT** tech festival is to **promote the local ICT sector on an international scale** through visitors from international companies attending **KosICT**, our partner associations, and renowned speakers that grace the stages of **KosICT** and act as ambassadors for Kosovo and the local **ICT** sector by promoting their experience here to their colleagues, business partners, etc.

As a technology festival, **KosICT** is enriched by a few different elements including two conference format stages highlighting some of the latest topics and trends in the **ICT** industry, an innovation fair focusing on some of the most prominent start-ups, a company fair, and a brokerage event bringing together local & international businesses and Business Lounge area where many of the company representatives had the chance to meet and create potential linkages for the future, future developer's corner, and last but certainly not least, two eSports tournaments highlighting the talents among **STIKK** member companies (CSR Tournament and professional tournament) with the aim of promoting the gaming community in Kosovo.



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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 13th edition of the **KosICT Technology Festival**, held on **October 11-12, 2024**, at **Tech Park Prishtina**, was a remarkable convergence of ideas, innovation, and collaboration, showcasing the dynamic intersection of technology and society. With over **3,000 participants** from **15 countries**, **104 companies**, and **30 distinguished speakers**—23 of them international—this year’s event brought global perspectives to the local tech ecosystem. Featuring 17 sessions on the Main Stage and 8 on the Developers Stage, KosICT offered a comprehensive exploration of cutting-edge technologies, entrepreneurship, and future trends.

The festival’s highlights included the **Trailblazers Fair**, which hosted 10 companies, the **Innovation Fair** featuring 11 startups, and the **Future Developers Corner**, which spotlighted 30 young tech enthusiasts aged 8-16. Additionally, the Brokerage event facilitated **150 B2B meetings** between local and international companies, and the **eSports Showdown** captivated audiences with two tournaments. The 13th edition of KosICT also served as the launchpad for **OctoberTech Kosova**, an initiative under the patronage of the Office of the Prime Minister of Kosovo, designed to foster collaboration and innovation in digital technology. This festival was supported by its general sponsor, ProCredit Bank Kosova.

TECH PARK

# AGENDA

## MAIN STAGE

**DAY 1**

**11 OCTOBER**

10:00 - 10:30

### OPENING REMARKS

**Ermal Sadiku** | Chairman of STIKK Board  
**Albin Kurti** | Prime Minister of Kosovo

10:30 - 11:10

Keynote

### The Story of Tomorrow: Navigating the Disruption Decade

**Dex Hunter-Torricke** | Silicon Valley  
Communications Expert

11:10 - 11:40

Panel Discussion

### Investors Insights: Strategic Positioning for Securing Investment in Challenging Markets

**Alesia Ahmetaj** - Investment Analyst | AMVS Capital  
**Claudia Miclaus** - Founder & CEO | Brand Capital Advisors  
**Max Gurvits** - Managing Partner | Vitoshia Venture Partners

11:40 - 12:00

Keynote

### Entrepreneurial Leadership: How Inclusion Can Drive Innovation

**Dr. Anthony Giannoumis** - CEO | Inclusive Creation

13:00 - 13:40

Presentation

### Can Your Business run itself? Discover the Universal Process Orchestrator

**Jens Lindner** - Senior Consultant | Camunda  
**Donat Mehmeti** - Senior Consultant | Camunda

13:40 - 14:00

Fireside Chat

### From Pivot to \$8.1 Billion Exit: Wolt's Early Days and Insights into Expansion

**Oskari Pétas** - Co-Founder | Wolt  
**Moderator: Egzon Delija** - Founder | Stealth

14:00 - 14:30

Keynote

### From Virtual to Reality: Shaping a Better Future Inside and Outside the Metaverse

**Gabriella Chihan Stanley** - Founder | XR Viena

14:30 - 15:00

Fireside Chat

### A Unicorn Powerhouse: Lessons from The Nordic Tech Ecosystem

**Ekaterina Gianelli** - Venture Partner | Calm/Storm  
**Moderator: Kushtrim Xhakli** - Founder | Industry Expert

15:00 - 15:30

Keynote

### Navigating the Digital Ocean: Innovation, Ethics, and The Future of ICT

**Helen Vasilevski** - Managing Director | flect.

15:30 - 16:00

Fireside Chat

### Kosovo's IT Boom: Building the Future Through Education and Innovation

**Andrew Wrobel** - Founding Partner | Emerging Europe  
**Moderator: Dior Halili** - ICT Lead | DT Global



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# AGENDA

## MAIN STAGE

**DAY 2**

**12 OCTOBER**

10:15 - 11:00

Fireside Chat

### **Transforming Prishtina: From Complicated to Complex**

Përparim Rama - Mayor of Prishtina  
Moderator: Sabine Singer

14:15 - 14:45

Fireside Chat

### **Can Remote Work Drive Global Success?**

**Lessons from a Global Leader**

Jens Lindner - Camunda  
Donat Mehmeti - Camunda  
Moderator: Sabine Singer

11:10 - 11:40

Fireside Chat

### **From Software to Hardware: Insights from Software Distribution to Bringing New Hardware to Market**

Egzon Delija - Founder | Stealth  
Moderator: Iliriana Ibraj - CBDO | LinkPlus IT

14:45 - 15:15

Keynote

### **Simplicity is the Key**

Henric Westergren - Owner & Consultant | GoWesta AB

13:00 - 13:40

Keynote

### **Metaverse - Tomorrow's Ultimate Workplace Holoportation, the Next Generation of Communication**

Nahed Hatahet - Digital and Transformation Expert  
with a Human Centered Mission

15:15 - 15:45

Keynote

### **AI with Empathy: Redefining Decision-Making in the Age of Generative Intelligence**

Dr. Alex Mari - AI Marketing Senior Research  
Associate | University of Zurich

13:40 - 14:15

Keynote

### **Addressing Ethical Implication in Concrete AI System Design**

Sabine Singer - World Pioneer in Value-Based  
Engineering

15:45 - 16:15

Keynote

### **Living with Agents: How to Use and Not Be Used by AI**

Ethan Mayers - CEO | Narwhal Network



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# AGENDA

## DEVELOPERS STAGE

**DAY 1**

**11 OCTOBER**

11:15 - 12:00

Presentation

### **Hack-Proof Your Code**

**Armend Gashi** – Managing Security Consultant  
| Sentry Cybersecurity  
**Arjanit Isufi** – Senior Security Consultant  
| Sentry Cybersecurity

13:00 - 13:30

Presentation

### **Intelligent Adaptive Environments The Opportunity to Build a Disruptive Economy for Today's Challenges**

**Kushtrim Xhakli** – Founder | Entrepreneur | Industry Expert

13:30 - 15:00

Panel Discussion

### **Technology Parks Know-How Transfer: Sharing Best Practices and Lessons Learned**

**Emilija Stručić** – EU Funds and Finance Consultant |  
Technology Park Varaždin  
**Yakup Köseoğlu** – General Manager | Sakarya Teknokent  
**Gintaras Vilda** – CEO | Manufacturing Innovation Valley DIH  
**Jan Wedlich** – Business Development and  
Innovation Manager | ICUK  
Moderator: **Leonora Kusari** | EBRD

15:00 - 16:30

### **Investors Pitch**

**DAY 2**

**12 OCTOBER**

10:30 - 12:30

Hands-On Workshop

### **Deploying AI with Confidence**

**Armend Gashi** – Managing Security Consultant  
| Sentry Cybersecurity  
**Arjanit Isufi** – Senior Security Consultant  
| Sentry Cybersecurity

13:00 - 13:30

Workshop

### **Reinvent Yourself Empowering Women for the IT Workforce**

**Andrew Wrobel** – Founding Partner | Emerging Europe

13:30 - 14:00

Workshop

### **Automation in Telecom World Before and After: Tackling Telecom Challenges with Automation**

**Miranda Kukaj** - Senior Network Engineer | Nettxio

14:00 - 14:30

Presentation

### **From Food to Power Harnessing AI and Robotics for a Sustainable Future**

**Tringa Ibrahim** – Fotoel

14:30 - 15:00

Workshop

### **Smart Contracts Fundamentals, Best Practices, and Hands-on Programming**

**Iljas Neziri** – Blockchain Expert  
**Albi Hoti** – Backend Software Engineer | Kutia



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## PRE-EVENT RECEPTION

One day before the event, 10 October, KosICT hosted a reception for the speakers, STIKK members and other special guests. The reception was co-hosted by Advantage Austria at Hotel Prishtina. It served as an ice breaker for the attendants to know each other and build a network between them before meeting at the KosICT venue.



## MAIN STAGE

The first day of the 13th edition of KosICT began with great anticipation. Attendees were welcomed by Mr. Ermal Sadiku, the STIKK Board Chairman, and Mr. Albin Kurti, the Prime Minister of Kosovo, who set the tone for a festival celebrating Kosovo's burgeoning tech scene and its global ambitions. The opening remarks resonated deeply with the audience, highlighting the importance of innovation in shaping the country's future.



Following the official opening, Dex Hunter-Torricke, Head of Global Communications & Marketing at Google DeepMind, delivered a powerful keynote titled "The Story of Tomorrow: Navigating the Disruption Decade." Dex, with his extensive experience working for companies like Facebook and SpaceX, took the audience on a journey through the possibilities and challenges that lie ahead in an era defined by rapid technological disruption. He emphasized the pivotal role that entrepreneurs, innovators, and policymakers must play in shaping a future where technology serves humanity's best interests. The keynote set an inspiring tone for the day, challenging attendees to think critically about their role in the evolving tech landscape.

The day continued with a thought-provoking panel discussion on "Investors Insights: Strategic Positioning for Securing Investment in Challenging Markets." Moderated by Alesia Ahmetaj, the panel featured investment heavyweights such as Claudia Miclaus and Max Gurvits. The discussion focused on how startups, particularly from emerging markets like Kosovo, can strategically position themselves to secure funding amidst global uncertainties. The panelists shared invaluable insights into the mindset of investors, the importance of storytelling in pitching, and the strategies that founders can use to overcome market challenges.

Next up was Dr. Anthony Giannoumis with his engaging keynote on "Entrepreneurial Leadership: How Inclusion Can Drive Innovation." Anthony's keynote delved into the importance of diversity and inclusion in the tech industry, arguing that companies

embracing these values are not only more innovative but also more resilient. He provided practical examples of how fostering an inclusive workplace can lead to creative breakthroughs, offering a fresh perspective on leadership in the digital era.



In the afternoon, Jens Lindner and Donat Mehmeti from Camunda took the stage to present "Can Your Business Run Itself? Discover the Universal Process Orchestrator." Their session was a deep dive into Camunda's revolutionary approach to process automation, showcasing how businesses can orchestrate complex workflows with ease through BPMN (Business Process Model and Notation). The live demonstration captivated the audience, who saw firsthand how the platform enables businesses to achieve greater efficiency by automating repetitive processes and providing real-time data-driven insights.



A key highlight of the day was the fireside chat with Oskari Pétas, co-founder of Wolt, moderated by Egzon Delija. Titled "From Pivot to €7 Billion Exit: Wolt's Early Days and Insights into Expansion," this session gave attendees an insider's look into the early struggles, pivots, and strategies that led Wolt to become one of Europe's leading food delivery companies. Oskari candidly shared how Wolt narrowly avoided bankruptcy several times and the lessons learned from scaling in multiple international markets. His personal reflections on leading a unicorn company resonated strongly with the entrepreneurial crowd.

Gabriella Chihan Stanley then took the stage to explore the transformative potential of extended reality (XR) in her keynote, "From Virtual to Reality - Shaping a Better Future Inside and Outside the Metaverse." Gabriella's session provided an in-depth look at how XR technologies are poised to revolutionize industries like education, healthcare, and entertainment by creating immersive, interactive experiences that can connect people in novel ways.



The first day also saw another engaging fireside chat with Ekaterina Gianelli, Venture Partner at Calm/Storm, moderated by Kushtrim Xhaki. The session, titled "A Unicorn Powerhouse: Lessons from the Nordic Tech Ecosystem," highlighted the unique factors that make the Nordic region a global leader in tech innovation. Ekaterina shared valuable lessons from her experience scaling tech companies and investing in startups, offering practical advice to entrepreneurs and ecosystem builders in Kosovo on how to replicate the Nordic success model.



Following the fireside chat, Helen Vasilevski, Managing Director of flect., took the stage to deliver a keynote titled "Navigating the Digital Ocean: Innovation, Ethics, and the Future of ICT." Helen's keynote was one of the most anticipated sessions of the day, offering an in-depth analysis of how businesses and societies can navigate the fast-changing digital landscape while maintaining a strong ethical foundation.

She discussed the challenges companies face as they scale, and the importance of embedding sustainability and inclusivity into digital strategies from the outset.

Rounding off Day 1 was a fireside chat by Andrew Wrobel from Emerging Europe titled "Kosovo's IT Boom: Building the Future Through Education and Innovation." Moderated by Dior Halili, Andrew discussed Kosovo's position as an emerging tech hub in Europe, sharing insights on how education and innovation are crucial drivers of this growth. The conversation focused on the role of education in fostering tech talent and how the country can better position itself within the global digital economy. Dior's moderation allowed the discussion to delve into practical takeaways for attendees interested in tapping into Kosovo's tech potential.



The second day of KosICT 2024 began with a special session featuring Perparim Rama, the Mayor of Prishtina, who presented "Transforming Prishtina: From Complicated to Complex." Moderated by Sabine Singer, this fireside chat offered a glimpse into the city's future, with Mayor Rama outlining ambitious plans for smart urban development. The discussion centered on how technology could be integrated into public services, infrastructure, and community engagement to address the complexities of a rapidly growing city. Attendees were eager to hear about Prishtina's vision and its potential role as a model for other growing cities.



Following this was Sabine Singer's keynote on "Addressing Ethical Implications in Concrete AI System Design." Sabine, a pioneer in Value-Based Engineering, tackled one of the most critical issues facing the tech world today: how to ensure that AI systems are designed and deployed ethically. She delved into real-world examples of AI system failures and the lessons learned, providing a roadmap for how companies and governments can better incorporate ethical considerations into their AI development processes. Her session resonated deeply with tech developers and policymakers alike, making it one of the standout talks of the day.

Next was the fireside chat with Egzon Delija, moderated by Iliriana Ibraj, titled "From Software to Hardware: Insights into Bringing New Hardware to Market." Egzon shared his journey of transitioning from software to hardware, discussing the unique challenges that come with scaling hardware ventures and offering practical advice to aspiring hardware entrepreneurs.



Later in the day, Donat Mehmeti and Jens Lindner from Camunda returned to the stage for a fireside chat moderated by Sabine Singer. Titled "Can Remote Work Drive Global Success? Lessons From a Global Leader," this session explored how Camunda adapted to the global shift towards remote work and used it as an opportunity to scale globally. The conversation touched on the challenges of maintaining company culture and productivity in a remote setting, while also highlighting the benefits of global collaboration. It was an insightful look into the future of work and how companies can leverage remote setups to drive innovation.

Henric Westergren, owner of GoWesta AB, presented a keynote on "Simplicity is the Key." Henric's philosophy of simplifying processes and products as a means to achieving success struck a chord with the audience. He provided clear examples from his extensive experience in consulting, showing how businesses can cut through complexity to deliver value more effectively.

The next keynote was by Dr. Alex Mari, AI Marketing Senior Research Associate at the University of Zurich, who delivered a thought-provoking session titled "AI with Empathy: Redefining Decision-Making in the Age of Generative Intelligence." Dr. Mari explored the evolving role of AI in decision-making processes and how empathy can be integrated into AI systems to enhance outcomes. His session highlighted the importance of humanizing technology, particularly as AI systems become more prevalent in industries such as marketing, healthcare, and customer service.



The final keynote of the day—and the entire festival—was by Ethan Mayers, CEO of Narwhal Network. His session, "Living with Agents: How to Use and Not Be Used by AI," brought the event to a fitting close by addressing the growing concerns around AI's role in society. Ethan's message was clear: as we develop AI systems, we must remain vigilant in ensuring they serve us, rather than the other way around. He provided practical advice on how businesses and individuals can harness the power of AI while mitigating the risks, leaving the audience with much to consider as they navigated the ever-evolving world of artificial intelligence.



## DEVELOPERS STAGE

The Developers Stage at KosICT 2024 provided a more technical, hands-on approach to some of the most pressing challenges in the world of software development, cybersecurity, and AI deployment. With eight sessions spread across two days, developers were immersed in cutting-edge discussions and practical workshops designed to equip them with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in their respective fields.

Day 1 opened with a highly informative presentation titled "Hack-Proof Your Code" delivered by Armend Gashi and Arjanit Isufi from Sentry Cybersecurity. Their session focused on the evolving landscape of cybersecurity, highlighting how developers are now the first line of defense against sophisticated cyber threats. With the rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Large Language Models (LLMs), new vulnerabilities such as prompt injection attacks and data poisoning are becoming increasingly prevalent. Armend and Arjanit offered a comprehensive guide to tackling these issues, referencing both the OWASP Top 10 for application security and the OWASP Top 10 for LLMs. Their message was clear: staying ahead of cyber threats is not just important but essential in today's digital environment. Developers were encouraged to build secure code and safely deploy LLMs, which sparked many follow-up conversations about AI's role in enhancing security.

Following this technical session, Kushtrim Xhakli, a renowned entrepreneur and industry expert, took the stage with a keynote presentation titled "Intelligent Adaptive Environments and the Opportunity to Build a Disruptive Economy for Today's Challenges." Kushtrim's presentation explored how the Internet of Things (IoT) is transforming industries and creating unprecedented opportunities for economic disruption. By harnessing smart technologies, businesses can address some of the most pressing global challenges, from energy consumption to environmental sustainability. His session offered a visionary glimpse into the future, emphasizing how adaptive environments can lead to the creation of a new economy that is not only more efficient but also more sustainable.



The day continued with a thought-provoking panel discussion on "Technology Parks - Know-How Transfer: Sharing Best Practices and Lessons Learned." Moderated by Leonora Kusari from the EBRD, this panel featured Emilija Stručić from Technology Park Varaždin, Yakup Köseoğlu from Sakarya Teknokent, Gintaras Vilda from Manufacturing Innovation Valley DIH, and Jan Wedlich from ICUK. The panelists shared their experiences in managing technology parks and fostering innovation ecosystems, discussing the vital role of knowledge transfer in scaling technology startups. They also provided key insights into the infrastructure, funding, and regulatory frameworks required to support tech entrepreneurs. The session was a valuable opportunity for attendees to gain practical insights into building innovation-driven economies, drawing on lessons learned from tech parks across Europe.



Day 2 of the Developers Stage was equally dynamic, with hands-on workshops and practical sessions aimed at equipping participants with the skills and knowledge needed to thrive in today's tech landscape. Once again moderated by Ms. Fjolla Cavolli, the second day offered a range of sessions from AI deployment to automation and smart contracts, each designed to push the boundaries of what developers can achieve.

The day began with a hands-on workshop by Armend Gashi and Arjanit Isufi from Sentry Cybersecurity titled "Deploying AI with Confidence." This workshop was a follow-up to their presentation from Day 1 and focused on providing practical experience in securely deploying Large Language Models (LLMs). The session tackled some of the most pressing security challenges developers face today, including prompt injection attacks, data poisoning, and unauthorized access. Attendees were guided through real-world scenarios, learning how to deploy AI systems securely while maintaining user trust and data privacy. The interactive nature of the workshop provided valuable hands-on learning, making it a highlight of the day for those keen on mastering AI deployment.

Next up was a workshop by Andrew Wrobel, titled "Reinvent Yourself: Empowering Women for the IT Workforce."

As one of the most socially impactful sessions of the event, this workshop focused on empowering women to enter and succeed in the tech industry. Andrew, drawing on insights from the World Bank, discussed the importance of personal reinvention in today's fast-paced job market. The workshop aimed to equip women with the tools and confidence to navigate the IT workforce, offering practical strategies for reskilling and boosting employability. It was a powerful reminder of the need for gender diversity in tech, with many participants leaving the session feeling inspired and empowered to take the next step in their careers.



Later in the afternoon, Miranda Kukaj, Senior Network Engineer at Nettxio, delivered a presentation titled "Automation in Telecom World: Before and After—Tackling Telecom Challenges with Automation." This session provided a deep dive into how automation technologies are transforming the telecom industry. Miranda showcased Nettxio's use of machine learning and data analytics to optimize network performance, analyze power consumption, and tackle other telecom challenges. The audience was particularly engaged by her discussion on the future of network optimization and orchestration, making this one of the more technically advanced sessions of the day.

The presentation by Tringa Ibrahim, co-founder of Fotoel, followed, titled "From Food to Power: Harnessing AI and Robotics for a Sustainable Future." Tringa, a young innovator, captivated the audience with her vision of integrating AI, programming, and robotics to address global sustainability challenges. She showcased the solutions her startup, Fotoel, is developing to tackle issues like food waste and energy production through microbial fuel cells. The session was both inspiring and educational, demonstrating how AI and robotics can be powerful tools for creating a greener, more sustainable future.

The day concluded with a workshop on "Smart Contracts: Fundamentals, Best Practices, and Hands-on Programming," presented by Iljas Neziri, Blockchain Expert, and Albi Hoti, Backend Software Engineer at Kutia. This session provided attendees with a comprehensive understanding of smart contracts, from their fundamental principles to their practical applications.

The presenters shared insights into best practices for writing and deploying smart contracts, and attendees had the opportunity to engage in hands-on programming exercises. The workshop was particularly well-received by blockchain enthusiasts and developers looking to deepen their understanding of decentralized technologies.



## SIDE EVENTS

The side events of KosICT 2024 brought even more dynamism to the festival, with an array of activities designed to showcase innovation, connect startups with investors, and offer hands-on opportunities for young developers. These events complemented the Main and Developers Stages, adding a rich layer of interaction and engagement for participants from various sectors.

### Trailblazers Fair

The Trailblazers Fair was a vibrant hub for established companies showcasing their technological advancements and innovations. With a total of 11 companies participating, the fair offered a wide range of insights into different industries, from telecommunications to education and banking. Attendees had the chance to network with representatives from:

- ProCredit Bank**
- Beriflapp**
- Cactus Education**
- IPKO**
- Nettxio**
- Ericsson**
- Advantage Austria**
- Sentry**
- Softeh**
- The Finnish Embassy**
- RADIX**



## Innovation Fair

This year's Innovation Fair, supported by the StarUP Project financed by the European Union and implemented by STIKK, brought together 11 of the most promising startups. These startups, all part of the EU-backed project aimed at accelerating their growth, were eager to present their groundbreaking solutions. The Innovation Fair provided a platform for these startups to showcase their products and services to a diverse audience of investors, tech enthusiasts, and potential clients. The participating startups included:

- **The Lobby Boy**      • **LABVR**      • **SPARE**      • **Andrra app**      • **Slime Mold**
- **TERMINI**      • **B-Link**      • **TEMNEX**      • **KCDE**      • **GENZ**      • **HR bee**

The energy and creativity at the Innovation Fair were palpable as these early-stage companies, empowered by the StarUP Project, demonstrated their ability to disrupt industries ranging from virtual reality to peer-to-peer car-sharing platforms. Attendees had the opportunity to directly engage with these innovators, many of whom walked away with new connections and insights.

## Future Developers Corner

The Future Developers Corner was a testament to the bright future of Kosovo's tech industry. A total of 32 children, aged 8-14, from the Finnish School, J-Coders, and Algorithmics, participated in this special segment. Over two days, these young developers had the opportunity to showcase their impressive tech projects, ranging from web applications and games to robotics and hardware solutions. On the second day of the festival, these young talents took to the Developers Stage to present their work to a live audience, gaining invaluable experience in public speaking and project presentation. The enthusiasm of these future tech leaders was infectious, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended.



## Investors Pitch

The Investors Pitch was one of the most highly anticipated side events at KosICT, providing a unique opportunity for startups to secure much-needed funding and mentorship from international investors. A panel of global venture capitalists and industry experts evaluated pitches from 8 carefully selected startups. Each startup had 5 minutes to present their innovative products or services, followed by engagement with the investors for feedback and potential collaboration.

This platform not only gave these startups critical exposure but also allowed them to receive direct, actionable insights from some of the leading investors in the tech space. It was a crucial moment for Kosovo's burgeoning startup ecosystem, offering a path toward accelerated growth and development.

## Brokerage Event

KosICT also hosted two B2B Brokerage Events over the two days. The first B2B, held on the first day in collaboration with the EEN Network (Enterprise Europe Network), brought together over 30 local and foreign companies. In total, 150 meetings were held between participants, making it one of the most productive networking events of the festival. This event provided an international platform for companies to discuss potential partnerships, investments, and business opportunities.

The second B2B event, held on the second day, focused on Women in Business. Organized by STIKK in cooperation with DigiWomen Cluster Kosovo and USAID Kosovo Compete Activity, this event centered around empowering women entrepreneurs and facilitating meaningful business connections. Eight companies participated in this women-centric B2B, engaging in discussions and meetings that spanned various sectors.



## KosICT eSports Showdown

KosICT continued its tradition of hosting eSports tournaments, adding an exciting competitive edge to the festival. The first tournament was a charity event featuring the popular game Counter Strike. A total of 13 teams participated, with the grand final held on the second day between Starlabs and Telos Labs. In a thrilling showdown, Starlabs emerged as the champions.



The second tournament was a professional Dota 2 competition, featuring 8 highly skilled teams. Semi-finals and the grand final were played during KosICT, with the BLINK team taking home the victory after an intense and closely contested final match.



# KOSICT24

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13th Edition, October 11-12, 2024  
Tech Park Prishtina, Kosova

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