

## Strand 1

# Real-Life Challenge Track: “From Challenges to Possibilities”

E<sup>3</sup>UDRES<sup>2</sup> invites students, educators, researchers, and regional stakeholders to join the hands on, high energy Real-Life Challenge Track or hackathon during the Autumn Summit 2026 at Riga, Latvia from 19–20 October 2026.

This strand is the spine of the Summit: a live demonstration of how our Alliance tackles real-world problems through co-creation, experimentation, and innovative learning formats.

## What to expect

Participants in Strand 1 will:

- Work directly with 10–15 SMEs and startups presenting concrete, real-world challenges.
- Join a speed matching session to form international, interdisciplinary teams around these challenges.
- Engage in a half day co creation sprint (hackathon), collaborating with companies, educators, and researchers to develop solution concepts, talent pathways, or new learning formats.
- Present outcomes in a dynamic Solutions Marketplace, where stakeholders give feedback, create new matches, and explore follow up opportunities.
- Develop the best collaborations and most promising ideas, and be recognized with E<sup>3</sup>UDRES<sup>2</sup> Awards.

## What is the topic?

The topics of this co-creation sprint or hackathon are technological innovations for industry renewal, circular economy and future-oriented education

## Who should join?

- Companies and regional stakeholders seeking fresh ideas, talent, and new learning formats, and willing to present a real challenge, and cooperate with students in seeking solutions
- Students eager to work on real challenges
- Educators interested in challenge-based learning
- If you want to co-create solutions, experiment with new learning spaces, and experience E<sup>3</sup>UDRES<sup>2</sup> collaboration in action, Strand 1 is your place.

## How to join?

If you want to join with a group of students or you are a company with an idea, contact [lveta.putnina@va.lv](mailto:lveta.putnina@va.lv) . The deadline is 1 July 2026.