

# Alumni newsletter 3/2025

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## **1. Greetings from Chairperson**

I hope you've had a relaxing and recharging summer! As we slowly go back into the rhythm of autumn, there are some great opportunities coming up to reconnect with the Prodeko alumni community.

Paikka Y is just around the corner, a great opportunity to catch up, hear what others have been up to, and enjoy good company. We'll be kicking things off with bubbly at Teatteri VIP. Hope to see you there!

If you're more into fresh air and trail talk, the already traditional Prodeko Hike is also coming up. Last year's trip to Repovesi was a hit, this time, we're heading to **Nuuksio!**

And finally, we'd love your input. Take a moment to answer this quick survey: <https://forms.gle/fnFWBrpuTK7p1YqG8>. It'll help us shape future alumni activities to better match your interests.

Looking forward to seeing you at an event or hearing your thoughts through the survey!

Best regards,

Joona

## **2. Upcoming events:**

### **Place Y - 29.8 from 18 onwards at Teatteri VIP**

The legendary Paikka Y is back! Join fellow Prodeko alumni for a glass of champagne and great company in the VIP rooms of Teatteri on Friday, August 29th, starting at 6 PM.

<https://ilmo.prodeko.org/event/2025-8-29-alumni-paikka-y>

### **Prodeko Hike in Nuuksio on 20.-21.10.**

Join us for the annual Prodeko Hike, this year in Nuuksio! After last year's unforgettable adventure in Repovesi, we're excited to continue the tradition, this time a bit closer to home. Pack your boots for a relaxed and scenic hike in Nuuksio National Park with fellow alumni!

<https://ilmo.prodeko.org/event/2025-9-20-alumni-prodeko-hike>

### **Save the date Prodeko Diskonttaus 59**

We are pleased to invite you to celebrate Prodeko's 59th annual ball, Diskonttaus 59.

So please book your calendars for Friday the 10th and Saturday the 11th of October 2025. Registration for the event will be open 24.8.–7.9., and you will receive more information closer to the opening of the registration via this email.

Best regards,  
Jenni Palukka & Pinja Jokiniemi,  
The Ringmasters of Diskonttaus 2025  
vuosijuhlat@prodeko.org

## **3. Past events:**

### **HJK Naiset XQ**

Alumni and their families came together for a fantastic evening at the HJK Naiset match! We kicked things off with an inspiring talk by Sammeli Sammalkorpi on the rising women's football market, followed by a thrilling game where HJK secured a well-earned win. Great football, great company, and a great atmosphere for all ages. Thank you to everyone who joined!

## **4. Interested in joining the Alumni board?**

We are currently seeking engaged alumni to join the board and contribute to the development of our community. The board of 2026 is chosen at the November AGM. If you are interested, please contact [joona@soratie.fi](mailto:joona@soratie.fi) for further details.

## **5. Greetings from the department**

We've had a great Prodeko seminar in May. A lot of effort went into organizing the event from the students, and –led by Olivia Rönnemaa, this year's seminar czar– they did an amazing job! In case you weren't there (and if you were, this is a reminder), there are two things we launched at the seminar.

We launched the Prodeko Doctoral Research Partnership (ProDoc), which is a model for IEM alumni to pursue doctoral studies effectively alongside their professional careers (ideally including commitment from the employer to have time for PhD studies). Participating in the ProDoc program includes: doctoral courses, database access, software tools, frequent 1:1 instruction by professor(s), joint events, and a supportive faculty. The initiative is supported by the Prodeko Fund to facilitate and accelerate doctoral research among our alumni community. If you're interested, please contact Markku Maula (markku.maula@aalto.fi).

Thanks to all who have donated to the Prodeko Fund already! The Prodeko Fund supports the Prodeko community and helps the IEM department to carry out and fund activities that support impact in business and society through teaching, research and engaging with practice. As of now, the fund supports the following activities: Prodeko alumni community manager, Applied philosophy initiative and Esa Saarinen's legacy, TUTA Linkage courses (HealthTech, Energy and Defence Linkage), the ProDoc initiative, projects for students to support pitkä excu, and the Prodeko seminar. Donations are very important for us as we face strong financial pressures due to limited government funding and pressure to increase our output. Since 2019, our teaching volume has grown by 40% while government funding to the department has shrunk by 21%.

Donations of any size are welcome. You can donate with just a few clicks through the fund website:

<https://www.aalto.fi/en/give-for-the-future/the-prodeko-fund-of-industrial-engineering-and-management> On the website you can see the names of donors, and especially all founding and major donors (who have donated at least 10.000 EUR). If you want to become a major donor, please send an e-mail to Jens Schmidt (jens.schmidt@aalto.fi). You would be in good company!

## **6. Greetings from the guild:**

I hope all of you have had a great summer! I personally did!

Speaking of welcoming news, the Guild is preparing to warmly welcome the new Freshers in just two weeks' time! The Captains and the Fuksi sector have been working hard during the

summer to make the introduction to the wonderful Prodeko community as seamless as possible this year!

The traditional events such as Place X and the Autumn Sitsis in Suomenlinna are taking place during the first weeks of the semester as always, and the Guild members get a head start already in mid-August in the form of a Crayfish party!

Best,  
Jaakko

## **7. Life Long Learning: ESTIEM Lean Six Sigma**

Designed by Prodeko Alumnis, this Lean Six Sigma Black Belt course offers a hands-on approach to mastering advanced skills in process improvement and project leadership, enabling you to tackle real-world challenges effectively. Read more about this opportunity for life long learning here: <https://www.estiemlssbb.com/>

## **8. Alumni Survey – Share Your Thoughts!**

We're gathering insights to better support the growth and success of our alumni community. Please take a moment (5 min) to fill out this brief survey:

<https://forms.gle/fnFWBrpuTK7p1YqG8> Thank you for your valuable input!

## **9. Alumni data update**

Hey alumni! Please update your contact information to [matrikkeli](#) – takes only a few minutes! Especially if you have founded or co-founded a company, please add the company to your work experience and tap on the “I am a founding member”. This way Prodeko and the Department will be able to keep track of Prodeko founded companies. Thank you!