

# REINVENTING EDUCATION

second international conference

<http://www.scuolademocratica-conference.net>  
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The **2<sup>nd</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE of the JOURNAL SCUOLA DEMOCRATICA "REINVENTING EDUCATION"** will be hosted online **June 3 through 5 2021**, by **Scuola Democratica, Centro Interuniversitario per la Ricerca Didattica** (University of Cagliari and University of Sassari), **il Mulino**. The challenges posed by the contemporary world have long required a rethinking of educational concepts, policies, and practices. The question about education 'for what' as well as 'how' and 'for whom' has become unavoidable and yet it largely remained elusive due to a tenacious attachment to the ideas and routines of the past which are now far off the radical transformations required of educational systems. Scenarios, reflections, and practices fostering the possibility of change towards the reinvention of the educational field as a driver of more general and global changes are centerstage topics at the Conference and will have a multidisciplinary approach from experts from different disciplinary communities, including sociology, pedagogy, psychology, economics, architecture, political science, etc. We hope with this opportunity to confirm the participation obtained at the first edition of the conference. Organizers, promoters and partners of the Conference wish to invite educators, teachers, researchers, scholars, academics, scientists, professionals, experts and policy makers to join the conversation and bring the disciplines towards a more integrated set of alliances by:

- promoting a trans and inter disciplinary discussion on urgent topics;
  - fostering debates among experts and professionals;
  - diffusing research findings all over international scientific networks and practitioners' mainstreams;
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- launching further strategies and networking alliances on local, national and international scale;
  - providing a new space for debate and evidence to educational policies.

We invite you to submit ABSTRACT/PAPER for your presentation at the **Panel session**:

## **A.11 LEARNING FROM CONTEMPORARY COMPLEXITIES. RECONCEPTUALIZING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE IN TIMES OF (POST) PANDEMIC**

### Convenors

Susanna Mantovani (University of Milan-Bicocca); Giulia Pastori (University of Milan-Bicocca)

### Keywords

Sociology; early childhood education ; ecec system; innovation; research; politics

There is now universal recognition of the crucial importance of an accessible and quality education system for children and families from the earliest years of life, on the base of the acknowledgment of childhood as a period of life with specific characteristics that must be fully enjoyed in the present and not only in relation to future goals, and the consolidation of scientific knowledge regarding the lasting benefits for children, parents, families and society, particularly for those who are most disadvantaged and vulnerable (Del Boca, 2010; Eurydice, 2009). Early childhood education and care (ECEC) services offer children and families well-being, social life, relationships and learning, where community ties, citizenship and parental support are promoted. They are designed, therefore, as a form of generative welfare (Vecchiato, 20214), closely linked to the theme of protecting the rights of children, from birth, to be children and fully enjoy their childhood, to be considered citizens, to quality education in order to overcome any initial economic and social inequalities.

These awareness have led to new policies and investments in ECEC systems, however, there are still many contradictions and inconsistencies, and new social phenomena generate tensions, requiring that new balances be sought as well as an increasingly courageous in-depth interdisciplinary reflection to sustain the political commitment. The COVID-19 pandemic, a total social phenomenon that has disrupted the lives of millions of children and families, has clearly reflected and amplified the existing contradictions regarding the resources in the field and the shortcomings of ECEC systems. Some major issues concern the need to consolidate a system of integrated, accessible, and economically sustainable quality services for all children from the earliest months; the family, life and work balance, especially for women, still a distant goal; the birth rate in many countries requiring the reorganization of services; both vertical and horizontal educational and organizational continuity with regard to families, higher levels of schooling, and other services and institutions.

The pandemic crisis has clearly demonstrated the need for a community systemic educational project and specifically the extension, integration and qualification of the ECEC system. New networks have sprung up in recent months between groups and individuals who previously did not collaborate. In Italy, a specific method of distance education and relationships with parents, (Legami Educativi A Distanza, MIUR 2020), has been developed and will continue to integrate relationships of parents, even after the pandemic. At the same time, the difficulty of finding shared solutions and building a dialogue between disciplines in dealing with complex problems has become evident.

This panel aims to foster a national and international interdisciplinary dialogue, not only regarding complexities but also on lessons learned, new perspectives and priorities drawn upon and raised by this troubled but also dynamic time of change, to value the benefits and positive novelties.

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The contributions on ECEC service system, early childhood education and children's social conditions will be focused on:

- political reflections and scientific research on the mentioned themes regarding ECEC systems (educational continuity; accessibility-equity-sustainability; school-work balance; reorganization of services and demographic changes; new connections between new welfare policies and educational policies).
- innovative specific initiatives on early childhood education in a systemic perspective.

## References

Del Boca D. (2010), Child Poverty and Child Well-Being in the European Union: policy overview and policy impact analysis. A case study, Budapest & Brussel, TARKI- Applica

[www.oecd.org/dataoecd/48/15/1960663.pdf](http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/48/15/1960663.pdf)

Eurydice (2009), Tackling social and cultural inequalities through early childhood education and care in Europe, Brussels, EACEA.

MIUR 2020, Commissione Infanzia e Sistema Integrato Zerosei, Orientamenti pedagogici sui LEAD, Legami Educativi A Distanza.

<https://miur.gov.it/web/guest/orientamenti-pedagogici-sui-lead-per-nidi-e-infanzia-lead>

Vecchiato T., Povertà e infanzia: una sfida possibile con soluzioni di welfare generativo, Fondazione Zancan 2014.

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## ABSTRACTS/PAPERS SUBMISSION

### HOW TO SUBMIT

ABSTRACTS/PAPERS should be submitted by **April 4, 2021** ([check Conference Dates and Deadlines](#)).

ABSTRACTS/PAPERS should be submitted via the [pre-conference tool](#).

Please do not submit your ABSTRACT/PAPER by e-mailing it to the Convenor(s) of the Panel session you chose. Convenor(s) will receive submitted ABSTRACTS/PAPERS automatically from the [pre-conference tool](#) and they are going to reject ABSTRACT/PAPER submitted to their e-mail addresses.

Language for ABSTRACTS/PAPERS is English.

You can submit an ABSTRACT or in case you prefer a PAPER. **Be careful: DO NOT SUBMIT BOTH ABSTRACT AND PAPER. EITHER YOU SUBMIT THE FORMER OR THE LATTER.**

ABSTRACT/PAPER should include:

1. Title (limited to 20 words in UPPER CASE)
2. Author's name and surname, institution, and email address
3. Five keywords
4. ABSTRACT's text (limited to 500 words). In case you decide for the PAPER, text will be 3.500 words min. 5.000 words max. In the submission text, please write: ABSTRACT or PAPER after the title. Example: FAMILY BACKGROUNDS AND STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS. A CASE STUDY (PAPER)

The Conference formula is: **1 SUBMISSION = 1 FEE** ([check FEES webpage](#))

It is possible to submit a maximum of 2 ABSTRACTS/PAPERS per person (double submission must concern 2 different Panel Sessions). Each ABSTRACT/PAPER is eligible if it is backed by an **APP FEE**.

**Co-authors who do not submit ABSTRACT/PAPER as first author may access to the Conference via the discounted P FEE** ([check FEES webpage](#))

The submitting and presenting author must be listed as the first author in the [pre-conference tool](#). Please note that the submitting author will receive all correspondence about the ABSTRACT/PAPER. Therefore, we recommend that the submitting author details that are entered are the same details as those of the presenting author.

ABSTRACTS/PAPERS may not be edited/uploaded after final submission.

Before you submit, please make sure the following requirements are met:

- ABSTRACT/PAPER must be allocated to a specific Panel session. Therefore, you must select the proper Panel when submitting. For a complete listing of Panel sessions please [click here](#).
- If possible, write your ABSTRACT/PAPER highlighting methods, outcomes, references. Word count is affected by inclusion of references.
- Convenors and the Scientific Committee will review all submitted ABSTRACTS/PAPERS. Notification regarding acceptance and scheduling will be sent to the submitting author via the [pre-conference tool](#).

Please note, if your ABSTRACT/PAPER is accepted, you will be permitted a maximum of 20 minutes for oral presentation.