

# 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;
- 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**:

## **E.3 COVID-19 AND THE INSTITUTIONAL FABRIC OF HIGHER EDUCATION: ACCELERATING OLD PATTERNS, IMPOSING NEW DYNAMICS, AND CHANGING RULES?**

### Convenors

Romulo Pinheiro (University of Agder, Norway); Elizabeth Balbachevsky (University of Sao Paulo, Brazil); Pundy Pillay (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa)

### Keywords

Covid 19; Strategic Responses; University change and transformation; Institutional Fabric ; Digitalization

The aim of the panel is first to map out the types of responses by Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to the challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, and second, to unpack the effects such responses are likely to have in the institutional fabric (regulative, normative and cultural-cognitive pillars) of HE systems and HEIs globally.

In so doing, a multi-level analysis will be undertaken, investigating dynamics at three levels:

- the macro level, focusing on the actors involved with the meta-governance of the system; state and its agencies, unions, professional associations, funders, etc.;
- the meso level of different types of HEIs, shedding light on the role of key actors, such as formal and informal leaders, in the processes of sensemaking (environment), enactment (agenda setting) and resource mobilisation (people and funding);
- the micro level of individual agents, illuminating on the importance associated with key individuals or groups of academics, both formal and informal networks, in either creating a sense of urgency, mobilisation and in helping with the adoption and diffusion of innovative solutions or in processes of internal contestation and resistance towards change.

Possible explanatory (independent) variables accounting for variations across national systems and types of HEIs include, but are not limited to: modes of governance; size; geography; degree of HEIs' local embeddedness; historical trajectories; resource dependencies; norms and values; amongst others. A major assumption in this regard pertains to the fact that system level responses are likely to differ considerably from those responses at the level of the individual HEIs or sub-units, as anecdotally observed across some contexts. Moreover, the panel aims to be both comparative and global in nature, bringing together scholars and case studies from many world regions (Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas).

As a comparative starting point, the proponents will be asked to address the following queries as regards responses to COVID-19:

- responses to what? (key drivers or triggers);
- how have these responses played out in practice (underlying processes and mechanisms);

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- responses by whom, when and why (motivations)?
- and, what types of intended and unintended effects can/are likely to be observed in the short to mid-terms?

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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.

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