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), <u>II Mulino</u>. 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**:

# F.1 REINVENTING EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING ACTIVITIES IN PRIMARY SCHOOL

#### **Convenors**

Veronica Lo Presti (Department of Communication and Social Research - Sapienza University of Rome); Christian Ruggiero (Department of Communication and Social Research - Sapienza University of Rome)

#### Keywords

active learning; didactic innovation; digital education; social and territorial impact; developmental evaluation

The global health emergency due to the spread of Covid-19 and the consequent measures to contain the contagion have forced the world population to redefine many aspects of everyday life in an unexpected and sudden way, first of all questioning the relational dynamics. The World Health Organization urges all countries to equip themselves to live with the virus and to always be ready to face its unpredictable effects in a resilient way. In this changed context, even the school has had to question some consolidated work tools by adopting digital education methods. This situation has brought several limitations but also some opportunities, which vary according to circumstances. In this context, also social research needs to be readjusted to be "COVID ready" and "COVID safe" (Ofir, 2020). In evaluation research field, in particular (when evaluation questions require the formulation of a judgment going beyond the confirmation of a hypothesis of change underlying an intervention) it is necessary to put at the center of the evaluation the specific local situations in which an intervention is implemented, like the social, geographical and institutional context in which the initiative is inserted but also the previous complex of social, relational rules and cultural systems that defines those places (Stake, 1995; Guba, Lincoln 1981; Tendler, 1992) which, interacting with the initiative determine its outcomes. So, the main challenge facing social research, and especially evaluation research is to ensure that research methods, strategies and data collection procedures are conducted in a way that ensures credible and useful results, capturing and highlighting subtle and often hidden nuances and dimensions that characterize his object of research (generally made up of places, people and relationships) without causing harm in circumstances much more complicated than normal. Taking this situation into account, this panel aims to explore the role of schools during the global health emergency, stimulating the sharing of theoretical reflections and practical case studies focused on:

- ways to reinvent experiential learning activities at school (especially primary school);

- the limits and potential of digital education at the time of Covid-19;

- the impact that the digitalization of teaching has had on the relationships between children, between children and teachers and also between the school and the rest of the community

- the role of the family in digital education;

- the impact of inequalities on learning during the Covid-19 period

- developmental evaluations focused on education at the time of Covid-19

At a methodological level, the panel also intends to stimulate reflections on the limits and opportunities of social research, in particular the evaluation one, during the COVID-19 period.

Contributions that show practical cases of field research that have as their object the role of the school during Covid-19 will be privileged.

## References

Guba E., Lincoln Y. (1981), Effective Evaluation, San Francisco, Jossey Bass

Ofir Z., (2020), Transforming Evaluations, Part 5. COVID-Safe, COVID-Ready and COVID-Informed Evaluation, https://zendaofir.com/transforming-evaluations-and-covid-19-part-5/, Web 20-05-2020

Stake R. (1995), The Art of Case Study Research. Sage: Thousand Oaks handbook of qualitative research (pp. 443-466). Thousand Oaks, CA, Sage Publications.

Tendler J. (1993), Progetti ed effetti, Liguori, Napoli.

# **ABSTRACTS/PAPERS SUBMISSION**

## HOW TO SUBMIT

ABSTRACTS/PAPERS should be submitted by **April 4, 2021** (<u>check Conference Dates and Deadlines</u>). ABSTRACTS/PAPERS should be submitted via the <u>pre-conference tool</u>.

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

Language for ABSTRACTS/PAPERS is English. You can submit an ABSTRACT or in case you prefer a PAPER. <u>Be careful: **DO NOT SUBMIT BOTH AB-**</u> **STRACT AND PAPER**. EITHER YOU SUBMIT THE FORMER OR THE LATTER.

### <u>ABSTRACT/PAPER</u> 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 <u>pre-conference tool</u>. 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 <u>click here</u>.

- 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 <u>pre-conference tool</u>.

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