Scuola democratica · il Mulino

3-4-5 JUNE 2021

REINVENTING EDUCATION
second international conference

http://www.scuolademocratica-conference.net
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CALL FOR ABSTRACTS/PAPERS

The **2nd 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**:

F.2 FROM NARRATIVES TO PRACTICES: DISCOURSE STRATEGIES ON SCHOOLING AND THEIR IMPACT DURING THE PANDEMIC

Convenors
Marta Cordini (Polytechnic of Milan); Carlotta Caciagli (Polytechnic of Milan)

Keywords
policy discourse; public discourse; narratives; school pratices; anti covid19 measures

Since the outbreak of the pandemic, national and local governments faced the challenges posed by the need of organizing schooling to contain the risk of infection. Many documents at different local scales have been produced to provide guidelines to schools and social actors to balance between the pedagogical mission and the containment of the virus spreading (UNESCO 2020). Alongside with the measures, a discursive strategy has emerged, embedding, and providing a framework to think and represent schools. As Ball (2015) points out "policies as discursive strategies speak to a wider social process of schooling, such as "the production of the student", the "purpose of schooling" and the construction of the teacher. The way in which policy documents have introduced and discussed the measures show how the school is represented, as well as the involved actors such as school managers, teachers, students and their households. Also, these narratives have been mirrored or contested in the public discourse, such as media, newspaper, televisions, shifting, strengthening, or softening the debate on some specific issues. Moreover, school and its function have been at the centre of the public attention, enhancing a reflection on its role and its connection with other social dimensions. Requests for the re-opening of schools were in fact legitimized through several arguments: conciliation issues, the risk of drops out, the rising of inequalities and polarization between schools and households, the lost achievements and the gap in term of human capital investment, the role of the school as a social presidium on the territory.
Therefore, the pandemic has functioned as a magnifying lens putting school in the centre of the political and public debate and hindering narratives that are usually implicit. Main recipients of these documents and text schools were the test field of the guidelines, the instruments, the goals and the values conveyed by institutional and public discursive strategies.
This panel then welcomes papers analysing the narratives and discourses about schools emerged during the pandemic. More in details, contributions should focus on the following issues:
1) How narratives and discourses about schooling have legitimized the measures about schools during the pandemic?
2) The reception of the policy discourse from schools: in other words, the policy discourse has created a controversial reaction? Has it been interiorized by school? Are the narratives shared or are they simply

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rhetorical strategies?
3) The effective and/or controversial impact of the policy discourse on the implementation of measures in schools
4) How public debate has framed the measures set by different public actors?
The panel welcomes both comparative and one-case based studies, encouraging the submission of papers having as a core a discourse analysis approach.

References
Ball S. (2015) What is policy? Reflections on the possibilities of policy research, Discourse Studies in the Cultural Politics of Education, DOI: 10.1080/01596306.2015.1015279
UNESCO (2020) UNESCO (2020) What have we learnt? Overview of findings from a survey of ministries of education on national responses to Covid19, Unicef Report.

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.

Scientific Committee   **Organizing Committee**   **Conference Partners**