

REINVENTING EDUCATION

second international conference

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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**:

E.7 UNIVERSITY THIRD MISSION AND THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

Convenors

Roberto Moscati (Università di Milano Bicocca); Stefano Boffo (IRRPS-CNR)

Keywords

University; Third Mission; Environment; Resistances; Engagement

Over the last thirty or so years, society has repeatedly turned to universities regarding the issue of higher education, forcing them to review their modes of operation and add new activities alongside their traditional ones.

This process first took off in the higher education systems of Anglo-Saxon countries - boosted by the neo-liberalist model of economic development - and then started to infiltrate other higher education systems. The neo-liberal model has impacted on different local conditions with hybrid results which can at least in part be interpreted along the lines of path dependence and historical institutionalism.

Third Mission activities have been favored - on a macro level - by the positive stance of the national government and the introduction of evaluation systems and Quality Assurance. In concrete, they depend - at a meso level - on the governance policies of the individual universities and on the positive attitude of the public administrations as well as of private companies at a local level toward establishing forms of collaboration with the universities. While - at a micro level - the initiatives undertaken by single academics/researchers have a crucial role.

In general, development of specific aspects of TM are related on one side to the prevailing disciplinary areas in individual universities, and on the other to the economic characteristics of the local environment. In fact, the epistemological characteristics of disciplines play a role in relation to their opening to the outside world, particularly regarding the kind of research activities in the soft vs. the hard and hard-applied sciences, whereas the characteristics of the local economy can represent a potential field for academic disciplines of various kinds. As a consequence, activities of Technology Transfer and Innovation can be more easily developed than those included in Public Engagement and Continuing Education. On the other hand, the spreading awareness of the role of the university for the solution of numerous social and economic problems facilitates the diffusion of different forms of both Continuing Education and Public Engagement.

Resistances to the widening of TM at national level might have to do with historical interpretations of the university role, particularly in the Humboldtian systems of higher education and the related degree of autonomy given to the individual institutions by state policies.

The same can be observed at the level of individual researchers. In fact, the development of the Third Mission unavoidably has an impact on academic lives. On one side it may contradict the traditional

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concept of autonomy and independent research activities, and on the other it could interfere with ordinary teaching and research activities.

In any case, the Third Mission appears as a rapidly developing activity in all higher education systems with local variances well worth analyzing. For example, varying combinations of university policies and external relations together with local economic characteristics and political attitudes.

References

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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.