

REINVENTING EDUCATION

second international conference

<http://www.scuolademocratica-conference.net>
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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**:

1.3 THE IMPACT OF THE ANTI-GENDER MOVEMENT ON EDUCATIONAL CONTEXTS: RESISTANCE, RESILIENCE AND REDEFINITION

Convenors

Giulia Selmi (University of Verona); Massimo Prearo (University of Verona)

Keywords

Anti-gender movement; education practices; education policies; backlash; resistance

In the last decade a conservative right wing transnational movement against gender equality, LGBT+ rights and women's reproductive rights has emerged across Europe and worldwide (Kuhar, Paternotte 2017; Prearo 2020). Key word of this movement is the opposition to what they call 'gender theory' or 'gender ideology', an umbrella term under which they misrepresent feminist theories and gender studies as a threat to the traditional heterosexual family and to natural masculinity and femininity (Garbagnoli, Prearo 2018).

Within this frame anti-gender activists have opposed many different issues like equal marriage or abortion, however schools and educational contexts have been at the forefront everywhere in Europe (Kuhar, Zobec 2017) through two key arguments: the protection of childhood (from any educational activity that might challenge the alleged natural gender order) and the supremacy of parents over schools on children and teens education (especially on identity and sexuality related issues).

According to these arguments, educational projects aimed at tackling gender stereotypes and roles, at preventing male violence against women and homophobic bullying, and at promoting positive sex education have been violently targeted by anti-gender activists (Gallot, Pasquier 2018). In many cases they succeeded in interrupting ongoing activities, withdrawing books and educational material available in school libraries or obtaining parental control on teachers' choices on gender and sexuality related subjects (Selmi 2015). Against this background teachers, educators as well as feminist and LGBT+ activists were forced to redefine their practices within schools in order to resist the anti-gender 'sabotage' and keep implementing activities.

According to this scenario we welcome empirical as well as theoretically-oriented contributions from different disciplines and/or adopting a interdisciplinary approach, as well as activism-based papers that explore how and to what extent the anti-gender movement had an impact on educational contexts, and more precisely:

-How and to what extent anti-gender movements have changed how gender-sensitive education is implemented? (i.e. aims and scope of projects, language, family-school relationship, institutional support, fund raising, etcetera.);

-Which bottom-up responses have emerged to counteract this backlash? Which strategies do educators, teachers as well as feminist/LGBT+ activists have implemented?

-What kind of responses and strategies is this gender backlash producing in institutional terms? (i.e. in terms of school policies and management)

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-How this public conflict has influenced education policies at a national level, and the interactions between policy makers and local actors in the field of education?

-How this public conflict about gender and sexuality issues has changed representations, norms or discourses on gender and sexuality-oriented programs in schools or in education policies and laws?

References

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- Kuhar, R., & Paternotte, D. (Eds.). (2017). Anti-gender campaigns in Europe: Mobilizing against equality. Rowman & Littlefield.
- Kuhar, R., & Zobec, A. (2017). The anti-gender movement in Europe and the educational process in public schools. CEPS Journal, 7(2), 29-46.
- Prearo, M. (2020). L'ipotesi neocattolica: Politologia dei movimenti anti-gender. Mimesis.
- Selmi, G. (2015). Chi ha paura della libertà? La così detta ideologia del gender sui banchi di scuola. AG About Gender-Rivista internazionale di studi di genere, 4(7), 263 – 268.

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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