

# INVENTING 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**:

## L.3 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' MOBILITY PRE- DURING AND POST- COVID-19

### Convenors

Luca Salmieri (Sapienza, University of Rome)

### Keywords

International students' mobility; higher education; temporary and permanent migration; social inclusion; inequalities

According to the latest statistics by UNESCO, in 2017, there were around 5.3 million international students worldwide, and these numbers have been increasing steadily. Since the early 2000s, China has been the largest country of origin for international students worldwide. This overall trend in mobility is expected to slow down for the next few years, if not to drop off suddenly. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected every aspect of our lives and exacerbated existing inequalities. One major area that has experienced a fundamental transformation is higher education, as teaching has become digitized almost overnight across the globe. Campuses were ordered to be evacuated, leaving the lively classrooms, laboratories, dorms and cafeterias abandoned. In an attempt to prevent further spread of the virus, schools cancelled graduation events. The fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic for higher education institutions (HEIs) will likely be pronounced and protracted. International air travel is not resumed, and it remains an open question at what point international students will feel confident enough to pursue education in foreign countries. It is also possible that visa regulations will be tightened amid the crisis. The severity of the COVID-19 outbreak makes a speedy recovery of international student mobility increasingly unlikely. Although local students could go back to their parental homes, not all international students could return to their countries of origin immediately or at all due to closed borders and suspended international flights. Many were stuck on deserted campuses and locked-down cities and were anxious and concerned not only for themselves but also for significant others who live in another country. In addition to uncertainties in terms of their education and financial situation as well as healthcare concerns, international students, particularly those from China and other parts of Asia, experienced social exclusion and xenophobic attitudes and, at times, became victims of discrimination and verbal assaults. While conditions for international mobility could hardly be worse, academic institutions may find solace in the fact students are still generally interested in studying stateside. This inspires some hope that the long-term impact of the crisis on international enrollments in foreign countries may be less apocalyptic than feared. But much will depend on the duration of the crisis. The longer it lasts, the more international students will change their plans. In this regard, one important issue is who will be able to afford to have a study abroad experience, given the anticipated shrinkage of the middle classes globally. The expected global financial hardship will make it even more difficult for students with disadvantaged backgrounds to enter universities and, more so, to participate in the international mobility programs. This panel welcomes the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic for international student mobility. We are very keen to accept abstracts and papers describing past and current trends and attitudes of international students toward studying in foreign countries. Complicated developments have an impact on international student mobility at the micro-, meso-, and

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS/PAPERS

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macro-level. Against this background, we invite authors to present abstracts or papers that are motivated by, but not limited to, one or several of the following issues:

- Main challenges and concerns of foreign students regarding the pandemic
- Individual strategies developed to pursue international student mobility.
- Extent to which these strategies can inform learning and teaching in the future.
- Differences discernible between countries regarding institutional higher education responses to the pandemic
- Impacts of higher education online and remote learning on international student mobility.
- Pre-existing trends in international student mobility and pre-existing social, economic and gender inequalities affecting students' experiences.
- Social inclusion/exclusion of foreign students at country and regional levels
- New emerging destinations and traditional routes towards the largest host countries

## 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

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

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