

# Minutes of the Council Meeting

## 17 January 2025

Venue: Zoom

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Association</b>
1	Ainur Almukhambetova	Kazakhstan Educational Research Association (KERA), guest
2	Andreas Hadjar	EERA Treasurer
3	Angelika Wegscheider	EERA Office
4	Anna Aleksanyan	Educational Research Armenian Society (ERAS)
5	Branislava Baranovic	Croatian Educational Research Association (CERA)
6	Carmen Carmona	Asociación Interuniversitaria de Investigación Pedagógica (AIDIPE)
7	Celine Healy	Educational Studies Association of Ireland (ESAI)
8	Costas Constantiou	Cyprus Pedagogical Association (CPA)
9	Daniela Preis	EERA Office
10	Dita Nimante	Latvian Association for Research in Education (LARE)
11	Dragica Pavlović Babic	Educational Research Association of Serbia (DIOS)
12	Egle Pranckūnienė	Lithuanian Academic Educational Association (LERA)
13	Elly de Bruijn	Vereniging voor Onderwijs Research (VOR)
14	Eric Mangez	Association des chercheurs belges francophones en éducation (ABCéduc)
15	Erich Svecnik	Österreichische Gesellschaft für Forschung und Entwicklung im Bildungswesen (OEFEB)
16	Eser Gemikonaklı	LOC 2027
17	Fehmi Tokay	LOC 2027
18	Gonzalo Jover	Sociedad Española de Pedagogía (SEP)
19	Heli Ruokamo	Finnish Educational Research Association (FERA)
20	Huseyin Uzunboylu	Cyprus Educational Sciences Association (KEB-DER)
21	Ineke M. Pit-ten Cate	Luxembourg Educational Research Association (LuxERA)
22	Jana Poláchová Vašátková	Česká asociace pedagogického výzkumu (ČAPV)
23	Joanna Madalińska-Michalak	Polskie Towarzystwo Pedagogiczne (PTP)
24	Kairat Kurakbayev	Kazakhstan Educational Research Association (KERA)
25	Karmen Trasberg	Estonian Academic Research Association (EAPS)
26	Kirsten Sivesind	European Educational Research Journal (EERJ)
27	Lisa Bugno	Emerging Researchers' Group
28	Luca Agostinetto	Società Italiana di Pedagogia (SIPED)
29	Lucian Ion Ciolan	EERA Secretary General
30	Marco Rieckmann	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Erziehungswissenschaft (DGfE)
31	Maria Pacheco Figueiredo	Sociedade Portuguesa de Ciências da Educação (SPCE)
32	Marit Honerød Hoveid	EERA President
33	Marta Licardo	The Slovenian Educational Research Association (SLODRE)
34	Mhairi Beaton	British Educational Research Association (BERA)
35	Michael Dal	Nordic Educational Research Association (NERA)
36	Milosh M. Raykov	Malta Educational Research Association (MERA)
37	Monika Pogatsnik	Hungarian Educational Research Association (HERA)
38	Nelli Piattoeva	LOC 2026

39	Nihat Gurel Kahveci	Turkish Educational Research Association (EAB)
40	Sébastien Akira Alix	Association des Enseignants et Chercheurs en Sciences de l'Education (AECSE)
41	Vafa Gasimova	Azerbaijani Educational Research Association - AzERA (Candidate Member)
42	Zoe Moody	Swiss Society for Research in Education (SSRE)

## 1. Welcome

Marit welcomed Council, especially the new representatives Marta Licardo from SLODRE and Michael Dal from NERA. She also welcomed the guests Ainur Almukhambetova from KERA, Eser Gemikonaklı and Fehmi Tokay from LOC 2027 and Nelli Piattoeva from LOC 2026, in addition to one of the two new editors from EERJ, Kirsten Sivesind.

## 2. Finances

### 2.1 Audited Results 2023 & Exculpation of treasurer

Andreas Hadjar informed Council of the audited figures of 2023, with a positive result thanks to record breaking participant numbers at ECER 2023. Council exculpated Andreas Hadjar unanimously.

### 2.2 Confirmation of Auditors for Audit of 2024 Figures

According to the constitution Council needs to confirm the auditors each year, and Andreas Hadjar suggested to again work with the company who did the 2023 auditing, namely Ebner Stolz; Council confirmed his suggestion.

## 3. Short Report ECER 2025

### 3.1 Update from LOC 2025

Dragica Pavlović Babic gave a report on the progresses with ECER 2025 plannings. All ECER buildings have been booked, securing venues for social events is also well underway. For their biggest concern, accessibility, they have already found good solutions and are further working on others. A challenge that has only come up lately is the situation with the student protests, as it is currently not possible to find volunteers due to their strike. These protests could also be somehow addressed during the conference, by looking at the way in which critical and higher-order thinkers can be raised generally, and specifically if they are raised under authoritarian governments. If members of Council already have research evidence or would like to contribute to something, please contact Dragica (can be done via Office).

Nelli Piattoeva told Council about a conference she participated in where students protested against the war in Gaza. Due to these protests, it was not possible to enter conference buildings at some days, which was a big challenge. Dragica assured Council that in her opinion the protests which started in December are not likely to go on until September.

### 3.2 Report Office and Exec Visit

Angelika Wegscheider described the working meeting last November as very constructive and fruitful; all seems well in place or well in progress. Two new things will be introduced: With the help of the local organisers, EERA Office plans to realise on-spot badge printing in order to speed up the check-in process. In addition, a new app is being set up, with a direct connection to Conftool enabling automatic updates.

## 4. ECER 2027 – Discussion and Decision

EERA exec has received a number of concerns from prospective participants, network link convenors and member associations regarding the option of having the conference in Kyrenia in 2027. Before the meeting, Council received a summary of these concerns as well as background information and more facts regarding the situation. Huseyin Uzunboylu also shared a letter addressing these concerns. He also made a presentation during the meeting where he summed up the most important points and gave answers to some of the concerns. In smaller working groups the Council members discussed the questions whether ECER 2027 should take place in Kyrenia, and if not, what could be done instead in order to support educational research in Northern Cyprus and to foster exchange and collaboration with the research community there.

When reporting back from the working groups, all mentioned that it is a difficult situation, that the world has changed since 2019, when Council first decided to go there, with more conflicts and a higher awareness for risks. While some Council members stressed that they would personally not have any problem with going to ECER in Kyrenia, there was a consensus that the association has responsibility for the participants and needs to take their fears or concerns seriously. Someone said that the decision was already made, with one third of network link convenors claiming that they would not attend ECER if it took place in Kyrenia. If Council ignored this, EERA would be a different association/ECER a different conference from then on. Nevertheless, the Council members were really sorry for the colleagues and felt the need to ensure a close cooperation with the researchers in Kyrenia, maybe with smaller projects or exchange on national levels.

In a poll 24 Council members voted for postponing Kyrenia as an ECER venue, 4 voted for Kyrenia as a venue in 2027, and one abstained.

Marit Honerød Hoveid thanked Council for a balanced discussion and the colleagues from Kyrenia for all the work they have put into the preparations in the last years. She stressed that this is not a decision against persons, a university or a community, but for the safety and security of the ECER participants and for EERA as an association. From her understanding, ECER in Kyrenia is postponed to a later and hopefully better time. In the meantime, other ways of cooperation with and support for the colleagues from Northern Cyprus should be realised. First ideas were mentioned during the meeting but need further discussion. It was agreed to start discussions on concrete ways of cooperation during the Council meeting in March, in Berlin.

## 5. ECER 2026

### 5.1 Confirmation of the Theme

Nelli Piattoeva thanked Council for the input given at the August meeting. Based on this the theme was shortened and re-organised and also has a new title.

The new theme was confirmed by Council.

Heli Ruocamo expressed her and FERA's will to be part of the ECER 2026 preparations. Nelli asked her to be in touch with her to start a cooperation. The scientific committee will after the meeting come up with suggestions for keynotes, shortlist and present in Council in March.

## 6. Preview of EERA Council March 2025: EduTopic and mapping of educational research

A suggestion for a topic to be discussed and worked on in the March meeting is the mapping of European educational research. The discussion will be based on input from two projects. The one initiated by Council on topic modeling and the other initiated by colleagues at DIPF, Leibniz

Institute for Research and Information in Education who have developed an App developed for researching the ECER database.

Lucian Ciolan invited Council to check out the database before the next Council Meeting:

<https://dipf-lis.shinyapps.io/EduTopicsECER/>

An aim for the workshop in March is to tease out what EERA could highlight as key topics in educational research. In the current development of the next framework program, FP10, this is called for in SSH research.

## 7. Update on Social Media: leaving X?

EERA has recently opened an account in Bluesky and is investigating the situation at Twitter/X. Council was asked to let Doretta Dow at [dow@eera.eu](mailto:dow@eera.eu) know in case their associations also have a Bluesky account and to think about the question whether EERA should leave X, until the March meeting.

## 8. Upcoming Meetings

### 2025

**14 - 15 March**, Friday 9:00 – 17:00, Saturday 9:00 – 13:00: Council Meeting in Berlin, Hotel Rossi

**13 September**, 9:00 – 17:00: Council in Belgrade