

ECER 2025, Belgrade, VETNET Minutes Network Meeting, 11 September 2025

Chair: Christof Nägele, Barbara E. Stalder (link convenors)
Approx. 50 researchers attended the meeting.

Agenda

1. Welcome and introduction

VETNET participants were welcomed and informed about VETNET's aims and regulations.

2. ECER Belgrade

The link convenors thanked the programme committee responsible for setting up the programme and editing the VETNET publication "Trends in vocational education and training research". They informed the network about the number of submissions and the accepted/rejected proposals for VETNET. The number of submissions was significantly higher than for Nicosia, including more symposia than usual. There were only a few withdrawals at short notice. The eighth issue of *Trends in VET Research* features high-quality submissions and publications, to which the newly introduced peer-review process has made a valuable contribution. The assembly discussed matters related to the organisation of the Belgrade conference.

3. VETNET Board: Outgoing and new members

Harm Biemans, Wageningen University, and a longstanding VETNET board member, has stepped down from the VETNET board. The assembly thanked him for his commitment and valuable contributions to all VETNET activities.

Four new board members were elected.

- Elena Quintana Murci, University of the Balearic Islands, will start her shadowing period as link-convenor, designated to take over in 2026.
- Franz Kaiser, University of Rostock, will be responsible for social media and communication
- Susanne Peters, University of Bremen, co-chair of the EERN-VETNET (until now co-opted board member)
- Junmin Li, Technical University of Dortmund, co-chair of the EERN-VETNET (until now co-opted board member)

Vidmantas Tūtlys, Vytautas Magnus University, was proposed as a board member to be elected in Belgrade. As he was unable to attend the conference, he will be elected at ECER 2026 in Tampere.

The convenors reminded the assembly that board members must apply in advance, be nominated by other members, and show how they will contribute to VETNET activities.

4. VETNET members and reviewers

The convenors thanked all colleagues who were reviewing for VETNET. They invited members to become reviewers.

5. VETNET activities

The members discussed current and future VETNET activities, including EERN-VETNET, VETNET's emerging researchers network. Researchers were invited to contribute to one of the upcoming conferences, ECER 2026 in Tampere, Stockholm International 2026, NordYrk 2026 in Jyväskylä, and RWL14 2026 in Brisbane. They were encouraged to submit manuscripts to be published in IJRVT, NJVT, VETNET ECERs' Trends in VET research, Crossing Boundaries Proceedings, and the Stockholm International Book Series.

Detailed information can be found on vetnetsite.org

6. ECER 2026 Tampere

Short outlook on ECER 2026: The VETNET members were invited to support the programme committee.

8. Closing

The network meeting closed with an outlook on the final conference days in Belgrade.