

Network 04 Inclusive Education

Minutes of the Network Meeting

54 participants attended the Network 04 meeting this year. A remarkable number, supported by the open access policy adopted by EERA for the online meeting.

ECER 2021

We received 160 submissions this year (-9%). Thanks to the work of 41 reviewers, 128 proposals were accepted. Presentations included 113 Papers, 6 Posters and 9 Symposia coordinated by 39 chairs.

During the meeting, we illustrated how the convenors worked on preparing the special call 'Unlocking education: developing inclusive education in exclusionary times' for the meeting. 34 presentations at ECER 21 were related to the call.

The network also organised a general EERA session 'Between One World And The Next: New Strategies For Improving Refugee Education In A Post-Covid Era', which was attended by several participants, as well as from other EERA networks.

Conference pros and cons

The participants discussed the pros and cons of the conference, especially considering the possibilities and constraints offered by the online format. Participants agreed that physical meetings cannot be replaced, especially concerning small talk and socialising events. However, satisfaction with the way the online conference has been carried out was really high, with a special mention of the management of the presentation sessions.

New reviewers

We then invited attendants to contribute to the reviewing process in view of the next ECER in Yerevan. 22 new reviewers agreed to support the process.

Honorary member

In consideration of the many years she has served as a convenor for NW04, the convenors proposed to nominate Julie Allan (University of Birmingham) as an honorary member of the network. The proposal was accepted unanimously.

Future plans for the network.

Every year the network receives a large number of papers that offer a broad overview of research on inclusive education developed in Europe and beyond. With this in mind, during the network meeting we discussed the idea of launching a new open access journal on inclusive education,

which can leverage from the contributions to the conference. Participants in the meeting positively evaluated the proposal. Some of them volunteered to support the convenors in discussing and setting up the many aspects involved by establishing the new journal in the next few months.

Another relevant topic raised during the network meeting is the level of accessibility of ECER conferences to people with disabilities. We agreed to form an internal panel of researchers (open to all EERA networks) interested in debating and formulating a proposal to improve accessibility to ECER. The proposal will identify potential initiatives in this regard to be submitted to EERA for further discussion.

Future plans also include:

- The organisation of the seminar in Yerevan “Forced Migration and The Global Education 2030 Agenda: From educational research to policy and practice” in collaboration with NWs 7 and 20;
- Preparation of the Network Season School ‘Participatory approaches to Educational Research ’to be held at the University of Belgrade, Serbia on July 2023.