

Minutes of the business meeting of NW 13

Tampere, August 20th 2026

The Lead co-convenor Joris Vlieghe welcomes the participants and illustrates via power point the agenda of the NW 13 business meeting, which consists in the following items:

1. What did we like (thus far) and what didn't we like? What about the quality of the papers, the discussions, the formal and informal contacts? Our unique long paper option? And what about the venue, accessibility, coffee ...?
2. (informal) members' mailing list:
 - a. what it is for (eg. network initiatives, CFP) and what it is not for (eg. professorship job openings)
 - b. concept of a (quarterly?) newsletter (with predefined sections) – but then this need to be edited: volunteers?
3. Updates on special issues related to our long paper format
 - 2025 (Ethics and Education)
 - 2026 (Speki)
 - 2027 (TBC)
4. Job opening!!! – new convenor wanted (candidates are encouraged to express their interest to link-convenor; candidates should be able to attest an ongoing engagement with NW13; we obviously need to take into consideration national/gender balances; vote during next meeting in Debrecen)
5. Season school 2027 (location TBC) (follow-up of Galway 2025/same concept)

6. Long papers: (i) should we make these available beforehand (in PDF and with authors' permission)?; (ii) good practices (reading and simultaneously showing the full text); (iii) do we want to introduce the PESGB-system (for long papers only)?
 - before Q&A, first have an informal chat with neighbours about the paper
 - new question versus follow-up question
 - (at times) prioritize emerging scholars.
7. AOB

The meeting starts with the first item, and comments/remarks/critiques are invited about ECER 2026, both in reference to the general organization and, more specifically, to the activities within NW 13. Referring to the unique format of Long Papers, one of the participants highlights how valuable an option this format represents but, at the same time, remarks that, if long papers are read, they constitute a demanding endeavour for the audience; accordingly, it could be an idea to ask the presenters to choose not to read them but rather to illustrate them. This remark is somewhat related to some aspects of item 6 of the agenda, but it is decided to address this specific issue soon. In particular, Vlieghe reports a reflection developed within the board of co-convenors in which three possible suggestions are identified for the presenters of long papers at the next ECER, two of them inspired by interesting solutions proposed by participants at ECER 2026:

- Projecting the text while one reads it;
- Sharing printed copies of the long paper at the beginning of the session (on the part of the individual authors);
- Circulating the files with long papers before the conference and within the mailing list.

The third option has the downside that one cannot forecast in advance who will join the sessions. It being understood that none of these solutions can be imposed, the board of co-convenors will explore the possibility of recommending one of these courses of action to the authors of long papers selected for ECER 2027.

From the audience comes the suggestion that one can further widen the offer of formats by introducing the possibility of workshops. The co-convenors remark that this is already one of the formats provided by ECER but, unfortunately, with one exception in 2021, no submission of this kind has been made over the years. But, of course, NW 13 is completely open also to this format.

As there are no further remarks regarding item 1, Vlieghe introduces item 2: the board of co-convenors would like to implement communication within the network in a more regular and systematic way by adopting, in the first instance, the mailing list, in which to share information about network initiatives, CFPs, or other scholarly events that the members of the mailing list want to circulate. Instead, other news (e.g. the files with long papers) would fall outside the scope of the NW 13 mailing list. Along with this more basic system of communication, the board has been flirting with the idea of creating a true newsletter with predefined sections to be sent on a regular basis. However, this would need editorial work and some volunteers to help the board in this endeavour. In particular, the invitation is addressed to PhD students, as this work would be recognized as an activity in favour of NW 13 and, thus, valorized in one's own CV.

One colleague signals his interest during the meeting, but if others may be willing to join the undertaking, they can contact the lead convenor by September 25th.

Passing to item 3, it is reminded that, since last year, a selection of long papers presented at the conference will be chosen for publication in a

special issue of an international journal, possibly related to the cultural-geographical area in which ECER has taken place. For ECER 2025, *Ethics & Education* will host the special issue, edited by Bianca Thoilliez and Joris Vlieghe and forthcoming as the latest issue of 2026; for ECER 2026, SPEKI – a prestigious journal of the Nordic area – has given its availability, and the special issue will be edited by Elisabeth Langmann and Marie Hållander. The editors of the special issue for SPEKI will contact the authors of the papers soon. Regarding the next ECER, the board has already identified a journal, based in Eastern Europe, with a strong and consolidated international projection that would represent a desirable option. In the next few weeks – and at the very latest when the CFP for long papers for ECER 2027 will be circulated – the name will be disclosed.

For item 4, the floor passes to Piotr Zamojski, who makes it known that in 2027 he is going to step back from his role as co-convenor. As a consequence, there will be a position as co-convenor to be covered through an election that will take place in person during ECER 2027. Zamojski illustrates the two main tasks that a co-convenor is required to perform: a) reviewing the submissions, and this is a work to be done in February according to a strict schedule, and it takes roughly two weeks of intensive work, as the co-convenor receives all the paper submissions to review, plus a certain amount of long papers; b) attending the conference and chairing the sessions. Although there are no regulations about the composition of the board of co-convenors, NW 13 has always endeavoured to comply with the need for balance in terms of gender, geographical European area, etc. At the moment, there is an adequate gender balance in the board and, thus, this will be no issue in terms of candidacies. The candidates should manifest their willingness to put themselves forward by the end of May through an email to the lead convenor. The list of candidates will be made known before ECER 2027, and the actual election will take place, as aforementioned, during the business meeting in Debrecen.

Re item 5, a short update is given by the lead convenor about a summer school of NW 13 (funded by EERA) that was supposed to be held in Galway last May and has been postponed. The summer school will take place in 2027, probably in early June, and one location has been identified, and negotiations will be conducted in the next few weeks to possibly finalize the involvement of the identified institution.

From the audience, it is highlighted that early June is also the period of the Summer School in Public Education run by Gert Biesta and Carl-Anders Säfström in Ireland, and it is asked whether there is any connection between these two events and whether there will be efforts to avoid overlapping and allow people to participate in both. The board specifies that the organization of these two events is completely disconnected from each other and that the location of NW 13 is not going to be in Ireland any longer.

Re long papers, as part of the item was already discussed in item 1, the lead convenor confines himself to mentioning the idea of introducing an innovation referred exclusively to the sessions dedicated to long papers. This innovation is inspired by a system established within PESGB and consists in: a) before Q&A, having an informal chat with neighbours about the paper; b) distinguishing (through specific hand gestures) between a new question and a follow-up question; c) at times prioritizing emerging scholars. While not excluding the introduction of this system, interventions from the audience highlight the desirability of leaving a margin of flexibility. Thus, the upshot of the discussion is that during ECER 2027 this system will be used on an experimental basis.

In the AOB item, two questions are asked by the audience revolving around the kind of topics which can be submitted to NW 13. In particular, it is asked whether papers on religious education and papers containing empirical research can be eligible. The board specifies that the phrase “Philosophy of Education” refers to an area which, in the Continental tradition, covers also educational theory, general pedagogy

(in the German meaning of *Allgemeine Pädagogik*, etc.). More specifically, the criterion is that any submission is welcome, provided that it addresses the topic from a theoretical-philosophical perspective. Also, submissions containing empirical research are welcome if the focus of the proposal pivots on a philosophical/theoretical-educational kind of questioning and/or doing philosophy of education through empirical research, as in some trends of contemporary pragmatism.

A colleague from a non-EU country asks the board to transmit to the organizers of the conference the acknowledgment for the support received in terms of VISA: this support is something not so common, and he wanted to openly recognize it.