Procedures for EERA network 19: The ethnography network

1. Preamble

The EERA network 19 convenor group, in accordance with the [EERA network procedures](#), establishes the following procedures, valid for EERA network 19, hereafter called the ethnography network.

2. Network objectives

The ethnography network aims to provide a space for educational researchers who engage in ethnography. We encourage contributions that discuss findings from ethnographic research, as well as contributions that focus on ethnographic methodology, epistemology, and practice. Our objective is to develop the field of ethnographic research in education across Europe through ECER conferences, further ethnographic conferences, as well as our journal, [Ethnography and Education](#).

We see educational ethnography as research that

- focuses on everyday life in educational institutions as experienced by policymakers, managers, pedagogues, teachers, teaching assistants, parents, and learners. Other perspectives include those who influence and are affected by education, those excluded from it, and those who choose to distance themselves from those institutions. Major themes include gender, race, class, and disabilities.
- usually takes place over a longer period and attends to social practices, both within and outside of institutional education, through continuous and immediate experience in fieldwork.
- engages in a wider range of situations and interactions relevant to the field of study, to be experienced, observed, and analysed.
- investigates field relations, between practices of individuals and groups, as well as their cultural, political, and social contexts.

- includes theoretical perspectives to become sensitive to fieldwork and analysis, provide opportunities to scrutinize established theories, and develop new theories and narratives about a field.

We invite submissions that lie within this scope of educational ethnography, acknowledging that ethnographic research is built on diverse premises and traditions, which shape local institutional cultures of doing ethnography. Beyond this, we encourage submissions that focus on teaching ethnography, as well as submissions that discuss different ethnographic approaches, and their respective benefits and challenges. We also warmly invite submissions that focus on innovation in ethnographic methods, such as auto-ethnography, video ethnography, and virtual ethnography, as well as submissions that focus on ethnographic analysis.

3. Convenor tasks and responsibilities

Convenors are elected representatives of our network, whose tasks and responsibilities are defined in the EERA network procedures. Convenors of the ethnography network are responsible to foster the network community, through communicating with network members, arranging meetings, initiating contributions, and planning publications together with network participants. Furthermore, convenors act as ambassadors of the ethnography network within their institutions, research networks and conferences, as well as in their respective countries and European regions.

Together, current convenors form the convenor group. The convenor group of the ethnography network may consist of up to 8 members: the convenor group strives for two representatives from Northern Europe, Southern Europe, Eastern Europe, and Western Europe.[1] The convenor group elects up to two link convenors to lead the group and represent the ethnography network at EERA.

3.1. Election of convenors

The election of convenors takes place during ECER network meetings. Elections must be announced in the network meeting agenda, and network participants must be informed about all

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[1] The ethnography network uses the European Union EuroVoc definition of subregions.

candidates as well as the full agenda for the network meeting. This information is distributed via the EERA network mailing list and other channels that the convenor group deems to be appropriate.

Applications to become a convenor must be sent by e-mail to the current link convenor/s. Applications must illustrate the ethnographic position of the researcher, ideas for advancing the ethnography network, as well as considerations for community development. Applicants are expected to have contributed actively to the ethnography network and are required to attach two nominations by other network participants. Applicants are encouraged to contact the convenor group before applying. The deadline for applications is May 1.

Before the election, applicants must be recognised by the convenor group as qualified candidates. Applications are evaluated according to the following criteria: (1) Contributions to the network at previous ECERs, e.g., through the organisation of symposia, reviewing, and/or session chairing, (2) academic record in educational ethnography, (3) regional representation, (4) gender balance, and (5) academic age (we aim that 25% of convenors have a PhD age of under 7 years at their time of the election). In cases where an evaluation requires a vote, a simple majority of convenor votes is sufficient to assess a candidate as qualified. Link convenors circulate all applications amongst the convenor group between May 1 and May 31. Evaluation takes place between June 1 and July 1.

Qualified candidates may be elected as convenors at the network meeting. The election of convenors takes place by open ballot. All network participants present at the network meeting have the right to vote. Before voting, each candidate is allowed to present themselves. When applicants reach an absolute majority of votes at a network meeting, they are elected as convenors.

The mandate as convenor in the ethnography network lasts for a period of 4 years. Convenors may re-apply for one additional period.

3.2. Link convenors

The election of link convenors takes place during ECER network meetings. Link convenors are elected by convenors from within the convenor group. All convenors have the right to apply as link

convenors and should make their candidacy known to the whole convenor group until May 1. In cases where several convenors express their interest to become link convenor candidates, they may circulate a written application within the convenor group. Link convenor candidates have the right to present themselves at a convenor meeting before to the network meeting. The convenor group should aim at a consensual nomination of link convenors at the network meeting.

Upon election, link convenors hold a mandate for 4 years. If applicable, the mandate as link convenor extends the current convenor period. When the link convenor mandate expires, link convenors are expected to pass their mandate on to another convenor. In exceptional circumstances, the convenor group can decide that link convenors may assume a second mandate. Beyond the convenor tasks illustrated previously, link convenors are responsible for planning and organising network meetings and convenor meetings.

4. Network meetings and convenor meetings

Network meetings take place at ECERs and may focus on presentations of network-related activities and publications (e.g., conference reports, anthologies), calls for papers (e.g., book projects, special issues), collective activities to draft topics amongst network participants, as well as the election of convenors. All convenors have the right to suggest items for the agenda and present respective agenda items. Link convenors have the responsibility to accommodate items into the agenda and act as moderators during convenor meetings.

Convenor meetings take place between ECERs, and may focus on planning network activities (e.g., conferences, symposia, or seminars), developing new network activities, and preparing grant applications to EERA as well as other funding bodies. All convenors have the right to suggest items for the agenda and present respective agenda items. Link convenors are responsible for accommodating items into the agenda and act as moderators during convenor meetings.

5. Emeritus Convenors and honorary network members

Convenors who have stepped down may be listed as "emeritus convenors" on the network website. The list entry includes the emeritus convenor's name and contact details. Emeritus convenors also can provide a link to their personal website, and list three key publications. The list entry comes

with no specific duties and serves to acknowledge the contributions of emeritus convenors. Former convenors may continue to act as reviewers for the network.

Honorary network membership is granted by the EERA council, upon nomination by link convenors. Honorary network members are distinguished emeritus convenors who made significant contributions to the network's history. Nominations require a [written proposal](#) by two or more network convenors, which needs to be sent to the current link convenor/s. The proposal is subsequently discussed at a convenor meeting. In cases where nominations require a vote, an absolute majority of convenor votes is necessary to submit a nomination to the EERA council. Being an honorary network member is not bound to duties but includes the possibility of paying the reduced ECER fee available to members of EERA member associations.

6. Validity and modification of these procedures

The procedures for EERA network 19 – the ethnography network – come into effect on 21.10.2022. Modifications of these procedures may be made at convenor group meetings and require that two-thirds of convenors are present. In cases where modifications necessitate a vote, an absolute majority of convenor votes is required, in either open or closed ballot.