Network 25 Meeting – Minutes

Thursday 11.09.2025, 17h15-18h45

1. Welcome and presentations, agenda

21 attendees

All attendees introduced themselves. Attendees were reminded about the Network newsletter and how to subscribe.

2. Submissions and reviews

	ECER 2025	ECER 2024	ECER 2023	ECER 2022	ECER 2021	ECER 2020
Submissions	38	35	33	31	29	32
Rejects	8	5	4	7	7	5
Redirections	2	2	4	2		
Rejection rate	21%	14%	12%	22%	24%	16%
Presentations	25+4	25+1	19+3			

Submissions to the Network have been growing over the years. A higher rejection rate than in previous years, based on the application of the Network's agreed-upon review criteria. The Network does not accept papers that do not address the two core focus aspects for the Network. Our criteria mean that our Network is among those with the highest rejection rates, but this helps ensure the quality and relevance of the presentations to the Network's focus. The Link Convenor explained the review process and cut scores. The Link Convenor advised that there was a high number of last-minute withdrawals and explained the implications for scheduling. They appreciated the flexibility of attendees in making adjustments when required.

Link Convenor displayed Network 25-related results from the EERA EduTopics tool and explained the rationale for the tool and how to access it. The most discussed topics for N25 over the past 20 years, as displayed by the EduTopics tool, were listed.

Reviewers for the 2025 Conference were acknowledged and thanked.

3. Experiences of ECER 2025

General (Positive)	General (Negative)
• Thank you to the students who voted to allow the conference to go ahead. • Helpful that there were students and volunteers everywhere that you could ask. They were very helpful. • Bus to welcome reception was helpful • Organisation of coffee stations was very helpful and it was quick to find something to drink and eat. • Food was fabulous. • Check-in for getting badges was easy and convenient. • Proper 30-minutes breaks were helpful • App is user friendly. Automatic updates useful. • If you stay with the one network and sessions the app was fine.	• The map for alternative venues were wrong, limited signage and direction for attending. • No mic in some workshops which made it difficult to hear and attendees to participate. • Size of the screen made it difficult to read slides (Philology–geography Floor 3, Room 2), screen sizes need to be a decent size to be seen. • More than 20 mins walk to one of the venues is too much. Makes it impossible to go between. In future conferences, 20 minutes is too much. • Poster session room was not big enough and difficult to find. • Poster session crowded, attendees couldn't hear presenters, and had to divide the space to find the posters they were looking for. • App confusing to use. If you go to the paper it doesn't tell you the venue, only on the session part. • All sessions didn't come up in the app. Several bugs and instability with the app • Unable to create own program and get back. • App doesn't work without wifi. • Map should be connected to google maps and available offline.
N25 (Positive)	N25 (Negative)
• Full days with scheduling • The network presentation format of 15-min presentation, 15 min discussion was helpful to allow productive and high quality discussion as well as forcing presenters to fit their presentations into 15 mins	• Network scheduling in a far away venue • Wifi didn't work at far away venue. Few students at the Children's cultural centre building

• Session content high quality and grouped well topic wise	

4. Network activities since the last conference

- Annual report to EERA (see website)
- 2 Newsletters to network members
- A new LinkedIn account
- 2 symposia presented during ECER 2025 originating from ECER 2024 discussions
  - Children's rights in early years symposia organised by Jacky Tyrie
  - Ethics challenges and complexities in children's rights research symposium – organised by Katrin Velten

- N25 Convenors to draft a special call on Aims of education and Article 29 for ECER 2025. Attracted significant attention with submissions

- Network dinner scheduled in Belgrade for after the Network meeting on Thurs 11th September 2025.

- Network progressed other projects

  - CHRE 2025 Network. The idea commenced in 2019 with a network workshop. Led to a funding application (successful) and several network activities resulting from 2021-2025.

  - The participation team published the paper resulting from the Network activities conducted during ECER 2023 and prior discussions at earlier ECERs.

  - Reading group – on pause currently

- Network members are encouraged to tag the network on LinkedIn when promoting new and relevant publications and works

5. Network activities for the coming year

- EERA Blog post relating to the everyday participation model – Jacky Tyrie
- School uniform dress codes and appearance policy – get in touch with Rachel Shanks
- School policies and children's rights possible symposium topic – get in touch with Rachel Shanks
- Child-children reflections to develop a co-authored publication – contact Sarah Zerika

- Call for subgroup of whether to move forward with a publication about the right to be heard– contact Jacky Tyrie
- School climate and socio-emotional skills as possible symposium – contact Sarah Zerika

6. ECER 2026

- Attendees discussed whether to have a special call. Several possible topics discussed:
  - Children's right to digital education, including online and offline rights, connection to mental health, violence, and democracy, as well as children's experiences. Possible joint session with Learning Environment Network or Digital Network. Must have the child rights perspective AND the education aspect.
  - Democracy in education
  - Controversial topics in children's rights and education
    - Possibility to have an open Zoom with other networks for the papers to be in dialogue on these issues
  - Understudied children's rights issues
  - The convenor team will draft the special call on the controversial topics in children's rights and education.
  - Link convenor reminded attendees that other topics can, of course, still be progressed independently of the special call, e.g. as a symposium

7. Convenor team election 2025

- The link convenor explained the regulations for N25 elections, the history of the designated convenor positions, as decided at the 2024 Annual Meeting (ECR), and the process for elections.
- Next year at the Network meeting, the new convenor team will propose a plan for Network members to discuss the process for Network elections in the coming years.
- Nominees provided a brief introduction prior to the vote.
- Attendees voted, while the election organiser (Rachel Shanks) counted the votes
- The Link convenor acknowledged the contributions of all nominees to the Network and thanked them for accepting the nomination.
- The votes were counted, and all three nominees received an equal number of votes. The position was decided by placing all nominee names in a hat and drawing one out. Chiara Monta was drawn.

- The convenor team for the coming period will be Zoe Moody (Link Convenor – elected in 2024), Jenna Gillett-Swan, Lotem Perry-Hazan, Gabriela Martinez-Sainz, and Chiara Monta (ECR position)
- Ann Quennerstedt (immediate past Link Convenor) was acknowledged and thanked for her contributions to the Network, having been a convenor since 2013 (12 years) and having been vital to developing the Network into what it now is today. Outgoing convenor Ioanna Palaiologou was also thanked for her contributions.

8. *Other issues*

- Link convenor provided the link to subscribe to the mailing list: nw25-subscribe@lists.eera-ecer.de
- Rachel shared that ICHRE has a conference in Germany in May 2026, and the information will be posted on LinkedIn
- Call for reviewers and submissions for HRER – Human Rights Education Review. Links posted on the Network LinkedIn
- The meeting was drawn to a close