

# Network 25 “Research on Children’s Rights in Education” Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, 30 August 2024  
Chair: Ann Quennerstedt  
Minutes: Jenna Gillett-Swan  
Attendees: 28

## Agenda

1. Welcome and presentations, agenda
2. Submissions and reviews
3. Experiences of ECER 2024
4. Network activities since the last conference
5. Network activities coming year
6. ECER 2025
7. Link convenor election
8. Convenor Team Election 2025
9. Other issues

1. **Welcome and introductions**; many new and returning faces in the network and at the meeting
2. **Submissions and reviews**

## Submission numbers and trends

ECER	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Submissions	35	33	31	29	32	32
Rejects	5	4	7	7	5	4
Redirections	2	4	2			
Rejection rate	14%	12%	22%	24%	16%	13%
Presentations	25+1 symp.	19+3 symp.				

Special call: Children’s rights in a time of instability and crisis—the role of education attracted much interest—more than half of the submissions.

The link convenor thanked the reviewers.

Zoe Moody, Switzerland – Jenna Gillett-Swan, Australia – Ioanna Palaiologou, England – Katarzyna Gawlicz, Poland – Lotem Perry-Hazan, Israel – Amy Hanna, England – Maude Louviot, Switzerland – Chiara C. Montà, Italy

### 3. Experiences of ECER

ECER General	Network 25
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buses were good and worked well</li> <li>• Childcare facilities recommendation from last year was listened to and provided, which was very good*</li> <li>• The water bottles were good but didn't see how it went together with the conference bag which was full of garbage (pamphlets and lots of paper)</li> <li>• Coffee cups were disposable and not much opportunity for recycling. A lot of waste produced in this conference. Strange as in the past we had reusable coffee cups. It seems we're going backwards</li> <li>• Sound not working in rooms, but volunteers came quickly to resolve</li> <li>• Volunteers friendly, helpful, and visible</li> <li>• Campus space worked well, no narrow corridors and moving around the physical space has been a nice space to be in without constant queuing</li> <li>• Parking for free was a relief and being able to find a space to park</li> <li>• Reception was nice outdoors, but extremely loud so it was hard to have conversations. Some liked the music and dancing</li> <li>• No consent for photographs that were taken during the sessions and the photography during presentation was distracting and sometimes off putting for presenters and audience as there were so many photos</li> <li>• Uploading presentations in conftool concerning and problematic, particularly with data ownership and copyright, but presenters have made the most out of it in directing audience that they can download. Is a middle ground available?</li> <li>• The Whova app has been good with the agenda</li> <li>• Messages and emails a bit overwhelming – too many</li> <li>• Location a bit problematic as all delegates had to fly to get to Cyprus when EERA is writing all these things about sustainability and at the same time having a conference that most had to fly to</li> <li>• Bus tickets did not need to be printed (sustainability)</li> <li>• Pronoun badges were good, but not enough of them. It is good that it's an option, but not everyone that wanted one was able to have one. Perhaps a tick box in registration to opt in to</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great discussions in all sessions</li> <li>• Being linked to one network was extremely useful</li> <li>• Great depth in discussion because of diversity of contexts</li> <li>• Very well attended sessions (sometimes even people sitting on the floor)</li> <li>• Questions were high quality and many interesting conversations</li> <li>• Programming encouraged interesting conversations</li> <li>• 15-minute presentation format effective for productive and valuable discussions</li> <li>• It was not clear to some that presenters only had 15 mins. Link convenor confirmed that information about this was emailed to presenters in advance of the conference and recognised that the amount of correspondence about the conference from ECER etc may mean this important information was missed.</li> <li>• Very good chairing and keeping time equal between presenters</li> <li>• The questions are good and challenging, but never had the sense that people are being mean or trying to score points. Challenging questions are in a way that is thoughtful and respectful.</li> <li>• Discussions rich, connected papers programmed well to have rich discussions that build on one another</li> <li>• Room sizes a bit small considering we consistently have full sessions. We need a 40-seat room. We had 49 people in one session and several sessions with over 40 people</li> <li>• Few male attendees, a challenge for the area as it is a female dominated field. Males do attend to watch, just fewer presenting.</li> <li>• Whova App is useful to see how many people may attend each session</li> </ul>

ensure there is enough and that they are included with the lanyard at check in for those opting in	
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\*If you brought children to the conference, contact Ann to complete a survey about the experience.

#### 4. Network activities

- The network has kept working during the year between ECER 2023 and ECER 2024
- Annual reports can be found on the network site in EERA <https://eera-ecer.de/networks/25-research-on-childrens-rights-in-education/annual-reports>
- A couple of newsletters have been sent out during the year
- To become a member of N25, all that is needed is to sign up for the mailing list [nw25-subscribe@lists.eera-ecer.de](mailto:nw25-subscribe@lists.eera-ecer.de)
- N25 currently have a Twitter/X account. At ECER 2023, we started discussing whether to continue having it. Minimal activity since the last conference. Many people are critical towards X and have opted out of that platform. Discussion about this continues in a later agenda item.
- Two project works going on with network members
  - o Collaboration around the tricky word participation commenced during ECER 2021 (Geneva—Online). A webinar resulted in a workshop at ECER 2023, and from that, a team was formed to write a paper on the difficulty of translating the term into different languages.
  - o Collaboration on Children’s Human Rights Education. Commenced in ECER Hamburg 2019. Funding was applied for through the Swedish Research Council (successful). Several articles have been written. Through this network, we have also successfully attracted new people to the N25 from invitations to join the CHRE network.  
**Action: Include the published papers from the network in the newsletter.**
  - o A reading group has been created on the topic of educating on children’s rights during the climate crisis. For information, contact Gaby Martinez Sainz or Kasia Gawlicz.

#### 5. Ideas for network activities in the coming year?

- The participation and CHRE teams will continue working
- LinkedIn as a replacement to X for network presence? One member recommended LinkedIn as an effective way to share conferences, calls for papers, etc., but it is only as effective if people use it.  
**Action: N25 Convenors to talk to EERA about naming and creating a Network LinkedIn account, advertise the new site on X and then Close the X account**
- EERA Blog is provided as a suggestion for anyone who would like to make a blog out of their presentation. EERA person helps to improve the outreach. There is also an EERA journal (EERJ), and an EERA Book series – three ways to engage with EERA activities more broadly
- Children’s rights and sustainability issues is an area members have expressed interest in during past ECERs
- Children’s advisory groups raised as a potential topic within the context of children’s rights that could progress something e.g. Special Issue. Contact Jacky Tyrie if you are interested in pursuing some activity on this topic ([j.tyrie@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:j.tyrie@swansea.ac.uk))
- Reading group on educating on children’s rights during the climate crisis will continue activities. The group meets on the last Friday of every month as a space to think and discuss what the climate crisis means to us as educators and educating for children’s rights. If you want to join one or all sessions, contact Gaby or Kasia, who will send a Zoom link. The group is currently compiling the year's reading list, so send ideas to Gaby/Kasia if you have any.

## 6. ECER 2025 Belgrade

- Does the Network want to do a special call? It has benefits – it brings new people to the network. We always get new people who have not been in our NW before, but the downside is that the research people send in for the special call is more often marginally connected to children's rights issues, so it can be challenging to assess in the reviewing process. EERA want the special calls to be related to the theme. ECER 2025 Theme *Charting the way forward education research perspectives and potentials*.

**Action: N25 Convenors to draft a special call on *Aims of education and Article 29 for ECER 2025***

- Any ideas for symposia and workshops?
  - o In the network we talked about sharing interesting ideas and practices for teaching children's rights in higher education. Express interest in contributing to a possible workshop *Good practice in teacher education in children's rights courses* – contact Lotem Perry-Hazan ([lotem.perry@edu.haifa.ac.il](mailto:lotem.perry@edu.haifa.ac.il))
  - o *Children's rights in early years symposium* – contact Jacky Tyrie ([j.tyrie@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:j.tyrie@swansea.ac.uk))
  - o *Ethics challenges and complexities in children's rights research symposium*– contact Katrin Velten ([velten@ash-berlin.eu](mailto:velten@ash-berlin.eu))
- Network dinner? There was no network dinner this year; it was too complicated with such an accommodation spread. Is there interest in a network dinner next year on the Thursday evening. Yes, to investigate, but cost may be considered.

**Action: Network convenors to investigate some possible dinner options for ECER 2025**

## 7. Link convenor election

- The convenor team period is 4 years, but the Link convenor was elected one year before. The link convenor will be elected during today's meeting and will take up the position next year. To be able to learn the role, they need to be brought in one year in advance
- Rachel Shanks has coordinated the process for this year. Nominations were sought in May 2024
- One nomination was received for Zoe Moody
- Network unanimously elected Zoe Moody as the new Link Convenor
- Zoe is currently Deputy Convenor, but Ann and Zoe have agreed they will change roles now, with Zoe as Link Convenor and Ann as Deputy, effective immediately.

## 8. Convenor Team Election 2025

- Ideally, appoint a coordinator for the election at ECER the year before the election
- Nominations for convenors will be sent in April/May
- Election of convenor team at ECER network meeting
- Short bio of nominees sent out before ECER
- The convenor team consists of the link and 4 co-convenors
- Of the 4 co-convenors, one is the deputy (appointed by the convenor team when elected), one is an emerging researcher
- Preferably convenor team will be from different countries, the team should uphold both continuity and renewal each election
- Before implementing this for the election in ECER 2025, we need to specify what we mean as an emerging researcher. Points raised in discussion:
  - o Doctoral students may be distracted with their studies by taking on the appointment
  - o Stability of funding to be able to come

- It can be challenging for doctoral students to say no to Faculty as things can get piled on. Graduate students are not compensated for service time, and can be a problem of fairness
- Can be a good opportunity in terms of career possibilities
- Precariousness can be a challenge, including not knowing what to do post-PhD and also for continuity
- Maybe there is another place for doctoral students than co-convenor
- **Decision:** For eligibility to be nominated as ECR convenor, an emerging researcher has finished their doctoral thesis but is within the first 7-8 years after completion with the addition of parental/sick leave (where applicable)
- Need to appoint a coordinator for convenor team election 2025
  - No volunteers during the meeting

**Action: The convenor team to distribute a call for the 2025 convenor election via email**

## 9. Other issues

- None raised.