



UNIVERSITY OF PRISHTINA
"HASAN PRISHTINA"
FACULTY OF EDUCATION

Str. Agim Ramadani, Faculty of Education, 10 000 Prishtinë, Republic of Kosovo
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KOSOVO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH-KICER

Conference dates: 10-11 June 2021

Venue: Faculty of Education, University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina", Kosovo

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Scientific and Organising Committees of the Faculty of Education, University of Prishtina in collaboration with the Institute for Research and Development in Education-IRDE, invite educational researchers, policy-makers, and practitioners to submit abstracts for the "**Kosovo International Conference on Educational Research-KICER**"

KICER welcomes scholars representing views and research traditions from Kosovo and the region.

The conference will offer interactive discussions with the keynote speakers, paper and poster presentation sessions, and workshops.

There will be plenty of opportunities to expand research network throughout the conference.

Conference fee: The conference is free of charge.

Conference language: English and Albanian with simultaneous translation.

About the conference theme:

Research in the field of education is necessary to enrich scientific results, improve school and teaching practice, and inform evidence-based decision-making at various levels. Education research guides education reform and greatly contributes to change in society.

Although efforts are dedicated to enhancing scientific and applied research in education, research is still a marginal enterprise in Kosovo and the region. There is very little research in the field of education. Consequently, the following problems persist: (i) teachers do not use research to inform their continuous professional development and improve their teaching practice, (ii) schools rarely use research to change their organisational culture and manage change, and (iii) policymaking and reform are not supported by research.

The theme of the **Kosovo International Conference on Educational Research** offers a platform for education researchers, policy-makers, and practitioners to discuss and provide recommendations on enhancing education research, advancing research cooperation among

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teachers, researchers, institutions in Kosovo and the region, and strengthening the link between research and schools.

The conference is opened and begins with *two keynote speakers*:

1. Dr.sc. Blerim Saqipi, Dean of the Faculty of Education, the University of Prishtina presenting on conference theme "Research and Development in Education in Kosovo".
2. Dr.sc. Janez Vogrinc, Dean of Education, University of Ljubljana presenting on the topic "Research and Development in Education in Europe".

On the second day, the main key note speaker will be:

1. Dr. sc. Eve Eisenschmidt in collaboration with Piret Oppi, University of Talin, Estonia, presenting on the topic "Estonian model of developing teacher professionalism and teacher leadership"
2. Dr. sc. Gabriella Agrusti, LUMSA University Rome, Italy, presenting on the topic "Contextual factors and teaching strategies for the development of civic and citizenship education".

The conference will have four parallel thematic areas within which different topics will be addressed during the two days of the conference:

Thematic area 1: Development of educational policies towards quality in education

This thematic area aims to address issues which are related to educational policies and the trends of these policies in raising the quality of education. Researchers can orient their contribution by showcasing their countries experiences, the impact of educational policies on the organisation of the teaching and learning process, for all levels of the education system. Papers can also present the role of educational policies in the time of the pandemic, analysing the changes that the situation has caused in the implementation of the teaching process and the achievement of learning outcomes defined by curricular documents. The need to advance curricular documents is a vital factor of educational policies, therefore researchers are encouraged to submit papers which will have relevance and impact on education systems in general.

Thematic area 2: Distance teaching and learning in pre-university education: Challenges and advantages

The thematic area addresses specific issues of interest in teaching and learning during the implementation of distance learning in pre-university education. Researchers are welcomed to

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submit their contributions in the following areas, including teachers' expectations and experiences for e-learning, online platforms and their implementation by teachers and students, perceptions of teachers', students, parents and school leaders on distance learning, considerations of education technologies stimulating collaborative learning, and the development of creativity and critical thinking. This topic also addresses the challenges and advantages of distance education in the organization of the learning process and the assessment of students at different levels of education (i.e. formative and summative assessment), the use of strategies and implementation of learning activities in an online context, e-learning planning, online teacher-student communication and interaction, management of the learning process, development of competencies, the achievement of results, as well as integrated teaching during distance education.

Thematic area 3: Education for democratic citizenship

Papers in the field of education for democratic citizenship address the aspects of policies and practices in teacher education. Also, we welcome papers analysing the work of teachers in the dimensions of advancing the understanding of aspects of democratic citizenship in the context of global developments and the circumstances of Kosovo society's orientation towards European values. This theme addresses the modalities of developing appropriate practices and models for education in the values of democratic citizenship by examining the existing reality and identifying suitable solutions for schools and teaching to contribute more substantially to the development of those values. Also, this topic explores the links of developments in Kosovo with benchmarks of the field at the European level and beyond.

Thematic area 4: Inclusion and diversity

The concept of inclusion moves beyond providing learning opportunities for all. Inclusion is not just a matter of disability, but a matter of social justice. Inclusion is considered in terms of providing equal opportunities for learning and development to all students regardless of the social and intellectual background. In this session, researchers are invited to present issues related to the development of inclusive teacher in the broadest sense; issues of the partnership between parents and teachers in children's learning and success; innovative practices that support marginalized groups of children, as well as the effects of changes in teaching in the context of online learning for children with special educational needs. Researchers are also encouraged to explore exceptional topics and programmes and engage in critical discussions regarding best practices of inclusion supported by education researchers and practitioners.

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Workshop

Local universities, which are in partnership with the Faculty of Education, University of Prishtina, will organize workshops for young researchers and master and PhD level students. Participants must register to the following email address: konferenca.edukim@uni-pr.edu.

IMPORTANT DATES

Submission of abstracts (first call): 19 February

Submission of abstracts (second call): 19 March

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 30 March

Abstract Acceptance Notice: 23-26 April

Full paper and PPT submission: 22 May 2021

Conference dates: 10th and 11th of June 2021

ABSTRACT AND PAPER GUIDELINES

An abstract is a summary of your (published or unpublished) research paper. The content of your abstract must comply with the following checklist of requirements:

- The abstract should include a brief introduction on the topic, purpose, method used, main findings or main expected implications and conclusions.
- The abstract should also include research limitations, practical implications and the main recommendations.
- The abstract should not exceed 350 words
- Three or four keywords related to the topic should be provided along with the abstract.
- Abstract topics should be related to the four thematic areas
- We encourage researchers to bring innovative and novice research findings

We welcome abstracts in the English language. If your abstract is accepted for presentation at the conference, a notification email will be sent to your email address.

The paper should have up to 4,000 words. The scientific board will send a paper model/template to researchers whose abstracts were accepted.

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Authors must submit the full paper and presentation to the PPT by May 22, 2021, to the following e-mail address: konferenca.edukim@uni-pr.edu.

NOTIFICATION OF REVIEW RESULTS

Authors will be informed of acceptance or rejection within one month after the submission of the abstract. Accepted authors will receive an e-mail informing them about the results. The abstracts will be subject to a double-blind peer review.

Accepted abstracts will be published in the Book of Abstract.

After the annual conference, the Scientific Board will select 10-15 papers to be published in the conference monograph.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

- The title reflects the content properly
- The purpose, design and nature of the study are well expressed in the abstract.
- Participants, data collection tools, data analysis and major findings are summarized in the abstract.
- The research design is clearly described and appropriate for the purpose of the study.
- The participants, their characteristics and their selection methods are described in detail and justified.
- Findings respond to the purpose of the study and are presented clearly.
- The paper has the potential to contribute to the body of knowledge with academic relevance on selected topics in the conference
- The format is appropriate with the academic writing genre and conference requirements

SUBMISSION

Abstracts must be submitted to the following e-mail address: konferenca.edukim@uni-pr.edu

When submitting your abstract, please indicate the theme (1 – 4; see above) under which you are preparing your paper or poster.

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