

# Contemporary challenges of intergenerational education in lifelong learning societies

11th Conference of the ESREA Research Network on Education and Learning of Older Adults (ELOA)

Bologna Italy, October 2021 (exact dates not fixed yet)

Older adult education is a wide and rich field involving many different environments. Since its beginning, this educational sector has been conceived as strategic for fostering seniors' active participation. During the last years, due to social and demographic changes and the consequently increasing coexistence between generations, older adults' education became more and more oriented to increase active citizenship and intergenerational dialogue and solidarity (Ripamonti, 2009). Many educational contexts for older adults have been designed as intergenerational learning environments, where people could meet and share significant living experiences amongst generations and social groups. In fact, the promotion of positive intergenerationality (Saraceno, 2008) has been recognised to be a very powerful instrument for people's empowerment, especially when facing personal or collective difficulties and traumas.

The pandemic disruption crashed into our learning and teaching environments and relationships and forced them to quickly redesign their features. This innovation has been very strong and prompt in schools and higher education, due to the need of guaranteeing continuity to compulsory education and training.

What is happening to non-formal education? Are the educational environments dealing with intergenerational dialogue involved as well in the pandemic and post-pandemic redesign? Is distance and/or blended learning a challenge/possibility for such fields? Is the dialogue between generations still central in the educational debate? What about the future scenarios of lifelong learning societies?

This call opens a field for debate on the main issues on lifelong learning societies and intergenerationality, in the current situation and with a view to future perspectives.

## Important dates

**30<sup>th</sup> April 2021** Submission of abstracts

**31<sup>st</sup> May 2021** Acceptance of abstracts confirmed

**Dates of conference will be fixed in May 2021**

## **Call for papers and workshops**

The abstract should be maximum 500 words long and include a title and 4 keywords. Please send a separate file with the author(s) name(s), institutional affiliation and contact details, indicating which authors are going to be present at the conference. If you want to propose a workshop, please use the file containing the authors' data to state the requirements of space, facilities or equipment that would be needed. Groups of authors willing to organise round-tables/symposiums should contact the organisation prior to submitting the abstract.

All abstracts should be submitted by email to Elena Luppi (elena.luppi@unibo.it) and Rosita Deluigi (rosita.deluigi@unimc.it) by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Acceptance of papers/workshops will be confirmed by 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021.