

# European Society *for* Research *on the* Education of Adults

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# Dear ESREA Members and Associates,



After an extended break, this autumn newsletter now comes from a "new face" in ESREA. After almost five years, Alexandra Ioannidou handed over the Secretariat to me on 1 April 2023. But there is also constancy in the change: The seat of the secretariat remains at the German Institute for Adult Education - Leibniz Centre for Lifelong Learning (DIE).

I think I speak on behalf of all members when I offer Alexandra a special thanks for her service to ESREA! In my new role I hope to follow this up and contribute to the ESREA Secretariat remaining the stable base of this wonderfully diverse and vibrant community of European adult education researchers, which can now proudly look back on more than 30 years.

Indeed, with ESREA I have a long-standing relationship. Since its foundation in 2008 I have been an active member of the Research Network for Adult Educators, Trainers and their Professional Development (dReNAdeT), and in 2020, I took on the role of co-convenor of that network, together with Maria Gravani, George K. Zarifis and Larissa Jögi. My own study background is originally in the field of (Romance) philologies and history, but in the course of my professional career as research associate at the DIE, I quickly turned to the field of adult education and have remained faithful to it for over two decades. International work has always been both a focus and a passion of mine, and so I am delighted to take on the role of ESREA secretary.

New tasks are always accompanied by learning processes. In the last months, I have had the opportunity, for example, to learn quite a bit about German association law, among other things. Not always has this been to my unqualified delight, but I remain optimistic. It is a good tradition in the adult education community to celebrate the joy of learning and its transformative power. Fortunately, learning opportunities do not only exist in association law but are as diverse as life itself. And in the face of the multiple crises that seem to befall us at ever shorter intervals, the need to learn seems ever more urgent for all of us.

Yours,  
Susanne Lattke  
ESREA Secretary

## More New Faces in ESREA

As of 1 April 2023, **Maleen Kuznecov** from the DIE supports the ESREA Secretariat in financial administration and member communication. Maleen is a staff member of the central administrative unit at the DIE and is responsible for the processing of third-party funded projects. Sofia Saleem, the former assistant secretary, has returned to her home country Pakistan in early 2023.



Not only the secretariat staff has changed – also the ESREA Network Active Democratic Citizenship and Adult Learning (ADCAL) has a new co-convenor: **Diana Holmqvist**, postdoctoral researcher at Linköping University. Diana’s research focuses on the relationship between values in adult education and how education is organised with a particular interest in how this relationship affects teaching and learning. As new co-convenor, Diana takes the place of her colleagues Henrik Nordvall and Annika Pastuhov who have decided to step back. Together with Fergal Finnegan (Maynooth University) and Maja Maksimovich (University of Belgrade), the team of ADCAL convenors is now

complete again. We would like to thank Henrik and Annika for their commitment and wish the new ADCAL team every success in their future endeavours.

## ESREA’ s partners: Enhancing links and dialogue between research and practice

ESREA and the **European Association for the Education of Adults (EAEA)** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for partnership and collaboration. EAEA is a European NGO, based in Brussels, whose purpose is to link and represent European organisations directly involved in adult learning. **with 120** member organisations in 43 countries, it represents more than 60 million learners Europe-wide. EAEA and ESREA share their focus of work in adult education. While ESREA represents research and researchers, EAEA represents providers and practitioners. Both organisations believe that a closer cooperation will benefit both associations and their members, enhance dialogue between research and practice, and enable both organizations to improve their respective work.

## Reports on Recent ESREA Network Events

### ESREA Network Active Democratic Citizenship and Adult Learning (ADCAL)

#### ***Democratic dialogue and debate by the Danube: Network Conference, Belgrade, 26-27 May 2023***

The Active Democratic Citizenship and Adult Learning Network held a conference in Belgrade in May of this year. Participants travelled from Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Poland, Serbia, Slovenia Sweden, Italy, Cyprus, and the US and the conference proved both highly stimulating and convivial. As one would expect there were papers and workshops but there were also meetings and discussions with Serbian activists and artists.

The title of the conference was *‘Movements for democracy, critical learning and the limits of what we know’*. A key focus of the conference was on our learning as researchers, adult educators and as a network community. Wrestling with the profoundly serious challenges to democracy and citizenship of our time – to democracy, citizenship, the environment – multiple presentations seemed to be asking or exploring what we might learn from experienced



activists and successful social movements, from failed projects and successful campaigns, from history, policy, and political education programs, and from ordinary citizens pushing back against environmental destruction.

There was genuine curiosity and a sense of exploration as we were invited to consider how we may learn through epiphany, improvisation, and play; or learn collaboratively as communities of inquiry, together with research participants. The presentations and corridor conversations had a deep, reflexive character as we asked ourselves and each other how we may want to engage in research and how we understand the core values and ethics of adult education. Some took the route of theoretical work, clearing some conceptual ground, while others engaged directly with pedagogical questions of how we might want to teach and what could be worth learning.

The conference was marked by a strong sense of care and conviviality – a conscious attempt to create a democratic ethos at the event – and an equally strong sense of urgency about supporting active citizenship and democratic renewal. Reflecting on this conference participants discussed the need to work in a truly interdisciplinary and methodologically innovative way that connects researchers to publics. It is therefore fitting that part of the conference programme involved city walks to better understand grassroots arts and activist initiatives in Belgrade and that throughout the conference there were massive demonstrations in the city directly related to democracy and human flourishing.

The network convenors are currently planning the next network event and ideas for publication.

We also want to mark the fact that Annika Pastuhov and Henrik Nordvall have decided to step down as convenors of our network. We wish to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation for outstanding work. On a happier note, we are excited to welcome Diana Holmqvist as our new co-convenor. Diana has had extensive experience in ESREA and brings this valuable knowledge as well as a fresh perspective to ADCAL.

*Fergal Finnegan, Maja Maksimovic, Diana Holmqvist, network convenors*

[→Book of Abstracts](#)

## ESREA Network Transformative and Emancipatory Adult Education (TEAE)

### ***Reimagining transformative and emancipatory adult education for a world to come 1st Network Conference, Patras, 5-7 July 2023***

With 87 colleagues from 4 continents (Europe, Asia, South America & North America) we – the convenors of the *Transformative and Emancipatory Adult Education (TEAE) Network*, Giorgos Koulaouzidis, Alessandra Romano, Saskia Eschenbacher & Dina Soeiro - hosted our first conference at the Hellenic Open University in Patras, Greece in early July 2023.



Together, as a new emerging community with colleagues and friends from 13 different countries, we had the chance of Reimagining *transformative and emancipatory adult education for a world to come*. With 47 presentations, experiential workshops and symposia and 4 keynote speeches from Aiki Nicolaides, Loretta Fabbri, Danny Wildemeersch and Yabome Gilpin-Jackson we have had an amazing kick-off conference for our new network and are excited about co-creating a new community, dedicated to transformative and emancipatory adult education. If you want to join and find out more, get in touch with us!

*Giorgos Koulaouzidis, Alessandra Romano, Saskia Eschenbacher & Dina Soeiro, network convenors*

## ESREA Network History of Adult Education and Training in Europe

### 12<sup>th</sup> Research Seminar in Strobl, 3-7 July 2023

The twelfth research seminar of the ESREA Network History of Adult Education and Training in Europe was held in Strobl, Austria, from 3rd to 7th July 2023 in The Federal Institute for Adult Education (Bundesinstitut für Erwachsenenbildung, 'bifeb'). Eighteen participants from ten countries (Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Sweden, Turkey and United Kingdom), representing different generations, spent the entire week discussing papers on the topic 'Adult education and learning for social change in the 19th-20th centuries: Ideas, movements, and circulation of knowledge'.



Asking the participants to read the papers prior to the seminar and having sufficient time to discuss each paper in



detail enabled thorough commenting and vivid exchange of ideas as the actual presentations could be kept short. This kind of discussion was intended to assist the authors in preparing a revised paper for inclusion in an edited volume of papers following the seminar, which is now in progress. Accommodation in the residential institute located in beautiful and peaceful surroundings by the lake Wolfgang and close to mountains offered excellent opportunity to intellectual exchange (also during breakfast, lunch and dinner), leisure activities like swimming and

walking in the forest as well as evening gatherings at the institute's bar. We are grateful to our Austrian colleagues and the personnel of bifeb for their contribution in organizing the seminar and the Austrian Ministry of Education, Science and Research for its support which made this meeting possible.

*Kirsi Ahonen and Françoise F. Laot, network convenors*

# Forthcoming ESREA Conferences and Network Meetings

**8 – 10 November 2023**

*Educating and Learning across the lifespan – Adult Educators and older learners perspectives. Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy.*

Joint conferences of the ESREA Networks Adult Educators, Trainers and their Professional Development (ReNADET) and Education and Learning of Older Adults (ELOA)

Place: Tallin, Estland

[Conference Website](#)

**29th February – 2nd March 2024**

*'Problematising the Futures of Adult Education: Between Global, National, Regional and Local Policies and Actors'*

Conference of the ESREA Network Policy Studies in Adult Education (PSAE)

Place: Funchal, Madeira Island, Portugal

[Conference Website](#)

Early-bird fee: 15th Nov. 2023.

Final registration: 30th Nov. 2023.

## Publications RELA Journal



The **European Journal for Research on the Education and Learning of Adults (RELA)** is published on behalf of ESREA. RELA is a refereed academic journal creating a forum for the publication of critical research on adult education and learning.

### Recently published:

Thematic Issue Vol. 14 No. 3 on **"Inclusion, adult education and social justice"**.

Access at <https://rela.ep.liu.se/issue/view/416>

All RELA issues can be found at: <https://rela.ep.liu.se/>

### Calls for papers

Thematic Issue **"Sustainability: Place, Space and Pedagogy in Adult Learning and Education"**

Deadline: 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Thematic Issue **"Reflecting back to the past, present and future: The changing nature of research on access, learning careers and identity"**

Deadline 31st March 2024

All RELA calls are available at: <https://rela.ep.liu.se/cfp>

# Books from ESREA associates

## **Tribute to Barry Hake**

As a tribute to Barry's wonderful and fruitful career as a known and celebrated scholar in our field, his wife Angelica Kaus and his long-time colleagues and ESREA members Michal Bron Jr, Paula Guimaraes and George K. Zarifis decided to edit a Festschrift, hence a celebratory volume that includes chapters that reflect the influence Barry had in the interpretation and comprehension of adult education topics in adult education, history, policy, practices and research. Written by several colleagues who all have met and worked with Barry at some stage in his life, this book includes chapters that are organized in three parts: the first one on studying the history of adult education; the second one on analyzing *éducation permanente*, lifelong education and learning, and adult education policy; and the last one on interpreting places, times, ways of doing and thinking about adult education.

The celebratory volume *The good life. Barry J. Hake on a high learning curve* is available at: [https://renadet.weebly.com/uploads/1/2/4/3/124334336/the\\_good\\_life\\_barry80\\_digital.pdf](https://renadet.weebly.com/uploads/1/2/4/3/124334336/the_good_life_barry80_digital.pdf).

Details on the volume content and the event that was organised for Barry are also available in the blog of the RENADET website <https://renadet.weebly.com/renadet-blog/barry-j-hake-turned-80-this-year>

*George K. Zarifis*

## **Book on Transformative Civic Education**

*Transformative Civic Education in Democratic Societies*, edited by Tetyana Hoggan-Kloubert (University of Augsburg), Paul Mabrey (James Madison University), and Chad Hoggan (North Carolina State University) – from Michigan State University Press, 2023.

In this book, scholars from around the world report and reflect on civic adult education, examining approaches, paradigms, and concepts that help us to act in culturally, ethnically, linguistically, and religiously diverse societies. This collection offers examples of the roles that civic education has played and can play in different communities.

Information: <https://mitpressbookstore.mit.edu/book/9781611864601>

*Chad Hoggan*

Publications from the ESREA networks can be found at: <http://esrea.org/publications/books-from-the-networks/>

All ESREA Books can be found at: [Book series | ESREA](#)

# Opportunities for students and early career researchers

## **Master Programme in Adult Education in Malta**

The **UNESCO Chair in Global Adult Education** at the University of Malta, Faculty of Education, is offering a **Master of Arts** Programme in **Adult Education**. The course starts in February 2024. It is a part-time online programme over 4 semesters (2024-2026). Graduates with additional qualification or certified experience of practice in Adult Education may apply.

For further information, please contact:

Phone: +356 2340 3990

email: [daocae.educ@um.edu.mt](mailto:daocae.educ@um.edu.mt)

[www.um.edu.mt/educ/daocae](http://www.um.edu.mt/educ/daocae)

## ESREA Doctoral School in Klagenfurt, Austria

The Second **Klagenfurt Research Retreat (KRR)**, on **Adult Education and Transformation: Mapping Possibilities and Embracing Complexity**, will be organised from 13 to 17 May, 2024, by the University of Klagenfurt.

The doctoral school on Adult Education and Transformation is conceptualised as a research retreat, offering a convivial space of intensive scholarly exchange based on discussion and reflection with doctoral students and an experienced, inspiring and enthusiastic faculty. The green campus of Universität Klagenfurt is close to lake Wörthersee with parks and promenades and is a perfect setting for networking, scholarly conversation, contemplation and leisure activities. Deadline for submitting applications: 14th January 2024

More information on the [KRR-Homepage](#).

## Not to forget

The invitations to the **ESREA General Assembly 2023** have been sent out. The assembly will take place on **22 November** in **Bonn**. It will be organised as a hybrid event, so those who cannot travel to Bonn have the possibility to attend online. All members of ESREA members invited to attend.

The next **ESREA Triennial Conference** is scheduled to take place in **September 2025**. A call for expressions of interest to host the event will be published soon.

## How to become a member of ESREA e.V.

Membership in ESREA is open to individual and institutional members. As a member you will get a reduced fee at ESREA activities, information in the field of research on the education of adults through the ESREA mailing list and newsletter. As an individual member you have the right to vote at the general assembly that takes place each year (online through postal ballot). As an institutional member, all employees of your institution are entitled to participate in ESREA activities at a reduced fee. Note that institutional members have only one vote in the general assembly.

If you want to become a member the process is the following:

1. Download the document at: <http://www.esrea.org/about-us/membership/>
2. Fill in the membership application form and e-mail it to: [esrea\\_sec@die-bonn.de](mailto:esrea_sec@die-bonn.de)
3. Within two weeks at the latest you will receive a confirmation of your membership by e-mail
4. An invoice for your membership fee will be issued: 50 Euros for individual members, 25 Euros for students and PhD students and 150 Euros for institutional members. **Payment of membership fees can only be made through an international or EU bank transfer. Cheques are not accepted. Any foreign bank fees are to be borne by the applicants.**

ESREA Bank details for membership fee:

**Bank:** Sparkasse KölnBonn

**Account holder:** European Society for Research on the Education of Adults (ESREA) e.V.

**Account number:** 1934820174

**IBAN:** DE73 3705 0198 1934 8201 74

**BIC:** COLSDE33XXX

**VAT Number:** DE324070933



# Forthcoming newsletters

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end of October 2024

Contributions to newsletters are requested up to one month before publication.

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