Measuring and evaluating the effectiveness of active citizenship education programmes to support disadvantaged youth

Young-In (EU COST network), LLALES, Amcis and Roehampton University

Seventh annual conference on Citizenship Education for Early Career Researchers and PhD students

Call for papers

Date: 26th-27th Sep 2019
Location: Elm Grove, University of Roehampton, London, UK

Deadline submission abstracts: 7th June
Conference fee: Attendance is free; refreshments and lunch will be provided

COST Action YOUNG-IN will contribute to the attendance of 18 participants from YOUNG-IN participating countries. Travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses will be reimbursed.

To counter the current climate of retrenchment of cosmopolitan values and the return to the more explicit forms of racism and xenophobia, various international, regional and national formal and non-formal education programmes have aimed at providing learning opportunities for young people to develop active, global or European citizenship skills. Examples include the UN Programmes aimed at improving the Sustainable Development Goal 4.7.1 on Global Citizenship, the EU Erasmus Plus programmes aimed at Youth and the UNICEF Life Skills and Citizenship Education initiative in the Middle East and North Africa.

These programmes aim to teach a wide variety of knowledge, skills, attitudes and values including respect for diversity, empathy and participation skills that enable young people to engage and have their voice heard. Yet little is known on the effectiveness of these education programmes, which social groups are taking part in them and which benefit the most from them. Measuring the effectiveness of the citizenship education programmes has been either absent, not systematic or lacks quality and/or is contentious.

Examples of good practice have been the Citizenship Education Longitudinal study (2002-2014), the IEA International Citizenship and Civic Education study (1999, 2009, 2016) and the recently developed Life Skills and Citizenship Education measurement instrument (UNICEF and partners 2019).

In this context, this conference will explore how to measure citizenship (in all its forms). It will discuss how to evaluate the effectiveness of education programmes on citizenship competences and how to overcome the challenges of designing evaluation programmes for non-formal as well as formal education.
programmes. The conference will examine the distribution of citizenship skills in the population and how to use the aforementioned studies to identify groups of young people who need the education the most. Finally, it will also address the challenges of transferring the recommendations of research on the effectiveness of citizenship education programmes into policy and practice.

Key words
Active, Global or European Citizenship skills, young people’s voice & participation, citizenship measurement, citizenship education, evaluation, assessment, Formal & non-formal education programmes

Invitation
You are invited to submit an abstract of 300 words if your presentation addresses one or more of these key words. Your presentation can concern any aspect of education relating to any phase of education as long as it addresses citizenship. It can represent work in progress or research nearing completion. We encourage the submission of empirical work. The atmosphere will be informal to maximize a fruitful exchange of ideas and suggestions. The abstract should include a title, research question, theoretical background, data and methods, and (provisional) results and should not exceed 300 words.

The Cost Action YOUNG-IN is offering financial support for 18 scholars including PhD students to attend the conference. These will be offered to the best applicants from 31 countries represented in the Young-In network. They will only be open to early career researchers from outside the UK and for persons whose abstracts clearly fit with the conference themes. The grant will reimburse travel, accommodation and food according to the COST Vademecum, section 5. You need to clearly state on your abstract if you wish to be considered for the financial support.

Please send your abstract no later than 7th June to Liyuan Liu (liyuan.liu@roehampton.ac.uk). We will let you know by 18th June whether your abstract has been accepted.

For more information and submission of abstracts
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