

10th International EUREDACS Conference

Equity and Diversity in Contemporary Higher Education

Call for Proposals

Society for Research into Higher Education
London

27-28 May 2016

The 10th EUREDACS Conference will focus on the theme:
“Higher education and inequalities” (please note that there is also an open track for consideration of papers on other topics and issues).

To submit a proposal, please fill in the form (see p. 5)

and send it to: fsmit@srhe.ac.uk

Calendar:

The deadline for the submission of a proposal is **11 January 2016**.

All papers selected for presentation should be available by **29 April 2016**.

The Conference will be held at The Society for Research into Higher Education (SRHE), from Friday **27 May (noon) to 28 May (night) 2016**.

What is EUREDOCS?

EUREDOCS is a network of European doctoral students working on issues related to the Europeanization of higher education and research.

It aims to facilitate and enable more communication among doctoral students and new doctoral candidates and to promote publication and dissemination of research results and to facilitate exchange and mobility among young scholars in this field. EUREDOCS is an interdisciplinary network and accepts membership from doctoral students and recent doctoral candidates in sociology, political science, economics, history, and educational studies.

The 2016 Conference theme

The 10th EUREDOCS Conference will focus on the theme: “Equity and diversity in contemporary higher education”.

Global, national and local transformations at the political, social, economic and technological levels over the last decades have put the question of equity and diversity at the centre of policy debates. Higher education institutions are increasingly scrutinised about their role and responsibilities in terms of equity and their potential role in the reproduction of inequalities across society. The unfolding of the global crisis of the economy in 2008 and its social and political effects have made these questions of social integration and cohesion even more crucial.

Universities and other higher education institutions are a central part of equity concerns and the conference proposes to examine the extent to which the higher education sector contributes to equitable societies. Equity and diversity are deeply contextual and are tied to the multiple layers of policy and practice at the macro-, meso- and micro-levels. The conference will focus on these layers to explore questions such as:

(a) HE Policies of equity and diversity at the Macro level: universities and society

Has higher education become more diversified? How does this relate to wider societal equity, change and transformation?

In what ways do international/European, national, regional and/or institutional policies support or impede the development of equity and diversity in higher education?

What are the discourses of equity and diversity at play in universities and how does this relate to wider social contexts, policies and practices?

What is the relation of equity in higher education to wider social and political agendas?

(b) HE Practices of equity and diversity: HEIs and their students

What are the practices of equity in higher education institutions?

How are practices of equity and diversity related to student experience?

What is the relationship between teaching and learning and questions of equity and diversity?

How do practices of equity relate to questions of identity, diversity and difference?

(c) HE Practices of equity and diversity: HEIs and their staff

What are the practices of equity in higher education institutions?

How does equity shape academic practices (such as recruitment, admissions, assessment and/or teaching, for example)? What practices, if any, are at play in relation to national/European/institutional equity policies?

How are practices of equity and diversity related to academic careers, development and/or academic identity?

(d) Researching equity and diversity in HE: Methodological Issues and Debates

What are the methodological challenges of researching equity and diversity in higher education?

What forms of methodologies might support research on equity and diversity in higher education?

What are the ethics of researching equity and diversity in higher education?

(e) Open track

The EUREDOCS conference also provides an open track option to allow other PhD students working on other European topics and issues in Higher education research to contribute to the conference.

Organisation of the 2016 EUREDOCS Conference

The 10th EUREDOCS Conference will be held at the Society for Research into Higher Education from 27 to 28 May, 2016 (Friday noon to Saturday night). The Conference will be organised in three sessions (one on Friday and two on Saturday) of approximately four hours duration. In each session no more than five papers will be presented and discussed (45 to 60 minutes for each paper). The attendance of doctoral students without contributing a paper is possible. Participants without a paper have to cover their own expenses.

All papers selected for presentation should be available by 29 April 2016.

Participants and discussants will be asked to read the papers before the beginning of

the Conference. Contributors will have 15 minutes to present a short version of their paper. For each paper a discussant will be assigned from among the other participants presenting a paper to comment on the presented paper. The discussant can comment for 15 minutes as well. Then a general discussion will follow taking about 15 to 30 minutes. We expect each contributor to attend the whole Conference.

Each session will be chaired by a senior researcher, usually a member of the Scientific Committee.

Contributors have to pay themselves for their travel costs. Accommodation and meals in London will be covered by the organisation.

Invitation to Submit a Proposal

The deadline for the submission of a proposal is 5.00 pm GMT Monday 11 January 2016.

Requirements:

Being a doctoral student or having recently (not earlier than January 2014) defended your thesis and working on a topic concerning the Europeanization of higher education and research.

Proposals:

Submit a proposal (two pages maximum) on a topic to be presented by using the proposal form at the end of this text. The proposal as well as the potential presentation must be in English.

Submission of proposals:

Proposals should be sent by email to:

Francois Smit SRHE Event Organiser: fsmit@srhe.ac.uk

Selection process

The proposals will be reviewed by the members of the Scientific Committee of EUREDOCS.

The main assessment criterion will be the relevance of the proposal for the theme of the Conference. For those papers submitted on the open track, the Scientific Committee will consider the significance of the topic or issues to be explored. All papers will be considered in terms of their overall research quality. We will appreciate proposals based on solid empirical material (quantitative as well as qualitative) and including an appropriate theoretical framework. The evaluation of the proposals will take into account the number of years already spent working on the PhD thesis.

Replies will be sent by February 2016.

More about EUREDOCS?

1. The Network

EUREDOCS is a network of European doctoral students working on issues related to the Europeanization of higher education and research. The network was created upon the initiative of Sylvain Kahn (at the time Director for European Affairs) and Christine Musselin (at the time Director of the Centre de Sociologie des Organisations) at Sciences Po in Paris.

It aims to facilitate and enable more communication among doctoral students and new doctoral candidates working on issues related to the Europeanization of higher education and research. The network also aims to promote publication and dissemination of research results and to facilitate exchange and mobility among young scholars in this field.

EUREDOCS is an interdisciplinary network and accepts membership from doctoral students and recent doctoral candidates in sociology, political science, economics, history, and educational studies.

Europeanization of higher education and research is to be understood in a broad sense. It obviously addresses the Europeanization of national higher education and research policies. It also includes the analysis of the (potential) harmonisation, standardisation, convergence or normalisation processes that might affect the structure, academic curricula, accreditation procedures, the quality assessment and assurance systems, academic career patterns, the role of higher education institutions in local or regional development, the structure of university governance, the production of knowledge, the relationships between research and industry, the institutional structures for teaching and/or research etc. Furthermore, it deals with the role of supra-national bodies in these processes, the influence of American models, the impact of internationalisation etc.

2. The Activities

The activities of the EUREDOCS network mainly consist of:

- an annual international conference,
- a directory collecting detailed information about doctoral students and recent doctoral candidates and about their PhD topics in progress or recently defended in the field of Europeanization of higher education and research,

3. The Euredocs Scientific Committee

In order to develop and run this network, Sciences Po has founded a scientific committee composed of seven well-known European research centres and their representatives:

- CIPES, Center for Research in Higher Education Policies, Portugal (Pedro Teixeira)
- CSO, Sciences Po and CNRS, France (Christine Musselin and Pauline Ravinet,

Université of Lille 2)

- CHEPS, University of Twente, the Netherlands (Don Westerheijden)
- UCL Institute of Education, University of London, United Kingdom (Vincent Carpentier)
- Paulo Freire Institute-UK and Research in Inequalities, Societies and Education, University of Roehampton , United Kingdom (Penny-Jane Burke)
- International Centre for Higher Education Research (INCHER-Kassel) , University of Kassel, Germany (Georg Krücken)
- OSPS, University of Lausanne, Switzerland (Gaële Goastellec)
- Department of Administration and Organization Theory, University of Bergen, Norway (Ivar Bleiklie)

The conferences are organised jointly by the members of the Scientific Committee who also review the papers submitted. The Scientific Committee will also select the best papers of each conference and look for a possibility to publish them in an international journal.

4. The EUREDACS Conferences

One of the objectives of the EUREDACS network is to organise annual international conferences for doctoral students and new doctoral degree holders (Thesis defence no longer ago than January 2014) related to the EUREDACS thematic priorities and interests. These conferences aim to:

- promote exchange, foster discussion and reflection among doctoral students and recent doctoral degree holders,
- encourage them to write and present papers at academic meetings and conferences,
- provide practical experiences as discussants and commentators,
- foster scientific exchange and debates.

We expect the conferences to represent opportunities for doctoral students and new doctoral candidates to find a place dedicated to their work, where they can present contributions and where they are confronted with different perspectives, where they will meet senior researchers who will act as moderators or be part of audience. The conferences also serve as an opportunity for further cooperation and exchange.

We expect that many of the papers presented can then be revised for publication in different journals. The members of the Scientific Committee will support this process.

Each conference provides an opportunity for a limited number of contributors (between 12 and 16) to present a paper on a focused issue (which is part of a PhD thesis but normally not the whole project), in order to allow debates and develop relationships among participants sharing common interests and knowledge on a common theme. For each conference a new topic will be explored, a call for proposals will be dissemi-

nated and the Scientific Committee will select the best from among the submitted proposals.

The previous EUREDACS Conferences were held at Sciences Po in Paris (2004), at the Stein Rokkan Centre in Bergen (2005), at the International Centre for Higher Education Research, University of Kassel (2006), at the Centre for Higher Education Studies, School of Educational Foundations and Policy Studies, Institute of Education, University of London (2007) and at the CIPES, Center for Research on Higher Education Policies, University of Porto and University of Aveiro (2008), Sciences Po in Paris (2009), OSPS, University of Lausanne (2010), and the Department of Administration and Organization Theory at the University of Bergen (2012), Sciences Po in Paris (2014).

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PROPOSAL FORM

The deadline for the submission of a proposal is 5.00 pm GMT Monday 11 January 2016.

Proposals must not exceed two pages

Family name:

First name:

Email address:

Title of thesis:

Please tick the relevant box to determine your status:

First year	Second year	Third year	Fourth year	Thesis defended in (month/year)

Title of contribution submitted to EUREDOCS Conference:

Summary of contribution proposed (max 150 words; excluding references. References to be shown separately)

Theoretical framework:

Empirical data and methodology used

Main/provisional results