

## **First Call for Papers**

### **European Society for Research on the Education of Adults (ESREA) Network on Education and Learning of Older Adults (ELOA)**

The 7th conference of the ESREA Network **ELOA**

**17<sup>th</sup> till 19<sup>th</sup> of November 2016**

Department of Education, University of Wrocław, Poland

### **Aging in a multicultural world**

#### **– individual and social contexts of learning**

Currently Europe is facing a highly turbulent confrontation of values, cultural influences and challenges, connected with diverse identities and ways of living in a partly 'united' EU space. Besides its own unsolved dilemmas regarding confrontations between mixtures of cultures and nations in Europe, it has lately also been facing an intensive set of immigration challenges and opportunities from outside Europe, which are not generally accepted as a constitutive part of European culture. At the same time, demographic pressures as many European societies age and a lively and at times tense policy and political debate over questions of identity and immigrant integration are having obvious impacts on perceived European strengths. In addition, the most recent terrorist events in France and Belgium open up new questions about migrants and refugees and threaten to reduce their possibilities of becoming respected members of European communities. According to the Migration Policy Institute, during 2013 a total of 3.4 million people immigrated to the EU-28 Member

States, while at least 2.8 million emigrants were reported to have left the EU. And during the third quarter of 2015 (from July to September 2015), 413 800 first time asylum seekers applied for international protection in the Member States of the European Union (EU), a number almost double that of the second quarter of 2015. However we have to recall that every person's migration tells its own story. Misguided and stereotyped narratives often tend to focus only on certain types of flows, overlooking the inherent complexity of this phenomenon which impacts society in many different ways and calls for a variety of responses.

In this situation the question of aging in a multicultural world takes on a different meaning and becomes even more relevant. How should we deal with new cultures, new languages, new identities, new communities, a new society? What is the role of adult educators in a multicultural world? How must we respond to the needs of thousands of older im/migrants and refugees who are struggling with many problems and barriers (cultural, linguistic, educational, psychological, social)?

The aim of the conference is to discuss what kind of research, regarding culture, is present in older adult education in academic communities, what are the cultural, social, philosophical and psychological backgrounds of learning of older adults, how do these issues influence the formulation of fundamental life and professional questions in a changing multicultural world and an aging society; how do they relate to current older adult learning and education theory, policy and practice?

The conference will focus on the following issues:

- cultural dimensions of learning;
- multicultural communities and learning;
- barriers and opportunities for lifelong learning in different cultures and countries;
- inclusion and exclusion of older adults and their participation in cultural life;
- museums, galleries, libraries, concert halls etc. as places of intergenerational education and learning;
- cultural literacy of older adults;
- questions of multiculturalism and community learning;
- migrations and multiculturalism in later life;
- adult educators in a multicultural world;

- adult educators and the learning of older migrants;

We are convinced that Wrocław as the European Capital of Culture 2016 and a city with a long history of multiculturalism is a perfect space to discuss the above issues.

The conference will provide spaces for participants to engage with these and similar issues in workshops, parallel (thematic) sessions and plenary sessions; the conference will be a forum for researchers to facilitate cooperation, exchange knowledge and experience, and integrate PhD students into the professional field. In terms of the deconstruction and change brought to the traditional methodology of presenting research results, we would welcome alternative and innovative approaches, for example: performances, visual art, creative use of media, of space and interaction.

The conference will be held in English.

### **Call for Papers**

The Abstract should be maximum 450 words long and must include a title and 5 keywords, but not the author/s name/s or institution/s. These should be stated in the email accompanying the abstract together with name, institutional affiliation, and contact details. All abstracts will be put to the consideration of the Academic Committee.

The Abstract should be prepared according to following requirements:

- Should address selected aspects of adult education;
- Should include the theoretical framework and represent a systematic enquiry of an analytical or empirical nature;
- Background, method, results and implications should be set out clearly in a manner which is accessible to an international audience.

The abstract proposal must indicate which of the named authors will be presenting the paper.

The conference organizers will allocate a discussant for the group where papers will be presented. Accepted abstracts will be available in PDF-format on the conference website.

The date for submission of abstracts is 1 June 2016. All abstracts are to be submitted to email [elo2016@uwr.edu.pl](mailto:elo2016@uwr.edu.pl) Acceptance will be confirmed by 20 June 2016.

If accepted for presentation, final versions of papers (no more than 5,000 words including references) must be submitted by 20 October 2016. Please use Times New Roman, 12 and the APA (American Psychological Association) reference system.

## Important dates:

1 June	Deadline for submission of abstracts
20 June	Acceptance of abstracts will be confirmed
15 September	Deadline for early bird registration (If payments have not been received by this date, the higher fee will be applicable)
20 October	Final deadline for registration and payment of the conference fee
20 October	Final papers must be submitted
17-19 November	Date of the conference

## Registration Fees

	Early Registration	Late Registration
	Until Sep 15 2016	Sep 15, 2016 onwards
ESREA Member	€ 120	€ 140
Non-Members	€ 170	€ 190
PhD Students	€ 70	€ 90
Conference Dinner	€ 30	€ 30

## Notes

The above registration fees include conference materials, coffee breaks, light lunches during the meeting days and the welcome cocktail; they exclude the conference dinner, any airport/hotel transfers and hotel accommodation.

All participants must register for the conference.

## Contact person:

Małgorzata Malec Rawiński [malgorzata.malec-rawinski@uwr.edu.pl](mailto:malgorzata.malec-rawinski@uwr.edu.pl)

Secretary of the conference:

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## **About ESREA**

ESREA is a European scientific society. It was established in 1991 to provide a European-wide forum for all researchers engaged in research on adult education and learning and to promote and disseminate theoretical and empirical research in the field. The European Society for Research on the Education of Adults promotes and disseminates theoretical and empirical research on the education of adults and adult learning in Europe through research networks, conferences and publications. Active members come from most parts of Europe.

ESREA provides an important space for these changes and (re)definition of adult education and learning in relation to research, theory, policy and practice to be reflected upon and discussed. This takes place at the triennial conference, network conferences and through the publication of books and a journal.

### **ESREA RESEARCH NETWORKS**

The major priority of ESREA is the encouragement of co-operation between active researchers in the form of thematic research networks which encourage interdisciplinary research drawing on a broad range of the social sciences. These research networks hold annual/biennial seminars and conferences for the exchange of research results and to encourage publications.

The current active ESREA networks are:

Access, Learning Careers and Identities

Active Democratic Citizenship and Adult Learning

Adult Educators, Trainers and their Professional Development

Between Global and Local: Adult Learning and Development

Education and Learning of Older Adults

Gender and Adult Learning

History of Adult Education and Training in Europe

Interrogating Transformative Processes in Learning

Life-history and Biographical Research

Migration, Ethnicity, Racism and Xenophobia

Policy Studies in Adult Education

Working Life and Learning