



Comparative Education Society in Europe

CALL FOR PAPERS

Changing regimes of control in education: comparative perspectives across time and space

8 – 11 July 2024

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece



The White Tower, Byzantine and Ottoman periods

Education is increasingly shaped by new dynamics of power and influence, connecting global processes and networks with domestic policies and practices in complex ways. New modes of control in education include the growth of accountability regimes that set new frames for how to steer and manage education. They also include large-scale assessment systems that range from the early years to higher education. Surveillance mechanisms and data infrastructures, legitimated by discourses of quality, efficiency, and fairness, redefine the relations between teachers, students and knowledge at any level. Education in any context is not only subject to direct control by state institutions but is also shaped by multi-lateral agencies, for-profit actors, and transnational interest groups.

These issues have been unfolding for many years and are now complicated by a number of urgent challenges. One of these relates to rapid processes of digitalization, including the potential and limitations associated with artificial intelligence, on-line learning support technologies and the role of new media, all of which are redefining the purposes and processes of education. Where is the future site of education, to whom is it directed and how will it respond to an emerging context where humans and technology blend together? This leads to another urgent challenge: the possibilities for establishing common spaces for communicating, living, and respecting our diversities and differences, including a more ethical relation with the environment and other species. How do the forms of control outlined here shape educational futures aimed at connecting people in ways that might address the societal, political, and environmental imperatives of our time?

The following key speakers are invited to help us unfold the conference theme through **Plenary Lectures**:

- **Sotiria Grek**, University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom
- **Antoni Verger**, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain
- **Miri Yemini**, Tel Aviv University, Israel
- **Jason Beech**, University of Melbourne, Australia

The following sub-themes, organised as **Working Groups** and reflecting diverse perspectives, institutional sites, and social groups, are established to explore the conference topic:

- Governing and the politics of control
- The professional between autonomy and control
- Controlling knowledge(s), curricula, and assessment
- The digital challenge
- Envisioning futures and the politics of the commons

In addition to these five Working Groups, there will be a Working Group dedicated to **new scholars**, as well as opportunities to submit papers for **Thematically-Focused Panels (TFPs)** in which the landscape of control will still be in perspective but may touch upon themes that are not covered by any of the five Working Groups. Finally, there will be opportunities to submit proposals for **Cross-Thematic Sessions (CTSs)** where papers can go beyond the conference theme by touching on epistemological issues related to comparative education, international education and development, intercultural education, global policy studies and other related areas of study.

Conference format: Individual or co-authored, theoretical or empirical papers and panels will be presented at the WGs, the TFPs and the CTSs. Also, multi-author panels can be suggested (3-4 papers) and will take place within the TFPs and the CTSs. The **deadline** for submission is **February 15, 2024**.

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Thessaloniki (image below of Aristotelous Square) is the second largest city in Greece and the capital city of Macedonia's administrative district. Since its founding in the 4th century BCE, Thessaloniki has kept its urban character and has remained a civic centre and the main commercial hub of the Balkans. Its centuries-old multicultural history has been associated with great empires including Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman Rule. The city was also greatly influenced by many ethnic and religious groups as well as Greeks from Constantinople, Pontus, and Asia Minor. This richness, covering many historical periods, gives Thessaloniki an exciting cosmopolitan nature.

The Aristotle University of Thessaloniki is the largest university in Greece with more than 75,000 students and 2,000 staff members. The main university campus is located in the center of the city and comprises 10 faculties.



The Faculty of Education was founded in 1989 and consists of the School of Primary Education and the School of Early Childhood Education. The Faculty's academic personnel totals some 70 members – 50 Faculty members and 20 Special Teaching Fellows or Lab Teaching Personnel.

For more information: 2024.cese-europe.org or www.facebook.com/CESEconferences