Political Participation: enhancing competences

Fifth annual conference on citizenship education
A joint University of Groningen/TechYourFuture/LLAKES/AMCIS conference

June 14 and 15, 2017 (Wednesday and Thursday).
University of Groningen, Groningen, the Netherlands.

CALL FOR PAPERS
Deadline submission abstracts: February 05, 2017.
Submission adress: conference.citizenship@gmail.com.
Conference fee: Attendance is free; refreshments and lunches will be provided.
Keynote speakers: To be announced (January 13, 2017).

Political participation: enhancing competences
There is broad consensus among policy makers and educationalists that fostering participation, especially political and social participation, is an important objective of citizenship education. Mainstream opinion is that pupils and students should be enabled and encouraged to vote and to become politically engaged and active. Education should counteract the decreasing voting turnout among the young generation and the declining party membership and declining interest in politics. The importance of enhancing competences for political participation raises many interesting questions. For example:

(1) What is the relative influence of the school (curriculum, classroom management, school culture, etc.) on political participation? How does the influence of the school relate to the influence of the home environment (SES, parenting, etc.) and other factors?

(2) What competences do citizens need in political participation? Which of these competences can be developed at school?

(3) What are effective strategies to build a learning environment in which students' civic learning is encouraged?

(4) How to value alternatives to traditional forms of political engagement, like participation in protests, demonstrations, social movements, and pressure groups? What does this mean for citizenship education?

(5) How to deal with discussions and disagreement concerning the (relative) worth, efficacy, and legitimacy of specific kinds of political participation, f.i. direct democracy versus representative democracy or aggregative democracy versus deliberative democracy?

At the conference these issues will be explored in presentations and discussions.

Invitation

You are invited to submit an abstract of a presentation that addresses the theme of the conference. Various formats are possible: each format is detailed below. Your presentation can concern any aspect of education relating to any phase of education. We are interested in empirical research, theoretical studies and design based research. It can represent work in progress or research nearing completion. The atmosphere will be informal to maximize a fruitful exchange of ideas and suggestions.

Conference Formats

Conference formats include submissions as symposium, paper and roundtable.

<u>Paper</u>

Paper sessions involve oral presentations, followed by a discussion with the audience. Proposals for a paper presentation should consist of an abstract (max. 200 words) and an extended summary. The extended summary (max. 700 words excluding references) should include: 1) A short theoretical framework, 2) Aims of the study and research questions, 3) Methodology (if empirical; including participants, context, materials and data analyses), 4) Results and 5) Discussion/conclusions (including theoretical and practical implications). The abstract (max. 200 words) should concisely address points 1-5. Length of the paper session: Presentations (25 minutes per paper); Interactive discussion with the audience (15 minutes).

<u>Symposium</u>

Symposia present research on one topic or theme, providing a coherent set of papers for discussion. In each symposium, the participants should come from at least two different

countries. Symposia sessions consist of three oral presentations and a discussant, led by a chairperson. Proposals for a symposium should consist of an abstract and an extended summary for the proposed symposium, as well as and an abstract for each individual presentation. The extended summary (max. 500 words excluding references) of a symposium should address 1) A short theoretical framework, 2) The aims of the symposium, and 3) The contribution of each presentation in the symposium. The abstract (max. 200 words) of the symposium should concisely address points 1-4. Abstracts of individual papers (max. 500 words) of the symposium should include: 1) A short theoretical framework, 2) Aims of the study and research questions, 3) Methodology (including participants, context, materials and data analyses), 4) Results and 5) Discussion/conclusions (including theoretical and practical implications). Length of the symposium session: Presentations (20 minutes per paper); Discussant (15 minutes); Interactive discussion with the audience (15 minutes). Please, note that every participant must register individually.

Roundtable

Roundtables are dedicated to research that is in progress. Roundtables are an opportunity to discuss not only preliminary research results but also the design of a research project or (theoretical) research. For a roundtable session hand-outs are needed to facilitate discussion. Formal presentations are to be avoided. Alternatively, presenters can work with a flip-chart or other materials, to be positioned on the table and that may help to structure the presentation and/or discussion. Proposals for a roundtable should consist of an abstract (max. 200 words) including one or two questions that are to be discussed and an extended summary (max. 500 words excluding references) with hand-outs. The extended summary should include at least 1 and 2: 1) A short theoretical framework, 2) Aims of the study and research questions, 3) Methodology (if empirical; including participants, context, materials and possible data analyses), 4) Preliminary results (if available). Length of the round table: Presentation (5 to 10 minutes); Interactive discussion with the audience (20 minutes).

Important Dates

January 13, 2017	Announcement of keynote speakers
February 05, 2017	Submissions due
March 05, 2017	Notification of Review Outcomes
June 14-15, 2017	Conference (Wednesday, 12h00 – Thursday, 17h00)

We are very much looking forward to receiving your submissions and welcoming you all in Groningen,

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