



Exploring Intersectionality – Building Solidarity across EU-Turkey Borders

Inclusive Education in Times of
Forced Migration and COVID-19

Digital Conference
November 11–12, 2020

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Global dynamics of change such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the strengthening of anti-immigrant discourses, and neoliberal transformations impact – among other spheres – educational policies, processes, and practices. These developments also tend to exacerbate educational inequalities and injustices. This becomes particularly evident with regard to the situation of children seeking protection in Turkey and the European Union. They face numerous barriers and multiple forms of discrimination in migration societies and their educational institutions.

At the same time, increasing forced migration to Turkey and the EU over the last decade has further fueled the debate on how to deal with plurality in education. In this respect, various initiatives in migration societies such as Germany, Greece, and Turkey have emerged. They draw attention to the situation of marginalized groups in education systems by empowering their voices and promoting the societal and political-pedagogical debate on inclusion, anti-discrimination, and educational justice.

In four panels, this digital conference explores and discusses the complex challenges arising from the claim of an “education for all” during and after the pandemic. The event brings together researchers, educational practitioners, activists, and civil society initiatives from Turkey and the EU that focus on questions such as:

- How does the current strengthening of symbolic and material borders, e.g. due to the pandemic, affect children’s right to education and non-discrimination?
- How do different categories of marginalization and layers of oppression intersect when it comes to the situation of “refugee children” within different education systems and settings in Turkey and the EU?
- Which inclusive approaches, projects, and strategies are able to tackle exclusionary dynamics in education while being sensitive to multiple forms of discrimination and belonging?
- How can notions of solidarity go beyond solutions formulated by nation-states and be fostered across EU-Turkey borders when addressing global educational inequalities and injustices?



Reinforcing borders and images of “the other” in light of COVID-19: New gateways for discrimination against “refugee children” in education?

November 11, 16:00 – 18:00 (Germany) / 17:00 – 19:00 (Greece) / 18:00 – 20:00 (Turkey)

Ayhan Kaya – Istanbul Bilgi University, Istanbul

Exclusionary effects of recent border closures and nationalist notions of solidarity on refugee children and their families

Liz Fekete – Institute of Race Relations, London

Intersectional dimensions of racism in the aftermath of COVID-19

Zerkia Farzad – Wave of Hope for the Future, Moria/Lesvos

**Education in the midst of an emergency:
Approaches and current challenges on the political and societal levels**

Mohammed Jouni – Youth without borders & Association for Unaccompanied Refugee Minors, Berlin

Voices of “refugees” against structural discrimination in education in the context of changing political and societal discourses

Discussant María do Mar Castro Varela – Alice Salomon University, Berlin

Moderator Deniz Yüksek – Aydın University, Istanbul



Intersectionality as a lens to educational inequalities during and after the COVID-19 pandemic

November 12, 10:00 – 12:00 (Germany) / 11:00 – 13:00 (Greece) / 12:00 – 14:00 (Turkey)

Nivedita Prasad – Alice Salomon University, Berlin

The concept “intersectionality” and its implications for analyzing and addressing the situation of asylum-seeking children

Kemal Vural Tarlan – Kırkayak Kültür, Gaziantep

The “other” refugees: The (educational) situation of Dom children in Turkey and the EU

Ayşe Uzun – Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants, Istanbul

Intersecting forms of discrimination (in education) against “LGBTI+ refugee minors”

Tuğba Tanyılmaz & Koray Yılmaz-Günay –
Initiative for Intersectional Pedagogy, Berlin

How can a better understanding of the complexity of identities be promoted in different educational settings?



Discussant Anna Carasthathis –
Feminist Autonomous Centre for Research, Athens

Moderators

Ellen Kollender – 2019/20 Mercator-IPC-Fellow, Sabancı University, Istanbul

Joanna Krzemińska – 2018/19 Mercator-IPC-Fellow, Berlin

Inclusive education: Ways and means of countering discrimination in education with the help of civil society organizations

November 12, 14:00 – 15:30 (Germany) / 15:00 – 16:30 (Greece) / 16:00 – 17:30 (Turkey)

Mechtild Gomolla – Helmut Schmidt University, Hamburg

**Transformations of educational institutions toward social justice:
Tensions between new governance and Inclusion**

Özge Sönmez – Yuva Derneği, Istanbul

**Creating inclusive learning environments from the bottom up:
Civil society initiatives between professionalization and grassroots orientation**

Marina Liakis – Zaatar, Athens

**From “vulnerable” to “empowered”: The role of NGOs in providing
safe spaces and education for refugees in particular need of protection**

Saman Hamdi – Georg August University, Göttingen

**Break borders! Fostering inclusion with the subversive
potential of arts education?**

Discussant Burcu Meltem Arık – Education Reform Initiative, Istanbul

Moderator Çetin Çelik – Koç University, Istanbul



Addressing educational inequalities and building solidarities across EU-Turkey borders

November 12, 16:00 – 17:30 (Germany) / 17:00 – 18:30 (Greece) / 18:00 – 19:30 (Turkey)

Ayça Polat – Kiel University of Applied Sciences, Kiel (tbc)

How to foster educational justice and solidarity networks across borders

Fazilet Mıstıkoğlu & Caner Soyulmaz – Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts, Istanbul

The unifying power of arts: Challenges and prospects for international collaboration in arts education

Beril Sönmez – Anadolu Kültür, Istanbul

Birte Gooßes – Institut DINX, Bochum

Negotiating perspectives, understandings and practices around inclusion in (non)-formal education: The challenge of building common grounds in times of deepening inequalities

Saraya Gomis – Each One Teach One e.V., Berlin

Interlinking activism against (racial) discrimination on the structural, institutional and individual level: The example of “Each One Teach One”, a community-based education and empowerment project in Berlin



Discussant tbc

Moderator Alia Spathopoulou, Feminist Autonomous Centre for Research, Athens

The digital conference is free and everyone is welcome!
The event will take place on Zoom. To take part please
register here until November 10, 2020:

<https://tinyurl.com/incluconference>

Further information about the conference:

<http://www.inclusive-education-across-borders.com>

Curated by

Ellen Kollender & Joanna Krzemińska

Hosted by

IPC-Sabancı University-Stiftung Mercator Initiative, Sabancı University

Partners

Migration Research Center at Koç University (Mirekoç), Istanbul
Feminist Autonomous Center for Research, Athens

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