

SECOND CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

Workshop IV ERUA WP 2

September 8-10, 2022, Sozopol, Bulgaria

New Bulgarian University

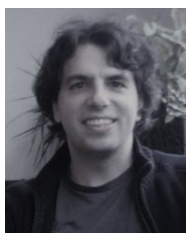
Digital Transformation of Research and Practice in Reform Universities: Past, Present and Future

The workshop will gather researchers and practitioners in three main subthemes of interest:

- 1) Reforming Education for the Digital Age
- 2) Higher Education for Digital Citizenship
- 3) New Tools and Approaches in Digitalized Education

Reforming Education for the Digital Age

Within this theme researchers are invited to contribute with ideas on the relationship between twentieth-century reform ideals and current reforms to adapt to the challenges of the digital age. Furthermore we may ask if new digital technologies just make communicating educational content easier, or if they bring deep structural change in the role of education in society, in its internal processes and the concept of knowledge.



The keynote speaker for that theme is **David Kergel**, Professor (Tenure) at the IUBH University for Applied Sciences (Germany) and Co-editor of the book series 'Perspectives on Education in the Digital Age' at Routledge. His research interests include qualitative educational research, media education, and diversity in the digital age. The topic of his lecture is *"Digital Diversity in Higher Education! The socio-semiotic and socio-epistemological meaning of Diversity and Digitality in Higher Education."*

Higher Education for Digital Citizenship

Digital technologies and social media give new meaning to the notion of citizenship. On one hand there are obvious advantages for the efficacy of the democratic processes, transparency and connectedness of every single citizen. On the other hand, the power of social media changes the rules of the political game, giving rise to the opposite of democracy: wild digital populism, legitimizing racist, xenophobic and homophobic ideas reaching political representation; social destabilization of entire countries through hybrid wars of misinformation, cyber attacks of institutions and sabotage of

elections. What might be the role of the university in all this? Centralized technological solutions proved to be inefficient, but the immune system of democracies will more and more depend on the higher education of digital citizenship.

(we are negotiating a keynote speaker for that topic)

New Tools and Approaches for Digitalized Education

This theme aims at gathering visionaries, practitioners and researchers directly involved in the implementation of new technologies for the benefits of higher education. Digital gamification, Virtual and Augmented Reality, collaborative platforms, interactive graphs, Zoom, Moodle are just part of the whole industry of digitalized higher education where we need clear ideas and action plans.



Dr **Mariza Dima**, the keynote for this theme is a Senior Lecturer in Games Design at Brunel University London. She specialises in User Experience and User Interface design for developing meaningful and engaging interactions particularly using mobile, AR and haptic technologies. She has worked between academia and the creative industries as an interaction designer and creative technologist in R&D projects combining engineering and design approaches grounded on theoretical contexts of narrative, affective dramaturgy, and audience/player engagement. Her presentation will be entitled “Digital gamification and collaborative co-creation in international educational interaction”.

The workshop will take place as part of the traditional for NBU *Early Fall School of Semiotics (EFSS)*, whose general topic is almost the same - “Digital Transformation of Education: Semiotic and Interdisciplinary Perspectives” and with which we hope to establish important collaboration and synergies. This call concerns also papers for the EFSS which is open to ERUA members and will take place 6-10 September.

The workshop is organized by the ERUA Research Group as one of several ERUA activities within the Early Fall School of Semiotics. We also plan a workshop for students organized by the ERUA **Pedagogical Group** and a workshop for early career researchers organized by the ERUA **Research Support group**, whose call is already published:

<https://erua-eui.eu/events-calendar/call-for-application-early-career-researchers-workshop-digitalization-of-research-and-open-science/>

New deadline for abstracts and proposals (200-300 words, send to kbankov@nbu.bg): **20 July 2022**
All participants from the ERUA partner universities are **free of participation fee**.

For more information about ERUA visit <https://erua-eui.eu/>

No info yet for the accommodation, link with info about **Sozopol**: <https://bulgariatravel.org/sozopol/>

For more information about **New Bulgarian University**: <https://nbu.bg/en>