

Association for Civic Education Didactics and Civic Youth and Adult Education (GPJE) - Early Career Researcher Conference

**March 13th to 14th 2025
at the Leibniz University Hannover**

Call for Participation

Democratic Citizenship Education: Between Expansion and Crisis?

The intensification of multiple crises threatening established democratic institutions has led to increased academic and political attention on democratic citizenship education. While public programs often aim to promote democratic attitudes, primarily among young people, academic discourses encompass different perspectives from a growing variety of educational disciplines and their contributions to educating democratic citizens. The debates surrounding education for democratic citizenship therefore encompass different viewpoints on the content, objectives, needs, opportunities, and obstacles of educational processes against the backdrop of current crises. The implementation of socio-ecological transformation, the fight against religious fundamentalism and political extremism, the reduction of group-focused enmity, the fight against political disinformation, and motivating citizens, especially young citizens, to (politically) participate in society – these and other issues are described as reasons for more or better democratic citizenship education. However, both the categorization of these developments – as challenges, crises, or apocalypses – and the content of the educational processes required to overcome them remain disputed.

In this context, this conference aims to combine different perspectives on the challenges facing democratic societies and the possibilities of democratic citizenship education to address them. We would like to encourage theoretical, empirical or conceptual contributions to address, among others, the following issues:

- What conceptualization of education is associated with democratic citizenship education?
- What characterizes democratic citizenship education and how can it be distinguished from other educational concepts?
- Which areas of democratic citizenship education are particularly relevant against the backdrop of current social developments?
- What are the countervailing challenges or crisis situations that threaten democratic systems? Which forms of democratic citizenship education are necessary as a result?
- Which democratic theories or empirical sources on the current state of democratic society are relevant for democratic citizenship education?

- What is the relationship between political demands and educational realities in the field of democratic citizenship education?
- Which points of connection and distinction exist between democratic citizenship education and other concepts pedagogical or educational concepts?

The contributions, for example the presentation of a doctoral project, a new theoretical perspective or a current research project, can take place in the following formats:

1. Presentation (20 minutes presentation, 20 minutes discussion);
2. Five-minute pitch of a (PhD) project followed by a professional exchange in small groups;
3. Workshop (90 minutes).

Both German- and English-language submissions are welcome. Please send your abstract (up to 400 words, including the format, the title and up to five references [APA style]) to the following address:

tagung@idd.uni-hannover.de.

Deadline 15.12.2024

We are looking forward to your submissions and to an exciting conference in Hanover!

With kind regards

The organizing team

Theresa Bechtel, Sarah Göhmann, Rico Lewerenz and Bastian Vajen

Registration information

Participation in the ECR Conference is free of charge. On the [conference website](#) you will find information on how to register and travel to and from the conference. If you have any questions about the conference, please contact us by e-mail.

Information on the contribution formats

This conference offers the opportunity to give a presentation, a pitch or a workshop. Submissions do not have to relate to the theme of the main conference. Hybrid formats may be possible. Please contact the organizing team. The formats include in detail:

Presentations

A presentation should last approximately 15–20 minutes. This will be followed by a moderated discussion of about 20 minutes.

Pitches

A pitch is a pointed presentation for a PhD project or research project in its early phase. In a maximum of five minutes, the first basic ideas, the underlying research question, central assumptions, the steps of the procedure, the method and/or open questions can be presented, to which the audience will respond afterwards. All pitches will be presented one after the other in the plenary. Afterwards, smaller working groups will be formed in which all members of the audience are assigned to a pitch. In the working groups, open questions about the respective project are discussed in a focused manner. The abstract should include an assessment of the project's progress and formulate open questions to be discussed in the working groups.

Workshops

A workshop involves an interactive examination of a topic in which the participants engage with specific contents or questions. Accordingly, a workshop should not only offer input, but also include work phases and moderated discussions. The time frame for a workshop is 90 minutes.

Zeitplan	
Deadline for submitting abstracts	15.12.24
Decision on acceptance	22.12.24