CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Research Perspectives in STEM Education

ETE 2027 Educating the Educators SPECIAL

A special international conference honouring Prof. Dr. Katja Maass's 60th birthday and her contributions to STEM education

9 - 11 JUNE 2027

FREIBURG, GERMANY

SUBMISSIONS	REGISTRATION	CONFERENCE FEE
15 September - 24 November 2026	Opens 11 January 2027	€180 early registration €200 late registration

As technological change and complex societal challenges reshape the world, STEM education must help learners connect disciplinary knowledge with real-world questions, navigate digital environments, and access learning opportunities that respond to diverse needs and experiences.

ETE 2027 Special - Research Perspectives in STEM Education brings together researchers and teacher educators to share current findings, explore their implications for teaching and learning, and foster collaboration across disciplines and national contexts.

Conference focus

REAL-WORLD APPLICATIONS IN STEM EDUCATION	STEM IN THE DIGITAL ERA	DIVERSITY IN STEM EDUCATION
Authentic problems, societal challenges and meaningful contexts	Digital tools, artificial intelligence and technology-rich learning	Equity, inclusion, participation and access in STEM education

Why take part?

The sixth edition of the Educating the Educators conference series brings together researchers, teacher educators and other stakeholders from across disciplines, countries and career stages. It offers a space to exchange ideas, engage with new perspectives and help shape future directions in STEM education.

Keynote speakers

Prof. Dr. Michèle Artigue · Paris Diderot University	**Prof. Dr. Gabriele Kaiser** · University of Hamburg
Prof. Dr. Knut Neumann · IPN Kiel	**Prof. Dr. Alan H. Schoenfeld** · UC Berkeley

A special occasion: The conference celebrates Prof. Dr. Katja Maass's longstanding contributions to STEM education research, teacher education and international collaboration, while opening new perspectives and opportunities for future cooperation.

Conference tracks

Real-World Applications in STEM Education

How can authentic problems and meaningful applications make STEM learning more relevant and impactful? This track welcomes theoretical, conceptual and empirical contributions that connect STEM knowledge with everyday life, societal challenges and professional contexts. Both interdisciplinary approaches and studies rooted in individual STEM disciplines are invited, particularly those examining how real-world applications can strengthen motivation and deepen understanding.

Possible topics: mathematical modelling; problem-solving; socio-scientific issues; sustainability; career-oriented learning; contextualised and interdisciplinary STEM education.

STEM Education in the Digital Era

Digitalisation is changing how STEM knowledge is accessed, created, communicated and assessed. This track explores the opportunities and challenges created by technology-rich learning environments, with particular attention to the pedagogical, ethical and practical questions raised by artificial intelligence. Contributions may also examine how digitalisation is transforming curricula, teaching, learning and teacher professional development across individual STEM disciplines and interdisciplinary settings.

Possible topics: digital tools and learning environments; AI in teaching and learning; digital assessment; teacher professional development; curriculum transformation.

Diversity in STEM Education

Inclusive STEM education is essential for educational quality and social equity. This track examines how learning environments can recognise diverse needs, experiences and identities, broaden participation and address structural barriers. Research- and practice-oriented contributions across educational levels and settings are welcome, especially those developing evidence-based strategies for more inclusive and equitable STEM learning environments.

Possible topics: gender; language; social background; disability; migration; underrepresentation; inclusive pedagogies; intercultural perspectives; equity, access and participation.

Who should submit?

We welcome contributions from researchers in STEM education and related fields at all career stages, including doctoral researchers, early-career researchers and established scholars. Teacher educators, educational leaders, policymakers and other stakeholders are also warmly invited.

Empirical studies, theoretical and conceptual papers, innovative practices, ongoing projects and work in progress are all welcome. Contributions may address one track, combine several tracks or explore a related topic beyond the three focus areas.

Present findings. Test ideas. Build collaborations.

ETE 2027 Special is designed for focused discussion and meaningful international exchange

Formats open for submission

Choose the format that best supports your contribution and the kind of exchange you are seeking:

Format	Timing	Best suited for
Compact Talk	10-minute presentation + 10-minute discussion	Open to researchers at all career stages.
Extended Talk	20-minute presentation + 10-minute discussion	Open to researchers at all career stages.
Junior Talk	10-minute presentation + 10-minute discussion	Designed for early-career researchers (typically within approximately two years of completing their PhD) with additional time for constructive feedback.
Poster	Interactive poster session	Suitable for research projects, innovative ideas and work in progress.

Engagement formats

In addition to the formats open for submission, the programme will include selected formats designed for active exchange and collaboration:

Research in Action	Interactive workshops that explore research approaches and educational practices through hands-on discussion and participation.
Project Spotlights and Pitches	Concise presentations of selected projects, findings and initiatives, with a focus on identifying synergies and opportunities for cooperation.
Working Groups	Facilitated sessions for focused exchange and collaborative work on shared questions and future directions in STEM education.

Please note: These formats are not open for general submission via ConfTool. However, researchers or project teams interested in contributing may contact educating-the-educators@ph-freiburg.de.

Early Career Researchers Programme

Dedicated sessions will support doctoral and early-career researchers through methodological exchange, skill development, professional networking and in-depth discussion of their work. Early-career researchers will also have the opportunity to present their work in dedicated Junior Talk sessions.

How to submit

Proposals must be submitted through ConfTool. The submission link and further instructions are on the conference website: educating-the-educators.icse.eu

Each proposal must include:

- title of the contribution;
- author name(s) and affiliation(s);
- preferred presentation format;
- the most relevant conference track, where applicable; and
- an abstract of no more than 2,000 characters, including spaces.

The abstract should clearly explain the topic and its relevance to STEM education. Where appropriate, it should also outline the theoretical background, methodology and key findings. All submissions will be reviewed by the Scientific Committee based on relevance, quality, originality and fit with the conference themes. Conference and submission language is English.

Key dates

Submissions open	15 September 2026
Submission deadline	24 November 2026
Registration opens	11 January 2027
Author notification	1 February 2027
Early registration deadline	21 April 2027
Late registration opens	22 April 2027
Programme published	May 2027
Conference	9 - 11 June 2027

Registration and fee

Registration is required for all participants. Accepted presenters must register by the early-registration deadline.

The registration form will be available from 11 January 2027 on the conference website. The conference fee is €180 for early and €200 for late registration.

Conference leadership

Conference Chairs: **Michiel Doorman**, Utrecht University, the Netherlands, **Elena Schäfer and Oliver Straser**, ICSE, University of Education Freiburg, Germany

Scientific Committee

Mónica Baptista University of Lisbon, Portugal	**Matija Bašić** University of Zagreb, Croatia
Jesper Boesen Jönköping University, Sweden	**Gültekin Cakmakcı** Hacettepe University, Türkiye
Ragnhild Lyngved Staberg Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway	**Janka Medová** Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra, Slovak Republic
Željka Milin Šipuš University of Zagreb, Croatia	**Despina Potari** National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece
Jenny Sendova Institute of Mathematics and Informatics, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria	

Submit and learn more

Conference website: ete.icse.eu/en
Questions: educating-the-educators@ph-freiburg.de
We look forward to receiving your contribution and welcoming you to Freiburg!