



european university  
continuing education network



Universidade de Aveiro  
theoria poiesis praxis

# Call for Contributions

## AVEIRO CONFERENCE

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*University of Aveiro (PT), 05-07 June 2019*

*University Lifelong Learning to Live a Better Life –  
Continuing Education for Sustainable Quality of Life in  
Europe*

### Rational

Understanding and navigating the complexities of educational and professional pathways is a key challenge for individuals, enterprises and higher education institutions. There are ancillary challenges of creating cross-community education and training ecosystems that support collaboration and exchange between a range of stakeholders, while protecting the needs of individuals and wider society. An underpinning imperative is to help foster the conditions for better quality of life and wellbeing for all citizens. Universities have a central role to play, both in terms of their wider social mission and in the design and delivery of lifelong learning.

There are macro level challenges vis-à-vis the economy for instance in relation to skills shortages, retraining and emerging careers. These challenges are best met in flexible, collaborative ways. For universities this requires engagement with a broad spectrum of stakeholders, balancing transversal labour market competencies while ensuring consistency of the knowledge behind these competences, and generating a coherent educational and professional landscape.

Employability is no longer a stable condition pertaining to individuals across their working lives. To maintain employability is becoming a lifelong learning mission, even for people who remain in the same sector of profession. Renewal of fundamental knowledge relevant to continued employment, career change and re-entry into the job market is an ongoing process. Universities are key players in this domain especially in relation to acquisition of high-level knowledge and skills, through higher academic qualifications and CPD.

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Universities are uniquely placed as institutions with missions to advance knowledge through discovery, integration, application and teaching. In this regard they can respond to societal level challenges like climate change, migration and the economy, but also key everyday concerns like the quality of life, health, wellbeing and job prospects of ordinary people.

These challenges and opportunities resonate in many dimensions in contemporary Europe. In this conference we wish to explore a common future that is cognisant of sustainability and wellbeing, integrating economic, educational, professional and societal contributions using the following overarching themes:

1. **Wellbeing in a Digital Age**
2. **Sustainable Livelihoods**
3. **Active Citizenship and Humanity Engagement**

## Aims of the Conference

In this 51st conference eucen proposes to keep involving academic, society and business actors' perspectives and knowledge in the common goal of promoting higher academic and professional qualifications in a sustainable way, addressing the challenges faced by the institutions that connect with ULLL. These challenges have to be learner centred met, in a Lifelong Learning viewpoint, leading to their Higher Education level and active citizenship promotion.

In this way, **eucen** means to promote the discussion on:

- content, competences, basic and transversal skills,
- literacy both at societal and scientific levels,
- guidance and counselling,
- innovative efficient teaching and learning methodologies,
- validation and permeability,
- inclusive practices

as they are intrinsically linked on the pursuit for sustainable employability and wellbeing conditions. The contributions will inform about ongoing practices and research results contributing to an overall wellness and quality of Life.

## Target groups

All people involved or planning to be involved in University Lifelong Learning programmes: ULLL managers, university staff, decision-makers, professors, researchers, partners from private and public institutions, professional bodies, career counsellors, society actors, business stakeholders, employers and other interested people.

## Conference themes: strands for contributions

### 1. Wellbeing in a Digital Age

In this strand we want to focus on the role of IT and digitalisation skills development as an essential part of citizens' capacity building for further and higher education and labour market opportunities.

We welcome contributions linked to:

- Digital competences acquisition
- Technology Enhanced learning
- Learning and teaching at distance

### 2. Enabling Livelihoods

In this strand we want to focus on different academic education and professional occupations profiles to identify effective practices and research findings that contribute to enhance how these two relevant factors can interact in order to promote quality of Life.

We welcome contributions linked to:

- Higher Education Vocational Education and Training
- Academic Qualification, Professional trajectories and Permeability
- Continuing Professional development routes

### 3. Active Citizenship and Humanity Engagement

In this strand we want to focus on the learners' life trajectory and their need of support when a new chapter opens in their lives. Namely, how can they deal with society and economic changes accommodating them in their expectations and aspirations in an active citizenship way.

We welcome contributions linked to:

- University engagement in the development of active citizenship
- Societal implications for ULLL
- Entrepreneurship and employability

## Call for Contributions

We welcome contributions addressing:

1. **Wellbeing in a Digital Age**
2. **Sustainable Livelihoods**
3. **Active Citizenship and Humanity Engagement**

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Colleagues all around the world are welcome to submit contributions related to university lifelong learning under these topics. These could be in the form of case studies, research results, comparative surveys, critical analysis and reflection on each of the strands and all will be peer reviewed.

**Three types of contributions** are accepted:

- a) oral presentation in one of the parallel sessions or during the oral poster presentations;
- b) exhibition of work where printout posters will be only displayed in the coffee break area
- c) full papers may be submitted and will be peer reviewed to decide their acceptance and on-line publication <https://eucenstudies.eucen.eu/ejournal/>

## Important notes for contributions

- Abstracts are to be proposed and submitted by one person.
- Up to three other people can be named as co-authors in the proposal.
- For each participant (named author or co-author) a maximum of two proposals may submitted.
- The abstract proposal must indicate which of the author or co-authors will present the contribution.
- At least one author/co-author of each accepted contribution is required to register to the 2019 eucen Conference.
- There is no funding available to cover registration fee or other expenses for the presenters.
- All authors attending the conference must register for the 2019 eucen Conference.
- Abstracts should be no longer than 500 words.
- Each one should indicate to which theme it is related:
  1. Wellbeing in a Digital Age
  2. Sustainable Livelihoods
  3. Active Citizenship and Humanity Engagement
- Indicate the type of contribution preferred: oral presentation, poster or full paper.
- Nominate who will be the author or co-author responsible for communicating with the eucen Conference organizers about the contribution.

- Accept to send a full paper before 24 May 2019 if the paper is selected.
- Please submit your abstracts using the online form that you can find at: <http://eucenstudies.eucen.eu/currentcall/>
- The eucen Aveiro Conference Scientific Committee is responsible for the selection of the submitted abstracts.
- Accepted abstracts will be downloadable in PDF-format from the eucen Studies website: <http://eucenstudies.euce.eu>

## Papers

- Abstracts considered of major interest will be invited to submit a full paper.
- Guide lines for paper submission will be sent to the authors of the selected abstracts.
- Full conference papers will be downloadable on the website exclusively by the conference participants and subsequently published in **eucen** Studies online journal for lifelong learning (ISSN 2616-6674)
- The full papers must have a length of 3000 to 5000 words
- Please send your full paper **in Word format** to [events@eucen.eu](mailto:events@eucen.eu)

## Criteria for Reviewing of Abstracts

Abstracts for papers are welcome from all domains of research in university lifelong learning (adult education, continuing education and professional development included). The criteria used in reviewing each abstract are as follows:

- Directly related or fully transferable to specified aspects of university lifelong learning;
- Reference to a theoretical framework, systematic inquiry of an analytic or empirical nature;
- Background, methods, results and implications are set out clearly and accessibly to an international audience.
- Explanation is included as to how interaction with and activation of the audience will be arranged during presentations.

## Language

The abstract, the paper and its presentation should be in English.  
Simultaneous translation will not be available in plenary or parallel sessions.

Please bear in mind when presenting a paper that you are speaking to an international audience, the majority of whom may not be familiar with your own country, let alone its educational system. Please avoid the use of acronyms and do not use expressions which relate to your local educational system without providing a contextualization.

### Important dates

- Call will close on **Fri 15 March 2019**
- Authors will be invited to submit full papers when their abstract is accepted
- Scientific Committee will send feedback to authors by **Fri 05 April 2019**
- Deadline to register with the Early Bird reduced fee is **Wed 12 April 2019**
- Deadline to submit your full paper (if invited to do so) is **Fri 23 May 2019**
- Deadline to register with standard fee is **Mon 24 May 2019**