

ELINET - University of Cologne  
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www.eli-net.eu



LITERACY CHANGES LIVES.

## Call for Contributions (deadline by February 28<sup>th</sup>) to International ELINET Symposium 2018 “Literacy in the 21st Century: Participation – Inclusion – Equity”.

July 23-24, 2018, Cologne, Germany

### Organizer

ELINET Association (European Literacy Policy Network) & University of Cologne

Prof. Dr. Christine Garbe, Chair of ELINET Association; University of Cologne, Germany

Viv Bird, ex Chief Executive of Booktrust, UK  
Prof. Dr. Patricia Schillings, University of Liège, Belgium  
Dr. Sari Sulkunen, University of Jyväskylä, Finland  
Prof. Dr. Eufimia Tafa, University of Crete, Greece  
Prof. Dr. Renate Valtin, Humboldt University Berlin, Germany

Prof. Dr. William G. Brozo, George-Mason-University, Fairfax, VA, U.S  
Drs. Jeroen Clemens, Utrecht, Netherlands  
Dr. Fabio Nascimbeni, Universidad Internacional de la Rioja, Spain  
Dr. George Manolitsis, University of Crete, Greece  
Prof. Dr. Gerry Shiel, St. Patrick’s College, Dublin, Ireland

#### Location:

University of Cologne, Main  
Campus, Seminar Building, Albertus-  
Magnus-Platz 1, 50931 Köln

**No conference fees** are requested,  
except a small contribution towards  
catering. Participants will have to  
cover travel and accommodation  
costs by themselves.

**Accommodation:** The organizing team  
has reserved rooms in different  
hotels in Cologne which can be  
booked individually by participants  
Details will be communicated on the  
ELINET platform [www.eli-  
net.eu/events/elinet-association-  
symposium-2018-cologne/](http://www.eli-net.eu/events/elinet-association-symposium-2018-cologne/)

**Conference languages:** English (in  
most sections and plenary events),  
German is possible for some sessions.

The ELINET Association will host an **International Symposium for Improving Literacy Policies and Practices across Europe from July 23rd -24th 2018 in Cologne.**

Literacy is an essential prerequisite for all kinds of learning and human development. It enables people to live full and meaningful lives, and to contribute towards the enrichment of the communities in which we live. By literacy we mean the ability to read and write at a level whereby individuals can effectively understand and use written communication in all media (print or electronic), including digital literacy. In the knowledge-based societies of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the rapid spread of new technologies and a constantly changing work environment, literacy learning is no longer limited to childhood and adolescence but must be recognised as a lifelong need and requirement.

In Europe one in five 15-year-olds and nearly 55 million adults lack basic literacy skills. Not only does this make it difficult for them to find a job, it also increases their risk of poverty and social exclusion, limiting opportunities for cultural and civil participation, lifelong learning and personal growth. The European Commission recognises that there has been little improvement in literacy in the last 15 years.

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The two day symposium will offer various opportunities to share ideas and perspectives on current and future literacy issues around participation, inclusion and equity. The symposium strives to produce outcomes in terms of statements on key-questions for the future, and policy statements.

### Programme:

#### Monday, July 23<sup>th</sup>

14:00 - 14:30 Welcome  
14:30 - 15:00 Keynote  
15:00 - 16:00 World Café  
16:00 - 16:30 Coffee break  
16:30 - 17:30 Poster Session  
17:45 - 18:45 Plenary debate  
19:00 Buffet dinner  
20:00 Creative evening session

#### Tuesday, July 24<sup>th</sup>

09:00 - 10:00 Key Note  
10:00 - 11:00 Parallel Thematic Sessions I  
11:00 - 11:30 Coffee break  
11:30 - 13:00 Parallel Thematic Sessions II  
13:00 - 14:00 Lunch break  
14:00 - 15:00 Science Slam  
15:00 - 15:30 Q & A with speakers of the Science Slam  
15:30 - 16:00 Closing session

**Participants are invited to share their research and good practices and to contribute to**

**1) Thematic Sessions I & II** (contribution of 15 minutes, abstract max. 300 words) for the following topics:

I: Early literacy teaching: Skills, teaching practices and professional development. (Chair: Renate Valtin / Eufimia Tafa)

II: Teaching disciplinary literacy in all subjects – new research and practices (Chair: Sari Sulkunen)

III: "Make every teacher a teacher of literacy" – new approaches in teacher education and professional development. (Chair: Christine Garbe)

IV: The Effective Integration of Migrants into the Education System: challenges and solutions (Chair: Viv Bird)

V: European Education and Lifelong Learning Networks Round Table: exploring a common agenda and future policy messages (Chair: Viv Bird)

VI: Digital Literacy Frameworks: how to equip citizens with needed skills for the 21st Century (Chair: Fabio Nascimbeni)

VII: Language teaching in the digital age (Chair: Jeroen Clemens)

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VIII: International Literacy Assessments: Analyzing the results of PIRLS 2016 (Chairs: William G. Brozo / Gerry Shiel)

IX: The Gender Gap in Literacy: How to engage boys? (Chairs: William G. Brozo / Christine Garbe)

**Please note that you are free to suggest additional sections to other topics with four or six contributions (60 Minutes or 90 Minutes)!**

**2) Poster Session** "Literacy and participation, inclusion and equity" (Abstract max. 250 word) for

- a) Literacy Research Projects
- b) Good Practice Projects across all age groups

Selected posters will be publicly exhibited for the duration of the symposium and presenters introduce their project to the audience during two parallel poster sessions (one focussing on research, the other one on good practice) in 3 Min presentations on Monday (16.30 - 17.30).

**3) Science Slam** (Abstract 250 words)

**Participate in the Young Researcher's and Professional's Literacy Slam competition and win the "Literacy Slam Award 2018" of 1.000 Euro! Present a short and appealing contribution on this topic:** *'Facing the challenge of heterogeneous populations and closing the gaps. How can literacy teaching and learning for all improve the lives and opportunities for marginal groups such as migrants and other traditionally excluded groups?'*

In this format we invite YOUNG researchers and practitioners to present their (ongoing or completed) research projects or good practice projects on the above topic in a speech or performance of 10 minutes. A jury will rate your performance and the winner will be awarded with 1.000 Euro. All 6 invited speakers will have the opportunity to participate in the subsequent panel about their topics.

**Please submit your contribution and a brief CV until February, 28<sup>th</sup> 2018 to** communication[at]eli-net.eu.

**For more information visit the website:**  
**[www.eli-net.eu/events/elinet-association-symposium-2018-cologne/](http://www.eli-net.eu/events/elinet-association-symposium-2018-cologne/)**