



Minutes of the EERA Council Meeting in Budapest

Friday 16 January 2015, Saturday 17 January 2015

Attendees:

Herbert Altrichter, EERA Treasurer; **Branislava Baranovic**, Institute for Social Research Zagreb (cand memb); **Delma Byrne**, Educational Studies Association of Ireland (ESAI), **Lucian Ion Ciolan**, University of Bukarest (cand memb); **Yunus Eryaman**, Turkish Educational Research Association (EAB); **Maria Pacheco Figueiredo**, EERA Network Representative on Council; **Patricia Fidalgo**, Emerging Researchers' Group; **Eduardo García-Jiménez**, Asociación Interuniversitaria de Investigación Pedagógica (AIDIPE); **Nikolai Gorbachev**, Belarus National Association "Innovation in Education" (BNA "IE"); **George Head**, Scottish Educational Research Association (SERA); **Nassira Hedjerassi**, Association des Enseignants et Chercheurs en Sciences de l'Education (AECSE); **Marit Honerod Hoveid**, EERA Secretary General; **Erika Juhasz**, LOC 2015 **Edwin Keiner**, University of Bolzano, Proposal ECER 2018; **John Krejsler**, Nordic Educational Research Association (NERA) **Joanna Madalinska-Michalak**, Polskie Towarzystwo Pedagogiczne (PTP); **Sofia Marques da Silva**, Sociedade Portuguesa de Ciências da Educação (SPCE) & LOC; **Petr Novotny**, Czech Educational Research Association (CERA); **Angelika Paseka**, Österreichische Gesellschaft für Forschung und Entwicklung im Bildungswesen (OEFEB); **Gyöngyvér Pataki**, Hungarian Educational Research Association (HERA); **Satu Perala-Littunen**, Finnish Educational Research Association (FERA); **Nikoletta Pete**, LOC 2015, **Helen Phtiaka**, Cyprus Pedagogical Association (CPA); **Daniela Preis**, EERA Office; **Milosh M. Raykov**, University of Malta (cand memb); **Roland Reichenbach**, Swiss Society for Research in Education (SSRE); **Marco Rieckmann**, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Erziehungswissenschaft (DGfE); **Mariagrazia Riva**, Società Italiana di Pedagogia (SIPED); **Ciaran Sugrue**, LOC 2016 Dublin; **Karmen Trasberg**, Estonian Academic Research Association (EAPS); **Jani Ursin**, EERA Network Representative on Council Elect; **Angelika Wegscheider**, EERA Office; **Felicity Wikeley**, British Educational Research Association (BERA); **Theo Wubbels**, EERA President elect; **Pavel Zgaga**, Slovenian Educational Research Association (SLODRE).

1 Welcome/Apologies/Agenda

Theo Wubbels welcomed all attendees and informed Council that Ana Cabral, Paula Korsnakova, Monique Volman, Bardhyl Musai, Gonzalo Jover, Andre Mottart and Anna Alexanyan had sent their excuses for not being able to attend. Iouri Zagoumenov was also unable to attend, but had appointed Nikolai Gorbachev as replacement.

The agenda was accepted without further changes.

2 Minutes September

The Minutes of the last Council Meeting were confirmed without changes.

3 ECER 2015

3.1 LOC report

Erika Juhasz reported on the developments in planning ECER 2015. For the social events, there are still several options, both for the ERC on Monday (A38 Ship or Aquarium Club) and for ECER on Tuesday and Thursday (Whale/ National Museum/ Market Hall). The decision will depend on the final price negotiations taking place within the next weeks. Council Invited Reception on Wednesday and WERA Reception to take place in Gellért.

3.2 WERA focal

No news.

3.3 EERA Sessions: Hungarian Educational System, EASSH, EARLI invited Symposium, New Members

The invited symposium "Social Sciences and Humanities in Europe, where to go?" was confirmed by Council with the request that also a female colleague will be invited.

The Local Organisers will, instead of introducing the Hungarian Educational System, organise a session on Central Europe, with presenters from several countries, e.g. Slovenia, Poland, Romania, Czech Republic etc. This idea was welcomed by Council, but there was concern that too many speakers were involved. (6 -7 persons)

Council Members put forward the following ideas for additional EERA sessions:

- A session on "What does it mean to live together?", looking at what happened in Paris and Belgium.
- Erasmus Partners' Workshop with a representative from a local Erasmus contact point who could report on potential funding and a meet & greet for those interested in collaborating in such projects
- Trans-Disciplinary Research, which could closely relate to the theme
- Role of Educational Theory in Educational Research: as Educational Research has become an "embedded" science, and theory has significantly lost importance
- Research Autonomy in Transition: How to make sure we do not become too dependent on decision makers
- Cognitive Sciences and Education

Marit Hoveid commented that a critical approach to politics is also very important, and she found that the last two ideas could well be combined. Theo Wubbels summed up the discussion by pointing out the 3 -4 sessions will be planned based on these ideas.

3.4 ERC Keynotes 2015

Patricia Fidalgo reported on some problems with the selection process of ERC keynotes in past years. ERC had little influence on who would be selected; LOC had no real guidance on which basis suggestions should be made. While for 2016 it is suggested that ERC keynotes will be suggested and decided in the same way and timeframe as ECER keynotes, for 2015 an interim's solutions had to be found. She as Link Convenor of the ERG had suggested 3 possible keynotes, and LOC another two.

Council discussed about this year's candidates, the general procedure and raised the concern that in general English natives tend to always be overrepresented in the keynote short list. A general case was made for inviting local researchers, as this would also make research known that otherwise is not as easily accessible. But there was also broad agreement that some kind of criteria needs to be developed on which to base a suggestion for an ERC Keynote. Also, ERC keynote speakers should be well briefed by someone from EERA (ERG), pointing out who the audience is and what they expect etc. One idea to lessen language difficulties was the use of

new technologies, or for example letting the audience have a written copy of the speech in advance.

Theo Wubbels summed up that Council would appreciate this year's keynote speaker to be Hungarian, and he suggested that Patricia Fidalgo and LOC, with his help, should select accordingly. Patricia and Yunus Eryaman were asked to develop criteria / or a focus on which future LOCs could base their suggestions.

3.5 Still to be found: new name "VIP" reception

The new name confirmed by Council is: "Council Invited Reception".

3.6 Hotel for Council/convenors 2015 (oral Report LOC/Office)

LOC has already reserved 70 rooms for ECER at Hotel Gellért, in order to allow Council and Link-Convenors to be at the same place.

3.7 Associations' Exhibition: would Member Associations want to present themselves at the conference?

Maria Figueiredo presented the idea that each year some member associations could present themselves at the exhibition area. She asked who would be interested in doing so for 2015. HERA indicated they would like to have a stand, probably presenting Central Europe, not only their own association. There was discussion if a common format for such a presentation was needed, but it was decided that Associations should decide on their own how they intend to present themselves. The format could be a simple poster or a stand with information material, maybe also partially staffed. In addition to HERA also EAB, SIPED and AIDIPE wish to do that this year.

3.8 Posters

Maria Figueiredo reported that Networks in their annual reports and evaluations asked for changes in the poster formats and poster sessions. A working group should now look into a possible new setting for the session and the format. She said she would invite the Poster Prize Evaluators of 2014 and some network Link Convenors to this group. Maria will start the process.

3.9 Green Policy

Based on a suggestion of Network 30 (Environmental and Sustainability Education Research, ESER) LOC was asked to fill in a checklist for sustainable events.

The general attempt to make ECER greener was welcomed and LOCs efforts to make ECER sustainable were highly appreciated by Council. One question arose whether vegetarian/vegan food would be available, as this was not listed in the file. LOC confirmed that this was already planned accordingly. There was a request to as much as possible reduce the use of plastic cups.

In general participants should be made aware of the attempt to lower the environmental impact of the conference.

Theo Wubbels reported that he was at a conference where you could opt for not getting the printed programme.

Council agreed that this option should be given in 2015, if easily possible. This would require a.) a full pdf version of the programme online, b.) rethinking the distribution of badges/bags/programmes, and c.) assuring the quality of the app.

4 Future ECERS

4.1 New procedures for ERC keynotes

"Theme and Keynote Speakers for ECER and ERC are suggested to Council by a working group comprising at least: a member of the LOC, the EERA President, EERA Network Representative on Council, the ERG representative and the EERJ Representative on Council. The EERA President initiates the process."

The new procedure was accepted by Council with the little addition of "at least".

4.2 Budget 2016, theme 2016, keynotes

As the conference in Dublin will be rather costly Exec and the LOC representative presented ideas on how to reduce costs. There are two options for the Social Event on Thursday. Either have it at the conference venue, at the same place as the Welcome Reception, but with more food and more extensive programme. Or it takes place at a different venue, and the participants have to pay 35 € to attend it.

Theo Wubbels reported that given that not only the financial aspects proved to be difficult but also some legal issues still needed to be sorted out Exec had also asked volunteers for later ECERs if they would be willing to host ECER 2016. Glasgow has indicated to be interested and this will also be sounded out further.

Council discussed the two options for the social event in Dublin. The preferred option was to have one Social Event for all instead of an extra-to-pay event for some. So LOC 2016 was asked to re-work the budget on the basis that both social events would be hosted on campus.

For the future, it was said that it would be better to have two possible conference venues in early preparations, in order to avoid problems like this year with the Netherlands stepping back. Universities are less and less willing to "sponsor" such events and now charge for rooms. Perhaps EERA should start lobbying by showing them the prestige and positive effect for their university from organising such a big, international conference at their faculty.

Delma Byrne declared that ESAI will support the conference, although they were not involved in the negotiations. Exec explained that this was just due to the special situation this year, with little time left. The national association is mentioned in the part of LOC in the conference contract, but the entity signing the contract is normally the university.

The suggested theme was well received generally, but some found that it is a bit narrow and too close to the leadership network. On the other hand it is not absolutely clear whether it is about leadership in research or in education itself. Leadership also is a difficult word that needs to be specified. There were more remarks on the tension between management and leadership, request to reflect more on how research is dealt with. Some remarked the titles were often too politically motivated and argued for being more modest and neutral.

Theo Wubbels summed up that leadership as focus was fine but that the text could be shorter and possibly more generic; Ciaran and the working group will prepare amended text for June meeting.

The working group for the 2016 theme and keynotes is; Theo Wubbels, Marit Hoveid, Patricia Fidalgo, Maria Figueredo, Angelika Paseka, Eric Mangez or Maarten Simons and Ciaran Sugrue.

4.3 Applications for future years

2018 - Edwin Keiner suggested Bolzano as venue for 2018. This would also coincide with the 20th anniversary of university. The university is prepared to support the event. The city is

accessible via several airports plus a train-ride, hotels are available in acceptable distances, a free travel pass for the city-region will be offered.

Council accepted the offer and a budget will be explored.

2017 – Copenhagen is interested, but the timing could be difficult, as EARLI conference takes place last week of August. (28. Aug – 1 Sept. 2017)

Glasgow would also be prepared to go for 2017

Poland: still interested, but discussions need to postponed for 2019; Joanna will re-discuss with PTP board

Malta builds a new faculty, it is planned to be finished in 2018, and therefore, to be on the safe side, it would be better to have the conference later.

4.4 Follow up on: Quality concerns after ECER 2013 and NW seminar: work on guidelines for Presentation/reworked reviewing guides

Maria Figueiredo informed Council that as follow up of quality concerns raised both by council and by network convenors some changes in submission forms had been done for ECER 2015 (Round Table, Symposia, general extension of length).

But there is still work to be done: presentation guidelines need to be developed; reviewing guidelines need to re-worked – a process that was stopped in the light of ongoing discussion about the EERA / ECER mission and its link to the European dimension.

Maria invited to a working group on the guidelines. WG: Sofia Marques da Silva, Gyöngyvér Pataki, Felicity Wickely and John Krejsler

4.5 ECERs and Sustainability

- SEE 3.9. -

5 Election committee Secretary General and Senior Mentor

As in previous years an election committee will collect nominations for the Secretary General. Also the Senior Mentor for ERG will be elected by Council, following the same procedure as EERA officers. The election committee consists of: Petr Novotny, Patricia Fidalgo and Delma Byrne.

6 Number of council meetings, timeline budgets

Herbert Altrichter and Theo Wubbels introduced the topic by reminding council that the number of meetings should be discussed under the light of costs for EERA, costs for members and workload of ECER office.

Many members were in favour of the idea to have only 2 meetings per year as this might actually help everybody to come more regularly, others said three were necessary to build up community and working processed. Reducing the number of council meetings would bear the risk to enlarge the distance between Council and Exec.

While the idea to combine the Council meeting with the network meeting in April was supported by a lot of members, others reminded that the timing would be difficult, as e.g. AERA but also ESAI conferences take place in April, others would not be available due to Easter. A working group was set up for finding ways to reduce meetings while close contacts can be kept.

WG: Helen Phtiaka, John Krejsler and Exec will work on a proposal for the next meeting.

Regarding the timeline Herbert Altrichter reported that he and office had worked out new internal deadlines for the bookkeeping.

7 Change of constitution/Affiliate Partners

New text was approved and can be included in the General Regulations and the website.

8 Mission statements (EERA, ECER, Summer School)

8.1 EERA Mission

The aim of the 'European Educational Research Association' (EERA) is to further high quality educational research for the benefit of education and society. High quality research not only acknowledges its own context but also recognises wider, transnational contexts with their social, cultural and political similarities and differences. The association's activities, such as the annual conference, season schools for emerging researchers and publishing, build on and promote free and open dialogue and critical discussion and take a comprehensive and interdisciplinary approach to theory, methods and research ethics.

8.2 ECER Mission

The aim of the 'European Educational Research Conference' is to create an inclusive platform for initiating, reporting, discussing and promoting high quality educational research that not only acknowledges its own context but also recognises wider, transnational contexts with their social, cultural and political similarities and differences. The conference is organised for emerging, as well as experienced, researchers and builds on and promotes free and open dialogue and critical discussion. It has a comprehensive approach to theory, methods, arguments, findings and research ethics.

8.3 Season Schools Mission

The aim of the 'European Educational Research Association' (EERA) is to further high quality educational research for the benefit of education and society. High quality research not only acknowledges its own context but also recognises wider, transnational contexts with their social, cultural and political similarities and differences. To accomplish this, engagement and support for the next generation of European researchers is essential. EERA season schools bring together early career researchers and PhD students from a number of nations to share and discuss their research and experiences with experts within their own field of research, in order to further the professional development of emerging researchers.

The notion of the mission statement was accepted. There were some discussions on specific words, but it was decided in the end that only a native-linguistic correction should be done. Afterwards the statements can be put on the website and in the General Regulations.

9 EERJ

9.1 Summary by Exec on latest development

Theo Wubbels reported on the latest developments regarding EERJ and the new publishing contract with SAGE. The change of publisher asked not only for a new publishing contract but also raised additional questions on an EERJ budget and linked to this on reporting procedures of EERJ board to EERA Council as well as on editorial working processes.

Theo then reported that EERA, EERJ and SAGE had met to develop and discuss the current contract proposal and that negotiations were still going on as well as the discussions on the EERA-EERJ working structures. EERA is thereby supported by a lawyer knowledgeable in UK publishing/editorial contracts.

With regard to the drafted contract Theo Wubbels pointed out that Article 26 needs to be changed after consultation of tax accountants. Linked to this, Council decided that the EERJ should be granted a budget and asked EXEC to find a suitable way of arranging this.

Regarding free EERJ subscriptions Theo let council know that these can be offered if member associations can provide a login area for their members on the website, via which they can then access EERJ.

9.2 EERJ communication to EERA council

Theo Wubbels reported on the results of the committee searching for a new EERJ Editor. The Search Committee had proposed Eric Mangez and Maarten Simons as co-editors. The EERJ Board supported this proposal. The Board's choice was made known to the EERA council for its endorsement.

Both Eric Mangez and Maarten Simons have worked closely with the current Editor as part of a team of Executive Editors over the last few years and together they continue to manage the daily processes of the Journal.

Eric Mangez is Professor in Sociology of Education at the University of Louvain (UCL), Belgium. Maarten Simons is Professor in Education Policy and Theory at the Laboratory for Education and Society of the KU Leuven (KUL), Belgium.

Council endorsed the new co-editors and also asked Exec to express EERA's thanks to Martin Lawn for his contribution to the success of EERJ and all the work he did as lead editor.

Exec and the new editors had worked on ideas for new regulations of the cooperation of EERJ and EERA council, including financial reports, procedures for setting up an editorial board, (see schedule 4 in drafted contract /annotated agenda). Herbert Altrichter presented these and some changes to this were discussed, such as adding a time line for appointing new editors (1,5 years before end of term) and introducing a term of office for the lead editor and members of the editorial board.

An updated version of these regulations will be presented in June.

9.3 EERJ Aims and Scope (from January 2015)

The Wubbels reported that the wording of Aims and Scope of EERJ as they were presented to Council resulted from discussions with the new editors and were of course supported by them. Council accepted and welcomed the new descriptor, but stated that there was some repetition in the text that could be eliminated.

10 EASSH, ISE and WERA

10.1 EASSH

Theo Wubbels reported on the last meeting. He answered a council member that he does think EASSH is interesting for national associations, as it shows that all social sciences have similar concerns and problems. The importance can be seen in the fact that the French Minister of Education is planned as keynote address on the founding meeting January 16th in Paris.

10.2 ISE

Theo Wubbels reported on the current projects of ISE and suggested that he would go to the next meeting in February, report on it in June and Council should then decide whether EERA should stay or not.

10.3 WERA

Theo Wubbels suggested that the decision whether EERA stays in is postponed after the Focal Meeting during ECER. This way, Council has the chance to come to know WERA at their sessions and to come to know the people. Council is invited to look into aims etc. carefully, as the re-consideration is approaching. Also the change of strategy, adding individual membership to association membership should be considered.

11 Budget 2015

11.1 Increase of ECER fees

Herbert Altrichter introduced a new fee structure with an average increase of 12,5 %. For 2015, only the regular fees will be increased, not the Early Bird fees. From 2016, also the Early Bird fees will be increased.

The question came up if it is checked that participants who register as members are really members of member associations. Angelika Wegscheider explained that membership numbers are asked for during the submission process. All researchers based at a university in a candidate member country are accepted at membership ECER rates for the time being.

Council approved the new fee structure.

11.2 Budget 2015

Approved by Council.

12 Networks

12.1 Principles for NW review

Maria presented her ideas for the Network Review, which networks should undergo every few years (See annex). While the idea was welcomed by Council there were also concerns that networks might feel controlled and it was suggested that this should less be a reporting but more a workshop style encounter between Council and networks.

The suggestions and ideas will be discussed with networks in the April seminar.

12.2 Agenda for April: NW review, How to become a link convenor, Network Publication

Maria introduced the preliminary agenda of the network seminar: the network review, the question of how to become a link convenor. A decision on this will be the basis of further discussions on supported accommodation for link convenors (see 12.3.). Further topics: network publications and the working groups on reviewing / poster/ presentation guidelines.

Regarding publications Maria reported from 2014 Network Reports that 2 books, 7 special issues for journals are currently planned/ have recently been published and 3 special issues for EERJ are being planned currently. 8 Networks reported having strong links with special area journals.

12.3 Postpone extra night

Decision on funding for accommodation for link convenors is postponed until after a decision on an election/ nomination process has been taken

12.4 Network honorary membership

Honorary Membership of Sandra Johnson, proposed by Network 9 Assessment, evaluation, testing and measurement was accepted by Council.

13 Strategies/Report working groups

Herbert Altrichter presented results of the working group on publications and additional ideas for how to put the decisions of the June Council Meeting into practice over Spring 2015 (see annex for details). Council welcomed these ideas and decided that as a first step forward contact with publishing houses should be sought to discuss ideas and possible cooperation. Therefore a meeting with a first publisher will be arranged linked to the June Council Meeting.

Participants EERA: Exec, Petr Novotny, (cc: Roland Reichenbach, Maria Grazia Riva), date: 18. June 2015.

14 Members

14.1 New Members: Serbia

Theo Wubbels asked Pavel Zgaga who reviewed the application for his opinion. Pavel confirmed that the application was correct and complete. He also reported on a growing educational research community in Serbia and suggested to accept their application.

Council accepted the application of the "Educational Research Association of Serbia (ERAS)" / Društvo istraživača u obrazovanju u Srbiji (DIOS).

14.2 Member report Republic of Cyprus, Croatia

15 Next Meetings

19 – 20 June 2015	Council Meeting Berlin
12 September 2015	Council Meeting Budapest

16 AOB

Nicolai Gorbatchev asked that for the EERA session on ERASMUS partnerships a Hungarian ERASMUS coordinator should be invited. It was then decided that those who suggested ideas for EERA sessions (Nicolai Gorbatchev, Yunus Eryaman, Roland Reichenbach, Joanna Madalińska-Michalak) should work on ideas and Marit Hoveid would be in charge of coordinating the work.

Annex

Re 12.1: Principles for Network Review

European Educational Research Association
Council meeting, Budapest, January 2015

Proposal for principles for Networks presentation to Council

- version January 2015

The following principles are to be discussed as foundations for the presentation to Council of the EERA networks (2016 forward).

1. The presentation of EERA networks intends to make the networks' work more visible as well as strengthen its connection to Council. It considers each network activities and the overall structure of the networks.
2. Network presentations to Council are made by the link convenor during a Council meeting. Council organizes a working group responsible to discuss the presentation with each network.
3. The presentations are primarily based on existing information. The convenors of the network are asked to analyze and comment on that information. The information can include:
 - ECER data: number of proposals submitted to the conference, results of reviewing, program for the conference
 - yearly reports of activities
 - agenda and minutes of network meetings during ECER (previously business meetings)
 - representation and participation in Network meetings (April and September, plus others) and work groups
 - collaboration with the emerging researchers group
 - reports from activities and/or events organized throughout the year (season schools included)
4. The presentations focus on: network dynamic (ECER, activities, publications, etc.), participation in the network (diversity of countries, representation of national associations, capacity building and inclusion of new members – ECER participants and group of reviewers and convenors), development of mission and identity of the network, and contributions to EERA's mission.
5. For each dimension listed in 4., the convenors argue about strengths and identify needs and intended developments. The Council Working Group discuss the presentation and makes suggestions to the network and reports back to Council if needed.
6. The periodicity of the reviews should allow for networks to show activity for a period of time (6 years) and for Council to have time to discuss each review (up to 6 networks per year).

(This would mean reviewing 6 networks each year and each network being reviewed every 6 years)
7. The principle of proportionality applies: the procedures should be adequate to the aims of the review process. EERA Office involvement in supporting the reviews should also be decided based on this principle.
8. The Network Representative on Council acts as support to the procedures.

Re 13: Strategies/Report working groups
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WG_Publication – next steps (Changes to annotated agenda)
14.01.2015

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3. Step: Putting decisions (June '14 Council session in Berlin) into practice: Spring 2015

(1) Develop quality criteria for “EERA sponsored journals”

- Aims & purpose contributing to EERA mission
- Double-blind peer review for all research papers
- Clear focus on a relevant research field covered by one or more EERA networks
- editorial procedures which can guarantee at least two issues per year
- EERA logo and sponsoring by EERA network is highlighted in the journal
- Editorial statute and editorial body is approved by EERA council
- Responsible network(s) develops an editorial statute and a transparent procedure for selecting the editorial body;
 - limited time of office for the editorial body which allows for sharing responsibility between a larger group of network members;
 - editorial board consists of researchers with a clear record of high-level publications, from different countries (EERA-member organisations) and at least one representative of ERN

(2) Invite interested publishers to discuss ideas and market

- Major European publishing companies are invited to a meeting (together or different conversations?) on June, 18th, 2015, morning (= before exec) (and in case June, 17th, late afternoon and evening) and during the conference
- Exec explains ideas and collects feedback and expression of interest
- Participants publishers: Ian White T&F, SAGE, Springer, Elsevier,

(3) “Network feasibility studies on NW-related publications”

- Send a special call for such feasibility studies to networks in February 2015; more information during network seminar in April 2015.
- In reaction to a special call NW may apply for support of such a feasibility study: € 1000,- for 6-9 months, council decides which application is to be supported [this format of support is financed in addition to the existing network funding]
- Study includes:
 - o overview of existing high quality journals and book series in the field of the network, commentary on their focus, quality and scope and possible relationship with NW activities
 - o report about communication with a selection of relevant journal editors to explore possible formats of collaboration (e.g. special issues, NW representatives in editorial board etc.)
 - o proposal for further steps for establishing a journal (or not): focus, goals & purpose, possible regulation of editorial work, procedure for selection of editorial body, time and work plan.

Postpone for the moment project 4 (mention it to publishers and seek for feedback)

(4) Develop a format for a “European Yearbook on Education” or a “European Review of Educational Research”.