

# 12th International Workshop on Efficiency in Education, Health and other Public Services

15th and 16th October, 2026  
The Economic and Social Research Institute  
Dublin, Ireland

## THURSDAY, 15TH OCTOBER

### 9:00AM - 9:30AM

Registrations and morning coffee

### 9:30AM - 11:00AM

#### Parallel Session 1

PS1a: Student Learning and Educational Outcomes

PS1b: Health and Population Outcomes

### COFFEE BREAK

### 11:30AM - 1:00PM

#### Welcome and Keynote 1

Moving Targets: Skills, Time and What We Ask of Education Systems

*Professor Francesca Borgonovi, University College London, Social Research Institute and Head of Skills Analysis, OECD Centre for Skills*

### LUNCH BREAK

### 2:00PM - 3:30PM

#### Parallel Session 2

PS2a: School Efficiency, Accountability, and Performance

PS2b: Public Service Performance and Public Infrastructure

### COFFEE BREAK

### 4:00PM - 5:30PM

#### Parallel Session 3

PS3a: Educational Inequality and Student Dropout

PS3b: Market Development, Innovation, and Economy

### SOCIAL DINNER | 6:30PM - 8:30PM

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## FRIDAY, 16TH OCTOBER

### 9:00AM - 9:30AM

Registrations and morning coffee

### 9:30AM - 11:00AM

#### **Keynote 2**

From "What Works and Why?" to "For Whom and Under What Conditions?": Rethinking Educational Effectiveness through a Dynamic Approach to School Improvement

*Professor Leonidas Kyriakides, Professor of Educational Research and Evaluation, Department of Education of the University of Cyprus*

## COFFEE BREAK

### 11:30AM - 1:00PM

#### **Parallel Session 4**

PS4a: Education Policy, Equity, and Participation

PS4b: Labour Markets and Productivity

## LUNCH BREAK

## END OF THE WORKSHOP

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## PARALLEL SESSION 1

| PS1a: Student Learning and Educational Outcomes                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| When University Goes Global: The Causal Impact of International Peers on Domestic Students' Performance            | Maxime François, KU Leuven<br>Kristof De Witte, KU Leuven                                                                                                                                                              |
| Beyond Test Scores: A Meta-Analysis of Elite Secondary Schools and Life Outcomes                                   | Antal Ertl, ELTE KRTK & University of Iceland<br>Dániel Horn, Corvinus University of Budapest & ELTE KRTK                                                                                                              |
| The impact of a teacher professional development program on preschoolers' mathematical and language skills         | Nore Wijns, KU Leuven<br>Joke Torbeyns, KU Leuven<br>Bert De Smedt, KU Leuven                                                                                                                                          |
| If You Study, You Learn: The Effect of High-Stakes Entry Exams on Later Achievement                                | Rita Pető, ELTE KRTK<br>Dániel Horn, Corvinus University of Budapest & ELTE KRTK                                                                                                                                       |
| Exploring international learning loss patterns: An ML investigation using OECD PISA data before and after Covid-19 | Melvin Vooren, VU University Amsterdam<br>Melisa Diaz Lema, Politecnico di Milano<br>Chris van Klaveren, VU University Amsterdam<br>Ilja Cornelisz, VU University Amsterdam<br>Tommaso Agasisti, Politecnico di Milano |

PROGRAMME

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## PARALLEL SESSION 1

| PS1b: Health and Population Outcomes                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| Hospital bed occupancy rates and patient outcomes                                                                                                                    | Theano Kakoulidou, ESRI<br>Frank Wolfe, ESRI                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Embedding lived experience in public service performance evaluation: Co-designing an outcomes-focused monitoring system for HSE funded adult disability day services | Deirdre Nally, National Disability Authority<br>Jack Kenny,<br>Robin Wynne,<br>Liam Wheeldon,<br>Ann Mahon,<br>Tori Fitzgerald,<br>Teresa Gadd, ACE communications<br>Martina Lanigan, HSE National Disability Team<br>Ruth O'Reilly, National Disability Authority<br>Aoife O'Toole, HSE National Disability Team |
| A 'Sludge Audit' of Behavioural Frictions in Public Services: Ireland's Infant Immunisation Programme                                                                | Lucie Martin, ESRI & Trinity College Dublin<br>Maria Lee, ESRI<br>Deirdre Robertson, ESRI & Trinity College Dublin                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

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## PARALLEL SESSION 2

| <b>PS2a: School Efficiency, Accountability, and Performance</b>                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| Moving Goalposts:<br>Accountability System<br>Measurement Instability and<br>the Validity of School<br>Performance Data        | Rachel White,<br>Loren Welles,<br>David DeMatthews,<br>Lesley Rivas,<br>Pedro Reyes, University of Texas                                                                                                       |
| Efficiency analysis of private-<br>public school in European<br>countries                                                      | Giovanni Antonini, Politecnico di<br>Milano<br>Tommaso Agasisti, Politecnico<br>di Milano                                                                                                                      |
| Beyond Cognitive<br>Achievement: A<br>Multidimensional<br>Assessment of School<br>Efficiency in Europe                         | Bárbara Andrade, Universidade<br>do Porto<br>Conceicao Silva, Universidade<br>Catolica Portuguesa<br>Fabio Sartori Piran, Universidade<br>do Vale do Rio dos Sinos<br>Ana S. Camanho, Universidade<br>do Porto |
| Beyond Peer Bullying:<br>Rethinking the Efficiency of<br>School Anti-Bullying<br>Programmes through an<br>Adult-Inclusive Lens | Luca Janka László, Parents<br>International<br>Eszter Salamon, Parents<br>International<br>Judit Horgas, Parents<br>International<br>Aristidis Protopsaltis, Parents<br>International                          |

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| <b>PS2b: Public Service Performance and Public Infrastructure</b>                                               |                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fiscal Evaluation through Business Sentiments: Measuring Sectoral Asymmetry in Public Infrastructure Efficiency | Muhammad Rizwan Iqbal, State bank of Pakistan                                                                                               |
| Tracking Public Experience and Public Service Performance: Branding as a Research Priority for Local Government | Bernie O'Donoghue-Hynes, Local Government Management Agency<br>Emily Quin, Local Government Management Agency                               |
| Measuring Public Service Experiences and Effecting Change Through Independent Oversight                         | Bernie O'Donoghue-Hynes, Local Government Management Agency<br>Emily Quin, Local Government Management Agency                               |
| The Effects of Municipal Mergers on Expenditures and Service Outputs: Evidence from Italy                       | Tommaso Agasisti, Politecnico di Milano<br>Alice Bertoletti, JRC, European Commission<br>Francesco Porcelli, Università di Roma La Sapienza |
| Beyond Metrics? Relational Public Service, Learning and the Future of Public Service Performance                | Anna Visser, Department of the Taoiseach<br>Tomás Ó Ruairc, Department of Education and Youth                                               |

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## PARALLEL SESSION 3

| PS3a: Educational Inequality and Student Dropout                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                           |
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| The Effect of Maternal Job Loss on School Dropout and Educational Trajectories                                                                                                    | Rita Pető, ELTE KRTK<br>Anna Bárdits, Central European University<br>Dániel Horn, Corvinus University of Budapest & ELTE KRTK                             |
| Supporting Early Intervention in Higher Education: A Machine Learning Framework for Predicting First-Year Student Dropout at the School of Engineering of the University of Porto | Fernando J. Osorio, Universidade do Porto<br>Flavia Barbosa, University of Pisa<br>Giovanna D'Inverno, KU Leuven<br>Ana S. Camanho, Universidade do Porto |
| From Dropout Prediction to Decision Support: An Explainable Machine Learning Framework Using Real-World Data from the University of Porto                                         | Francisco Dias, Universidade do Porto<br>Hermilio Vilarinho, Universidade do Porto<br>Ana S. Camanho, Universidade do Porto                               |
| The Role of Schools in Shaping Students' (Gendered) Intergroup Attitudes                                                                                                          | Anna Moya, Selina McCoy, ESRI                                                                                                                             |
| Inequality in access to the arts among young people in Ireland: The role of schools                                                                                               | Rebecca Wetter, ESRI<br>Demos Michael, ESRI<br>Selina McCoy, ESRI                                                                                         |

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## PARALLEL SESSION 3

| PS3b: Market Development, Innovation, and Economy                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| Potential Equity Market Development and Efficiency Gaps: A Four-Component Frontier Analysis                           | Gabriela Riveros Ramirez, KU Leuven                                                                                                                                   |
| Political economy of municipal voters satisfaction: The role of financial autonomy and voter ideology                 | Simona Ferraro, Tallinn University of Technology<br>Kaire Põder, Estonian Business School                                                                             |
| Beyond the citation count: A multidimensional vector for assessing research's social reach                            | Jasmina Berbegal-Mirabent, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya<br>Rocio de la Torre, Universitat Politècnica de València<br>Cristina Alcaide, Universidad de Granada |
| The Impact of Digital Skills and ICT Training on the Diffusion of Artificial Intelligence and Firm-Level Productivity | Juan Duran, ESRI<br>Iulia Siedschlag, ESRI                                                                                                                            |

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## PARALLEL SESSION 4

| PS4a: Education Policy, Equity, and Participation                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| Supporting educational equity in Ireland: experience of a priority education programme                                  | Demos Michael, ESRI<br>Selina McCoy, ESRI                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Developing a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools (DEIS) Programme | Adele Whelan, ESRI<br>Diane Sheehy, ESRI<br>Emer Smyth, ESRI<br>Seamus McGuinness, ESRI<br>Séamus Joyce, ESRI                                                                                                   |
| Impact Assessment of a Facebook Marketing Campaign on Summer School Attendance                                          | Diogo V. N. da Conceição, KU Leuven & NOVA SBE<br>Kristof De Witte, KU Leuven & Maastricht University                                                                                                           |
| Let the Children Come to Me: Church School Expansion and Religious Affiliation in Hungary                               | Attila Gáspár, ELTE Centre for Economic and Regional Studies & Central European University<br>Dániel Horn, Corvinus University of Budapest & ELTE KRTK Anna Schenk, Corvinus University of Budapest & ELTE KRTK |
| Who Wants to Teach? Exploring Job Preferences Across Student Populations                                                | Jacob Van Belle, KU Leuven<br>Willem De Cort, KU Leuven<br>Kristof De Witte, KU Leuven<br>Mike Smet, KU Leuven                                                                                                  |

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| <b>PS4b: Labour Markets and Productivity</b>                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| Spatial spillovers of housing affordability in teacher labour markets                                                                           | Mattice Venken, KU Leuven<br>Panagiotis (Takis) Iliopoulos, KU Leuven<br>Kristof De Witte, KU Leuven                                                                                                                      |
| Benefit-of-the-Doubt Composite Indicators for Performance Assessment: A Critical Review of Methods, Applications and Future Research Directions | Fernando J. Osorio,<br>Universidade do Porto<br>Hermilio Vilarinho, Universidade do Porto<br>Ana S. Camanho, Universidade do Porto                                                                                        |
| Determinants of efficiency in Regional Innovation Systems. A Bayesian framework                                                                 | Zaira García-Tórtola, Universitat Jaume I<br>Dolores Añón-Higón, Universitat de València<br>David Conesa, Universitat de València<br>Joan Crespo, Universitat de València,<br>Emili Tortosa-Ausina, Universitat Jaume I   |
| An intertemporal evaluation for the European pillar of social rights: a benefit of the doubt approach with common weights                       | Laura Carosi, University of Pisa<br>Giovanna D'Inverno, University of Pisa & KU Leuven<br>Davide Zucchini                                                                                                                 |
| Citizen satisfaction, local government performance, and the inter-temporal budget constraint                                                    | Maria Teresa Balaguer-Coll, Universitat Jaume I<br>Isabel Narbón-Perpiñá, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona<br>Diego Prior, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona<br>Emili Tortosa-Ausina, Universitat Jaume I, IIDL and Ivie |

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