

Higher Education and its Organizations

REHES IV Workshop

Università della Svizzera Italiana, Lugano, October 6-7, 2022

Call for contributions

Higher education is currently facing various challenges, sometimes intensified by the Covid-19 pandemic, and affecting different levels from student and academic staff (micro), higher education institutions (meso) to the whole higher education system (macro). Higher education research can contribute to advance our understanding and ultimately address these challenges, notably thanks to its multidisciplinary character. Sharing knowledge across disciplines and levels of analysis at the Swiss level is what motivated the initiative “Research on Higher Education and Science in Switzerland” (REHES).

The Institute of Communication and Public Policy of the Università della Svizzera Italiana (USI) is proud to host REHES IV in Lugano, continuing the successful series initiated in 2019 with REHES I organised by CHESS in Bern, REHES II organised online by our colleagues from the University of Lausanne in 2020, and REHES III organised by the higher education development unit of the Zurich University of Applied Sciences in Winterthur.

Facilitating mutual exchanges with researchers studying other higher education systems can open new perspectives in our respective understanding of higher education. Therefore, the aim of this workshop is to bring together researchers based in Switzerland, Italy and other European countries working on higher education topics within any discipline, e.g., sociology, political sciences, pedagogy, education sciences, to discuss the wide variety of aspects related to higher education from the individual to the organizational and system levels.

We welcome proposals covering any research topic related to higher education, but we particularly encourage contributions on the meso-level of Higher Education Institutions; a non-exclusive list of topics includes for example analyses of competition in higher education, institutional profiles and HEI diversity, higher education governance, higher education funding and studies of academic careers.

We welcome submissions presenting on-going work and including at least some preliminary results. Short papers of around 3,000 words (incl. references, appendices and other material) should be submitted to marco.cavallaro@usi.ch by the 15th of May 2022. Short papers must be exclusively in English and include the name and e-mail address of the presenter and the title of the contribution.

Submissions will be peer-reviewed and selected based on their quality.

Scientific committee:

- Mattia Cattaneo (University of Bergamo, IT)
- Jürgen Enders (University of Bath, UK)
- Gaële Goastellec (University of Lausanne, CH)
- Ben Jongbloed (University of Twente, NL)
- Benedetto Lepori (Università della Svizzera Italiana, CH)
- Emanuela Reale (National Research Council, IT)
- Mike Schäfer (University of Zurich, CH)
- Luca Tratschin (University of Zurich, CH)
- Matteo Turri (University of Milan, IT)
- Christian Wassmer (Zurich University of Applied Sciences, CH)



Organization committee:

Benedetto Lepori and Marco Cavallaro (Università della Svizzera Italiana)

Important dates:

May 15, 2022

June 15, 2022

July 15, 2022

August 31, 2022

October 6-7, 2022

Deadline for proposal submission

Notification of acceptance or rejection

Publication of the conference program and
opening of registration

Closing date for registration

Conference in Lugano

