

CALL FOR PAPERS - CIES 2018 MIDDLE EAST SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

The Middle East Special Interest Group (MESIG) welcomes paper submissions for the 2018 Annual CIES Meeting to be held in Mexico City, Mexico March 25-29, 2018. The MESIG is dedicated to advancing scholarship on educational issues in the region by highlighting contributions from members that draw on empirical research, historical or conceptual analyses, and/or case studies of educational policies, programs or pedagogies.

Colleagues working on educational issues within or about the broader Middle East and North Africa region are invited to contribute proposals between 500-750 words for review. In addition to such contributions, we welcome submissions that connect to this year's conference theme: "Re-mapping Global Education: South-North Dialogue."

The longstanding, rich history of MENA countries and their distinguished development journeys provide opportunities for not only North-South but also South-South and South-North dialogue and comparative approaches to examine educational issues, policies, and practices throughout the MENA region. The wave of popular uprisings beginning in late 2010 has engendered complex realities for educators, administrators, youth, civil society, and policymakers in the region. Economic pressures are exacerbating high levels of youth unemployment. Violent conflicts in Iraq, Gaza, Yemen, and Syria have fuelled large-scale humanitarian crises that show no sign of abating, while other states across MENA, including Egypt and Tunisia, are undergoing periods of political transitions. In such a milieu, to what extent do/can educational policies and practices in the MENA region contribute to overcome or reproduce structural, social, economic and/or cultural inequalities? How does education, broadly conceived, speak to and reflect the myriad challenges facing the region? What are some emancipatory, transformative and empowering Southern theoretical and methodological approaches valuable for and emerging from the MENA region? What South-South collaborations, theories and practices are being implemented to enhance teaching, learning, research and policy-making? How are students, educators and policy makers rethinking North-South dichotomies? In what ways have indigenous epistemologies contribute to forms of education in the MENA region? What are some education initiatives for and by indigenous peoples in the MENA region? In what ways do global inequalities in knowledge production and exchange manifest within and throughout countries of the MENA region. Submissions that draw upon critical perspectives are particularly welcome.

Criteria for submissions include:

- **Relevance:** Topic within scope of comparative and international education, conference theme and SIG
- **Theory/Context:** Strength and relevance of theoretical framework or contextualization
- **Inquiry:** Strength of critical analysis or research methods (including design, data

- collection, analysis).
- **Findings:** Clarity and coherence of findings and arguments answering research question(s)
 - **Contribution:** Scholarly originality or contribution to existing knowledge

Up to four papers will be assigned per SIG panel. Papers that are not selected for the MESIG highlighted sessions will be considered for the general pool. For further information about the conference theme and abstract submission process, please visit the conference website (www.cies2018.org)

Submission deadline will be 11:59pm EST on October 11, 2017. Please note the submission deadline will not be extended. All proposals must be submitted via the CIES 2018 conference website. To submit your proposal to the MESIG, your membership dues of 10 USD must be paid **in advance of registration**. You can pay this fee through the online registration system. Select the Middle East SIG when submitting your proposal if you wish to be considered for a MESIG highlighted panel.

We look forward to welcoming you to Mexico City, Mexico and to engaging with your great work!