



PRE-CONGRESS WORKING GROUPS INFORMATION FORM

Working Group Name: The intersection of schools and child protection

Description of Working Group: Schools and educators are at the forefront of identifying and initial intervention in cases of children who are victims of abuse and neglect, and evidence indicates that most reports to child protection agencies come from within this system. However, educators often lack the knowledge, training, and skills required to effectively deal with these issues. The result is that many children do not receive the intervention and care they need, and teachers are at risk of experiencing secondary traumatization, burnout, and damage to their mental health. The aspiration is that the group will enable sharing of research and professional knowledge from different countries, provide a global picture of how education systems deal with the phenomenon of child maltreatment in order to advance practice and policy in this field.

Room Set Up: Banqueting Style (we would have breakout sessions in 4-5 groups of 20-25 people)

AV Requirements:

Projector + 2 screens

Laptop (preferable; if unavailable, we could provide) + HDMI cable

Podium for speakers

Panel table for panel discussion + name tags for 5 discussants

5 microphones (& speakers)

* For purposes of capturing round approx. 4 table discussions we are considering using tablets (still to be confirmed)- would it be possible to provide 4 tablets?

Draft Schedule:

13:30-13:40 **Welcoming and introduction** (10 min)

13:40-14:25 **The intersection of schools, child protection, and safeguarding:
Looking back, moving forward** (45 min); **Prof. Kerryann Walsh,
Australia**

14:25-14:35 **Overview of relevant congress sessions focused on schools &
educators** (10 min)



14:35-15:40 **Moderated café discussions 1st session** (65 min; 4 tables in total; rotation between two tables)

15:40-15:55 **Break** (15 min)

15:55-16:55 **Moderated café discussions 2nd session** (60 min; rotation between two tables)

16:50-17:10 **Key challenges and future directions for research and practice: Panel discussion** (20 min)

17:15-17:30 **Building connections & Next steps** (15 min)

Short Introduction for Chair: Dr. Eran Melkman is a Senior Lecturer at the School of Education, Tel Aviv University, and a clinical social worker. His research focuses on the intersection of child welfare and education, with particular emphasis on the role of schools and educational staff in identifying and responding to child abuse and neglect. He also studies risk and resilience processes among vulnerable youth, especially those in out-of-home care, highlighting the role of social support networks across the life course. Dr. Melkman has published extensively in leading international journals and serves as an affiliate researcher at the Haruv Institute, Israel.

Name of Lead Organiser: Eran Melkman

Email Address of Lead Organiser: eranmelkman@gmail.com

Presenter 1 Title/Name: Prof. Kerryann Walsh

Presenter 1 Position/Organisation: Professor Emeritus, School of Education, Queensland University of Technology

Presenter 1 State/Country: Australia

Presenter 1 Email Address: k.walsh@qut.edu.au

Additional presenters may be added once we finalize the agenda.

Presenter 2 Title/Name:

Presenter 2 Position/Organisation:

Presenter 2 State/Country:

Presenter 2 Email Address:



Presenter 3 Title/Name:
Presenter 3 Position/Organisation:
Presenter 3 State/Country:
Presenter 3 Email Address:

Presenter 4 Title/Name:
Presenter 4 Position/Organisation:
Presenter 4 State/Country:
Presenter 4 Email Address:

Presenter 5 Title/Name:
Presenter 5 Position/Organisation:
Presenter 5 State/Country:
Presenter 5 Email Address:

**Please add as many Presenters as necessary.*

***Please note AV requirements and room set up requests are not guaranteed*