

EUROPEAN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP WEEK



2026



EDUCATIONAL
LEADERSHIP
Network Europe

CALL FOR RESEARCH SUMMARIES

2025 - 2026





CALL FOR RESEARCH SUMMARIES 2025-2026

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Objectives of the Call for Research Summaries 2025-2026

The Educational Leadership Network Europe (ELNE) is excited to announce a Call for Research Summaries as part of the ELNE Year 2025-2026 **"Contextualising Collaborative Leadership Across Europe: Stakeholder Perspectives"**.

This initiative aims to collect and highlight impactful research summaries that offer **sustainable, transferable, scalable, and learning-focused** insights into educational leadership. If your research contributes to bridging the gap between practice, research, and policy, we encourage you to participate. This is an opportunity to promote your work, gain greater recognition across Europe, and connect with like-minded colleagues to help shape the future of education!

All selected Research Summaries will be featured in the **ELNE Journals**, reaching a broad European and international audience of relevant professionals in the field of Education. In addition, we will invite some of the applications for live online showcases at the **European Educational Leadership Week (EELW)** in March 2026.

In addition, all submitted proposals will contribute to the ELNE Research Committee's ongoing analysis of how collaboration and collaborative leadership take shape across different educational contexts and stakeholder groups. By gathering insights from diverse perspectives, the Committee aims to identify both common patterns and context-specific approaches. This collective knowledge will inform the development of a **bottom-up European framework** that reflects the diversity of collaborative leadership in education. Participating in this third-year call, therefore, offers a unique opportunity to **influence both the research base and the future practices of collaborative leadership across Europe**.

Theme and topics

Under the overarching theme of the ELNE Year 2025–2026, **"Contextualising Collaborative Leadership Across Europe: Stakeholder Perspectives"**, this year's Call for Research Summaries seeks to deepen the understanding of how different stakeholder groups contribute to and shape the processes of collaborative leadership and participation in educational institutions.

The call aims to collect and showcase existing or ongoing research that investigates how diverse stakeholders —teachers and trainers, school heads, students, parents, policymakers, and community partners— **co-create inclusive, equitable, and participatory educational environments**.





We invite summaries of empirical studies, policy analyses, theoretical papers, or case-based research that examine **how collaboration and collaborative leadership support the quality, wellbeing and resilience of educational communities**. Research may, for example, explore: the mechanisms, models or frameworks that enable multi-stakeholder participation in decision-making or school improvement processes; how leadership is shared or distributed across roles and governance levels; barriers and enablers for inclusive collaboration in diverse contexts; the ways in which participatory practices respond to current educational challenges such as staff shortages, low basic skills, or early school leaving.

We particularly encourage submissions that include perspectives from **multiple stakeholder groups**, not only educational staff; demonstrate **synergy between practice, research, and policy**; and provide **comparative or cross-context insights** into collaborative leadership in Europe.

How to participate

Who can apply?

This Call for Research Summaries is open to all education and training research institutions and their researchers operating at European, national, regional or local level, as well as independent experts or consultants.

These institutions can be universities, research institutes, NGOs, public entities, etc. and should be established in a European country, understood as the 46 Member States composing the [Council of Europe](#).

How to submit the proposal?

You can submit your proposal by following these steps:

- 1) If you haven't yet, sign up to the ELNE website**
- 2) Once logged in, go to 'Calls for Proposals 2025' > Call for Research Summaries**
- 3) Fill out the application form and Send!**
 - ⇒ There is no limitation to the number of applications per person/entity.

Some things to remember while filling out your application:

- The application must be **submitted in English**. There are free access tools such as DeepL or ChatGPT that can help you translate them, but make sure that they are proofread by a trusted colleague who is knowledgeable in English!





- Applicants may submit more than one proposal **by filling out the application form again**. Therefore, each proposal must be presented in a separate application. In the case that more details are required from the submitted proposal, you will be contacted using the contact information provided in the application form.

Should you have any questions about this procedure, please contact contact@elnenetwork.org.

Deadline and next steps

- 1) Applications will be accepted until **15th of December 2026**.
- 2) You will be contacted by e-mail by ELNE (contact@elnenetwork.org) in **January 2026** to communicate the results of the selection process.
- 3) In case your proposal is selected, we will coordinate with you to arrange the publication of your Research Summary in the upcoming **ELNE Journal**.
- 4) If you will be invited to participate in an interview/panel as part of the **European Educational Leadership Week (EELW)** taking place in March 2026, we will organise an online preparation meeting to make sure that all technical elements work properly.
- 5) ELNE Repository:
 - The **online recordings** of the EELW will be uploaded to our YouTube channel and website. Go watch the ones from previous years [here](#)!
 - The **ELNE Journals** will be accessible on the [ELNE website](#).

Selection criteria

The applications will be reviewed by the ELNE Research Committee and Steering Group to ensure the quality and relevance of the proposals.

The proposals will be assessed against the backdrop of the criteria listed below:

Completeness and Accuracy: All required sections of the application form are fully completed with the relevant information requested. Make sure that the facts presented in the application correspond authentically to the real case you are presenting. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Relevance to the Topic: The submission aligns with the theme of "Collaborative Leadership for Participatory Culture in Educational Institutions" and clearly shows the collaborative leadership aspects of the research. The Research Summary addresses a distinct practice and views in relation to the topic of the Call.





Practical Usability: The Research Summary should provide actionable insights or strategies that can be effectively applied in real-world educational settings.

Transferability and Scalability: The submission should demonstrate that the conclusions of the research can be applied to other educational contexts or regions across Europe. This includes structures, policies, or processes that enable long-term impact beyond the original institution.

Synergy with research and policy: The submissions need to showcase a vision to- or actively work on- strengthening the synergy between practice, research and policy.

Collaborative aspects: Priority will be given to content that reflects collaborative thinking and is based on multiple standpoints or approaches, incorporating the perspectives of various actors in the educational process.

Ethical and privacy guidelines

These guidelines outline the ethical, privacy, and intellectual property principles governing the ELNE Call for Inspiring Practices and Research Summaries. They ensure compliance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), and best practices for handling intellectual contributions.

Data collection & GDPR Compliance

All personal data collected through the ELNE application form, webinars, and related activities will be processed lawfully, fairly, and transparently. Participants will be informed about the nature, purpose, and duration of data processing and must provide explicit consent. Data will be stored securely in EFEE's CRM (Eudonet) and retained for up to 5 years after the project ends.

For knowledge-sharing and dissemination purposes, the webinars will be recorded and published on the ELNE website, YouTube channel, and the European School Education Platform. Participants may choose to activate their camera or microphone, thereby consenting to being recorded.

Underaged participants in visual materials & online events

The Network has the aim of addressing all stakeholders in formal educational environments. Underaged participants are a major stakeholder in Primary-, Secondary- and (to an extent) Vocational education. The handling of data belonging to underaged participants, however, is, as it should be, strictly regulated and follows slightly different rules than for adults.





If minors (understood in accordance with their local GDPR legislation) are included in visual or audio materials, prior written consent from a parent or legal guardian is required for each specific use. In online events, minors who did not provide written consent to appear in recordings may participate via non-recorded interactive tools or the chat.

Intellectual Property Rights

Applicants submitting articles or research abstracts retain full intellectual property rights over their work. By submitting, they grant ELNE a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to publish the summary of their work in an open-access journal and use excerpts for dissemination purposes. Any use beyond this scope requires additional written consent.

Optional Media Submissions

Applicants may submit photos or videos. If these include minors, each file must be accompanied by signed consent forms from legal guardians. Media will only be used for dissemination if proper consent is documented.

Data Controller Information

By applying to this Call you agree to:

* Pursuant to Article 6 (1) (a) of the GDPR and the general regulation on the protection of personal data of 27 April 2016, you consent to the processing of your personal image data for information and promotional purposes related to the implementation of the project "ELNE – Educational Leadership Network Europe".

** Pursuant to Article 6 (1) (a) of the GDPR and the general regulation on the protection of personal data of 27 April 2016 (Journal of Laws UE L 119 of 04/05/2016), you consent to the processing of your personal data for the purposes of project documentation entitled "ELNE – Educational Leadership Network Europe".

Information:

Pursuant to Art. 13 of the general regulation on the protection of personal data of 27 April 2016 (Journal of Laws UE L 119 of 04/05/2016), we inform you that:

- 1) the administrator of your personal data is the European Federation of Education Employers (Rue du Commerce 124, 1000 Brussels, Belgium)
- 2) your personal data will be processed for the purposes of the implementation and documentation of the project entitled "ELNE – Educational Leadership Network Europe" These data may be entrusted to project partners and institutions supervising the





implementation of the project for the purposes of control, monitoring, statistics and promotion of the project

- 3) your personal data will be stored for a period of 5 years from the end of the project "ELNE – Educational Leadership Network Europe"
- 4) you have the right to request the administrator to access personal data, the right to rectify, delete or limit processing, the right to object to the processing, the right to transfer data, the right to withdraw consent at any time
- 5) you have the right to lodge a complaint with the supervisory authority
- 6) providing personal data is obligatory under the law and in the remaining scope it is voluntary.

