

NEW FRONTIERS Conference 2025

Inter-disciplinary Research on Refugee Children and Youth

Reykjavík, Iceland | 31.10. - 1.11.2025



📅 Conference Agenda

Overview and details of the sessions of this conference. Please select a date or location to show only sessions at that day or location. Please select a single session for detailed view (with abstracts and downloads if available).

Hide Presentations	List View	Authors
--------------------	-----------	---------

Session Overview

Date: Friday, 31/Oct/2025

8:00am - 4:00pm	Registration Location: Saga - Open area - ground floor You can pick up your nametag and lanyard at the registration table.
9:00am - 9:15am	Opening session Location: Saga S-114 Welcome to the New Frontiers Conference 2025! Kolbrún Þorbjörg Pálsdóttir, Dean, School of Education, University of Iceland will deliver the opening address.
9:15am - 10:15am	Keynote - Laura Robson - Youthful peril, youthful promise: Rhetoric versus reality around refugee children and young people Location: Saga S-114 Laura Robson is Professor in the Department of History and the Jackson School of Global Affairs at Yale University. She is a scholar of international and Middle Eastern history, with a special interest in questions of refugeedom, forced migration, and statelessness.
10:15am - 10:45am	Coffee/Tea Break Location: Saga - Open area - ground floor
10:45am - 12:15pm	Migrant youth integration and Educational Inclusion: Exploring the process of migration, inclusive relational practices and school climate Location: Saga S-312 Chair: Hermína Gunnþórsdóttir Click on the session subtitle to view more information about the presentations in this session.
	IMMIGRATION AND INITIAL ADAPTATION OF UKRAINIAN YOUTH IN LITHUANIA Dmytro Mamaiev
	Migrant students' integration in schools in Finland, Scotland and Sweden Natasa Pantic
	Imagining Futures in Uncertainty: Exploring Refugee Youth Aspirations Through Arts-Based Methods Erma Fetić Mujić
12:15pm - 1:15pm	Lunch break Lunch is not included in the conference ticket. Participants can purchase lunch in the nearby canteens and restaurants.
1:15pm - 2:45pm	Children and Youth at the Margins: Disability, Visibility, and Empowerment Location: Saga S-346 Chair: Hrafnhildur Kvaran Click on the session subtitle to view more information about the presentations in this session.
	Educational Hospitality at the Intersection of Forced Migration and Disability: Listening to the Voices of Ukrainian Refugee Children with Disabilities Marketa Bacakova
	Well-being and Trauma of Ukrainian Child Refugees in the Context of Czechia Lucie Mackova
	Invisible at the Border: Reimagining Refugeehood through the Case of Yemeni Children and Youth Saber Naji Haimed
2:45pm -	Coffee/Tea Break Location: Saga - Open area - ground floor
	Critical and Intersectional Approaches in Migration Research Location: Saga S-346 Chair: Lara Hoffmann Click on the session subtitle to view more information about the presentations in this session.
	Constructing "Asylum": A Critical Discourse Analysis of Greece's Immigration Policy in 2025 Efthymia Garidi , Spyros Apergis
	Divided families, divisive policies: the contentious politics of refugee family reunification in Europe and its impacts on children and young people Lucy Hunt
	Artistic Expressions: Creative Outlets and the Refugee Experience Location: Saga S-312 Chair: Magnús Bernhardsson Click on the session subtitle to view more information about the presentations in this session.
	SensArticulate: Advancing Affect-Centered Research Methods in Trauma Research with the Most Vulnerable Displaced Individuals Nena Mocnik
	Art as a Bridge? How Art-Making Sparks Play and Fosters Inclusion for Refugee Children and Youth Yi Jen Chang , Barbara Hielscher-Witte
	Identity and Belonging in the Art of 1.5-Generation African Asylum-Seeking Artists in Israel Hamutal Sadan

3:15pm	
3:15pm	ESRCI refugee children project – presentation
-	Location: Saga S-114
5:15pm	Apart and a Part: New Frontiers in Researching Resettlement Refugees in Iceland In this panel and roundtable, the inter-disciplinary group of eleven scholars associated with the multi-year research program that hosts this conference, will highlight some of the initial results of their ongoing work. After an overview of the scope and ambition of the project, they will describe the methodology, the process, the challenges, the implications and some of the initial insights that they have gained in the last three years. This research and data collection has taken place all of over Iceland including in small, remote villages to the metropolitan region of Reykjavik. The topics that the team has explored includes well-being, inclusion, language acquisition, education, trust, community building, communication, policies, expectation management, the role of volunteers and translators, and the various stages of resettlement. As they reflect on their efforts, success and findings and consider...
5:15pm	Welcome Reception
-	Location: Saga - Open area - ground floor
6:15pm	This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet fellow participants, speakers, and organizers in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Light refreshments will be served, and everyone is warmly encouraged to attend.

Date: Saturday, 01/Nov/2025

8:00am	Registration
-	You can pick up your nametag and lanyard at the registration table.
12:00pm	
9:00am	Keynote - Gry Paulgaard - Pedagogy in Times of Uncertainty: Refugees in the Nordic Regions, Navigating New Landscapes.
-	Location: Saga S-114
10:00am	Gry Paulgaard is Dr.Polit. in Pedagogics and Professor emeritus at the Department of Teacher Education & Pedagogics at UiT The Arctic University of Norway in Tromsø, Northern Norway, campus Tromsø.
10:00am	Coffee/Tea Break
-	Location: Saga - Open area - ground floor
10:15am	
10:15am	Understanding children’s educational experiences: wellbeing, educational structures and support approaches
-	Location: Saga S-312
11:45am	Chair: Guðbjörg Ottósdóttir Click on the session subtitle to view more information about the presentations in this session.
	Guidance and Access to Higher Education: Perspectives of Refugee Youth Paul Fean , Mai Nasrallah
	Accessible, inclusive and enabling contexts for university students from refugee and migrant background Carmel Cefaj , Rachel Spiteri , Natalie Galea , Marie Briguglio
	Speaking Into the Silence: Refugee Students' Agency and Inclusion in Icelandic Primary Schools Haukur Þór Þorvarðarson
11:45am	Lunch break
-	Lunch is not included in the conference ticket. Participants can purchase lunch in the nearby canteens and restaurants.
12:45pm	
12:45pm	Educational trajectories and psychosocial needs: Refugee youth experiences, policy, and practice
-	Location: Saga S-312
2:15pm	Chair: Eyrún María Rúnarsdóttir Click on the session subtitle to view more information about the presentations in this session.
	The Educational Challenges of Ukrainian Refugee Children in Montenegro Sanja Grbovic
	'Unsettlement': the manufactured precarity and uncertainty of refugeehood in Greece and its impact on young lives Lucy Hunt
	Normative Contestation and Policy Responses: Comparing Migrant Education in Transit in Turkey and Bosnia and Herzegovina Dzeneta Karabegovic
2:15pm	Coffee/Tea Break
-	Location: Saga - Open area - ground floor
2:45pm	
2:45pm	Panel on refugee issues
-	Location: Saga S-114
3:30pm	Chair: Susan Rafik Hama Unfolding Journeys: A Refugee-Led Symposium on Identity and Belonging This symposium brings together resettled refugees from diverse backgrounds to share their lived experiences, insights, challenges, and aspirations for the future. By centering refugee voices, the event aims to foster inclusive dialogue, inform equitable policy development, and promote community empowerment and global solidarity. A representative from the Center for Language and Literacy—an initiative under the City of Reykjavik—will participate in the discussion by presenting insights from their work in supporting language development, literacy, and multicultural engagement. The presentation will highlight the impact of these initiatives as well as the systemic challenges faced in creating inclusive educational environments.
3:45pm	Roundtable session – Policies and practices, ways forward
-	Location: Saga S-114
4:45pm	Chair: Joanna Marcinkowska In this roundtable, we invite a dialogue on policies and practices and the way forward regarding matters related to refugees in Iceland. As researchers, we believe it is important that such a large-scale research project as the ESRCI initiative can contribute to future policy development in this field. Likewise, the research team has made an effort to engage in dialogue with policymakers and professionals in the field, so that the research is informed by the realities it seeks to reflect. Participants in the conversation will include advisors from ministries, municipalities and NGOs in Iceland.
4:45pm	Closing of conference
-	Location: Saga S-114
5:00pm	

Inclusive Educational Practices: shaping equitable education for all

Location: [Saga S-346](#)
Chair: [Susan Rafik Hama](#)
Click on the session subtitle to view more information about the presentations in this session.

Positive Story Telling – A powerful tool for the young refugees inclusion

[Maria Dimou](#), [Yekta Sahin](#), [Firas Bali](#)

Religious Literacy Beyond the Classroom: Exploring Teachers' Engagement with Students' Faith Backgrounds

[Thor-André Skrefsrud](#)

Thinking Together – Critical Reflexivity to Strengthen Diversity-Sensitive Competences in Teacher Education

[Julia Ha](#)

Bridging languages and Identity: multilingualism, digital literacies, and inclusive education for youth with refugee backgrounds.

Location: [Saga S-346](#)
Chair: [Zulaia Johnston da Cruz](#)
Click on the session subtitle to view more information about the presentations in this session.

Multilingualism, inclusion or a cultural erasure? Family language policies amongst newcomer families in Northern Ireland

[Anik Nandi](#)

Greeks in Canada: pursuing heritage language maintenance among the third immigrant generation

[Aspasia Chatzidaki](#), [Themis Aravossitas](#), [Dionysios Arkadianos](#)

