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Call for Papers

Workshop Session: Vulnerable groups in education in times of crisis. Impact of COVID-19 on academic achievement, educational outcomes and labour market entry

Organizers:
David Glauser (University of Bern), Irene Kriesi (Swiss Federal University for Vocational Education and Training, SFUVET)

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in spring 2020, the learning and training situation changed for students at all educational levels. Educational institutions and training companies were forced to adapt their teaching and student support to the new situation. Although a large body of research on school closures and distance teaching/learning and its effect on learning outcomes has since developed, less is known about the mid- and long-term consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on academic achievement, educational attainment and returns to education. In order to learn from the past and meet possible challenges of future crises, it is important to know which groups were most affected at the different educational levels or within the vocational education and training (VET) system. The focus of the workshop is on the impact of COVID-19 on students from lower secondary level to tertiary education. With regard to this population of students, contributions should address at least one of the following research questions. Who were the most vulnerable groups and in what respect? Why were these students or groups of students at risk? What responses by teachers, educational institutions, training firms, or the educational administration contributed to ensuring academic achievement or the acquisition of vocational skills and knowledge, smooth transitions between the educational levels (e.g., career counselling; minimising dropouts or delayed transitions; implementation of "simplified" qualification procedures) and successful labour market entry? The workshop, which is deliberately broad in terms of educational levels and outcomes, also explicitly welcomes contributions that compare cohorts that were affected differently by the COVID-19 pandemic.

 - deadline for submitting abstracts: 5 January 2024

 - length of abstracts: max. 2000 characters

 - language(s) of the workshop: English

 - send your abstract to: david.glauser@unibe.ch