



EARA 2018 First Call for Papers & Submission Guidelines

The **overall theme** of the conference is “**Nurturing adolescent growth**”. Starting from a positive view on adolescence and recognizing that adolescence is not only a period of risk but also an ‘age of opportunity’, we invite papers, posters and symposia that highlight positive youth development. Although we welcome contributions on any topic relevant to adolescent development (including risk for psychopathology), we particularly call for research dealing with features of adaptive development (e.g., prosocial behavior, adequate emotion regulation, personality maturity, social competence, identity strength, resilience) and contextual support for such positive development for all youth (e.g., high-quality parenting, supportive teacher-adolescent relationships, secure peer and romantic relationships).

Within this framework, submissions will be welcome on the following themes:

- **Biology and neuroscience** (e.g. stress regulation, brain processes, genetic influences)
- **Health and growth** (e.g., physical health, healthy food, sleep, movement, well-being)
- **Moral development and behavior** (e.g., empathy, prosocial behavior, aggression, civic engagement)
- **Social, emotional & personality development** (e.g., identity, emotion regulation, personality, temperament, coping, resilience)
- **Parenting and parent-child relationships** (e.g., parenting styles and behaviors, family relations and dynamics)
- **Social relationships** (e.g., peers, romantic relationships, sexuality, social competence, popularity)
- **Education and school** (e.g., achievement, motivation, self-concept, teacher-student relations)
- **Technology & media** (e.g., smartphones, social media, video games, gamification)
- **Developmental psychopathology** (e.g., anxiety, depression, suicidality, personality disorders, substance use, developmental disabilities)
- **Prevention and intervention** (e.g., clinical studies, RCTs, family interventions, school interventions)
- **Culture, race, ethnicity, society** (e.g., cross-cultural research, SES, societal influences)
- **Methods, history, & theory** (e.g., new theories, new assessments and research designs, new methods for the study of change and development)

For each submission, the presenter or chair will be asked to select one of the 12 themes above as keyword, and to additionally provide three other keywords. In case you doubt whether your research fits the scope of the conference you can contact the scientific committee at eara2018@ugent.be.

The program committee will review all submissions using the following criteria: relevance, originality, clear hypotheses, methodological stringency, international diversity, and fit with the conference theme. We strongly encourage researchers to submit proposals dealing with already collected data

and including information about the data collection and findings. Proposals describing research that still needs to be conducted or data that are not yet available are less likely to be evaluated positively.

On **Friday September 14th 2018**, the second full day of the conference, we invite practitioners, counselors and therapists from Belgium and neighboring countries working with youth to join our conference for one day. On that day we group together all studies and submissions that are of interest to practitioners, that is, studies dealing with **applied research, intervention, and prevention**. During the submission process, you will be asked to indicate whether your proposed research is relevant to the practitioners' day.

Important dates

- Deadline for abstract submission: March 1, 2018
- Notification of acceptance or rejection: April 15, 2018
- Deadline for early registration: May 15, 2018

Formats for presentation

1. Posters

Posters sessions are organized on each of the conference days, and authors are expected to be at their poster for questions and discussion during a fixed time in the program. Poster size is expected to be A0 (841 x 1189mm). More information about guidelines for posters will be provided later.

Posters are the format for individual, freestanding research presentations. Posters are an appropriate format when material can be explained briefly, is suited for graphic or visual presentation, and/or the presenter would benefit from high levels of interaction and discussion.

Submissions for Poster presentations should include a proposal of no more than 500 words, containing the following information: name and affiliation of authors, title, introduction to the research question(s), description of methods, results, brief discussion and implications. A reference list is not required. You can upload maximally 1 table and/or 1 figure to your proposal as a pdf, but this is optional.

EARA student members can apply *with 1 poster* for the **SECNet Best Poster Awards**. SECNet is affiliated to the European Association for Research on Adolescence. It comprises doctoral students, post-doctoral researchers, and young assistant professors who are members of the EARA and, thus, share their interests for the study of adolescence. More info at their website: [SECNET](#).

Three SECNet Best Poster Awards will be granted to doctoral students at the 16th EARA Conference in Ghent. In case you want to apply for this poster awards, check the box specifying this during the submission process. Please note only EARA student members can apply for the SECNet Best Poster Awards!

The deadline for submitting the abstract and applying for the award is March 1, 2018, and after the poster is accepted, it needs to be mailed to eara.secnet@gmail.com before September 1, 2018.

Posters will be evaluated by a committee of three judges with regard to originality and creativity, quality of the research, and quality of the presentation. Each applicant will receive the evaluation of his/her own poster with suggestions for improvement.

Winners will be announced during the EARA assembly and will receive an award certificate and a free extension of their EARA membership for two additional years.

2. Symposia

A symposium is a focused group of presentations on a common theme. The format consists of oral presentations with PowerPoints or other media formats. Symposium goals should include diversity and integration of perspectives. To attain cohesion, the symposium should focus on a specific topic and emphasize conceptual issues and the integration of findings. Symposium organizers are encouraged to include multiple disciplines and international participants, at least from two different countries.

A symposium lasts 90 minutes and consists of 4 papers and a discussant, who summarizes and comments on the papers and moderates the public discussion. We strongly encourage such interaction with the audience because many conference participants at previous EARA conferences expressed their desire to engage in discussion with symposium presenters. Each paper is given 15 minutes. There should be at least 30 minutes for general discussion.

The submissions for a Symposium should be done by one or two chairs and should include a summary, outlining the common elements of the papers (maximum 300 words), an abstract of each paper (maximum 500 words) containing titles, authors, affiliation of presenting author, research question, description of methods and implications. A reference list is not required. You can upload maximally 1 table and/or 1 figure to your proposal as a pdf, but this is optional.

In general, we prefer symposia instead of individual papers. So, do an effort to get in touch with other researchers!

3. Individual Papers

Individual papers are grouped into thematic sessions of 4 to 5 papers based on provided keywords. Each paper is given 15 minutes. Each thematic session lasts 90 minutes, which should allow at least 15 minutes of general discussion.

Individual papers that are accepted but that cannot be grouped in a thematic session (either because there are not enough related papers, or because the maximum number of thematic sessions is reached), will become poster presentations. During the submission process, you will be asked whether you would like to present your research as a poster in case it cannot be presented as an oral paper.

Submissions for Individual Paper presentations should include a proposal of no more than 500 words, containing the following information: name and affiliation of authors, title, introduction to the research question(s), description of methods, results, brief discussion and implications. A reference list is not required. You can upload maximally 1 table and/or 1 figure to your proposal as a pdf, but this is optional.

4. Discussion Sessions

A discussion session lasts 90 minutes, and is meant to be an exchange of ideas. The moderator should prepare a series of questions, which will be discussed by up to 4 panelists of his/her choice.

There should NOT be individual presentations of research findings, but a discussion of issues related to theory, methods, practice, the future of adolescent research, inter-disciplinary and cross-cultural co-operation, professional development, knowledge exchange, fair research etc. A central question or theme should serve as a focus of the discussion session.

Each discussion session consists of 60 minutes for discussion among the panelists and 30 minutes for discussion with the audience. The latter discussion can include answers to the questions raised by the panelist, but also new questions and comments to the panel.

Submissions for Discussion Sessions should include a proposal of no more than 500 words that describes the topic and rationale for the session, at least three discussion questions to be addressed by the panelists, and a brief description of the background and expertise of the panelists. You can upload maximally 1 table and/or 1 figure to your proposal as a pdf, but this is optional.

5. Views by Two

A Views by Two session is a friendly, vigorous, and engaging debate by two expert scholars presenting different perspectives on a significant theoretical, methodological, or empirical question/issue about adolescence. The moderator introduces the experts and the overall topic.

A central question or theme should be the focus of the debate.

A view by two lasts 90 minutes: 60 minutes for discussion among the panelists and 30 minutes for discussion with the audience. The latter part of the discussion can include answers to the questions raised by the panelist, but also new questions and comments to the panel.

Submissions for Views by Two sessions should include a proposal of no more than 500 words outlining the proposed discussion topic and the two different views that will be presented, and a brief description of the background and expertise of two experts. You can upload maximally 1 table and/or 1 figure to your proposal as a pdf, but this is optional.

Important things to consider during submission

1. Number of submissions is limited to 2 as presenter. This does not include discussant or chair roles.
2. During submission for each format, you will be asked to check one of the 12 proposed conference topics above.
3. When asked your name, please enter your full name: First name, Family name.
4. One person must enter all information for an entire format (poster, individual papers, symposium, discussion session, views by two).
5. All information for the entered submissions must be typed or copied and pasted into text boxes on the submission website. Note that this website is not a working tool, but a final submission tool. So prepare your submissions offline and when ready copy everything on the submission website.
6. For all submissions, please use the online submission form at www.eara2018.eu.