

ETC 22

First Announcement

Communication and diversity in mathematics education: Exploring language, meaning making and methodologies

25th – 27nd August 2026
University College Cork, Ireland

Focus of ETC 22

The topic of the proposed ETC is “*Communication and diversity in mathematics education: Exploring language, meaning making and methodologies*”. This includes all research highlighting the role of language and interaction in learning and teaching mathematics from kindergarten to university mathematics, as well as research related to pre-service teacher education and professional development. By utilising the terms “*communication*” and “*meaning making*”, we emphasise the dual function of language as both medium and message, while not excluding other semiotic means for meaning making; by utilising the term “*diversity*”, we acknowledge heterogeneity as a resource for learning in educational settings as well as the differences between educational settings we are working in and with; by utilising the term “*methodologies*”, we highlight explicitly the increased interest of TWG09 participants in diverse theoretical perspectives and associated research methods.

Structure of the ETC

The major theme of the ETC “*Communication and Diversity in mathematics education: Exploring language, meaning making and methodologies*” will be organised into the following subthemes (ST):

- ST1: Interaction and discourse in mathematics.** This session theme invites contributions that explore communication and meaning-making in mathematics education across diverse settings, including but not limited to classroom environments.
- ST2: Multilingualism and language varieties in mathematics learning.** This session theme seeks to bring together researchers investigating multilingual contexts and the impact of language diversity on mathematics learning. Papers may address issues of communication, meaning-making, and equity.
- ST3: Methodological and theoretical approaches in mathematics education research.** This session theme invites papers that advance methodological and theoretical frameworks relevant to linguistically diverse mathematics education contexts. We welcome theoretical contributions, methodological innovations, and reflective discussions on emerging directions in mathematics education research.

In all subthemes, qualitative and quantitative empirical research is welcomed, as well as research with different theoretical backgrounds and analytic frameworks. Research is not restricted to classroom contexts, and may relate to other contexts too, for example, work carried out with pre-service and in-service teachers, or out-of-school contexts. To promote

communication and future cooperation and collaboration, the following different types of working sessions are planned:

- **Paper Sessions:** In these sessions, short presentations of papers are given and then discussed by the participants. Papers are not grouped by the related subthemes but by other aspects they have in common (e.g., similar frameworks, similar focus on a mathematical topic, similar focus on age group of the students). The number of parallel sessions will be determined by the number of submitted papers.
- **ST Sessions:** In these sessions, participants meet in their subtheme group. Participants report from the Paper Sessions they attended in order to inform all participants about possible interesting connections to papers from other subthemes as we expect that the subthemes are not separable. Furthermore, ST groups decide on themes and modes for deeper discussions, reflections on already established research as well as future directions, cooperations, and collaborations.
- **A 'data session'.** The purpose of this session is to have parallel analyses of a set/sets of data using different theoretical lenses and/or methods.

There will also be a Poster session that will include a "Museum walk"; the latter will allow for the presentation and discussion of concrete classroom materials (e.g., representations, tasks, digital formats).

Furthermore, there will be two plenaries by invited keynote speakers and a commentary panel to formulate questions and interesting topics drawn from the working sessions with a view to moving the field forward.

Early Career Researchers

We aim to support early career researchers at the conference with a half-day program on Monday afternoon (24th August, 2026). Details will be announced in the second announcement.

Call for papers

The conference will be in English. The conference invites three types of submissions, namely papers, posters, and design posters. Papers and posters must deal with one or more of the subthemes of the conference, but one subtheme must be identified when submitting (ST1, ST2 or ST3).

- **Papers:** Paper proposals will consist of a full paper and a maximum of 8-pages (please use the CERME template from <https://www.cerme14.it/paper-poster-submission/>). They may report on research results, research in progress, theoretical developments, and/or are discussion papers.
- **Posters:** Poster proposals will consist of 2 pages. They may report on research results, research in progress, or theoretical developments (please use the CERME template from <https://www.cerme14.it/paper-poster-submission/>).

- **Design posters:** Design posters will present design principles and show examples of learning materials. A design poster proposal may be submitted in the form of a brief abstract (max. 500 words) outlining the mathematical topic, language context and design principles that will be presented.

A person can only be first author for one submission, except for design posters. In fact, we strongly encourage the submission of a design poster together with a paper/regular poster. Each submission will be peer-reviewed by two people from among those who submit proposals. The IPC will make the final decision about acceptance according to: a) the originality and quality of the work, b) the potential to contribute to the conference topic, and c) the fit to a subtheme.

The file must be named as ETC_FIRST AUTHOR_ST NUMBER
e.g. ETC_Ingram_ST1.docx

Further information regarding the submission of contributions will be provided in the second announcement.

After the conference, accepted and presented papers will be collated in open-access-online proceedings using the HAL-Archive.

Timeline for paper submission and registration

Submission of papers	16 th February 2026
Reviews of papers	30 th March 2026
Decision papers	27 th April 2026
Final registration	30 th June 2026
Submission of revised papers	30 th June 2026
Early Career Researchers' Day	24 th August, 2026
Conference	25 th – 27 th August 2026

We are looking forward to welcoming you in Cork!

The International Program Committee:

Marie Therese Farrugia (Malta) (Chair), Kirstin Erath (Germany), Melina Fabian (Germany), Ingólfur Gíslason (Iceland), Jenni Ingram (UK), Máire Ní Ríordáin (Ireland), Núria Planas (Spain), Frøde Ronning (Norway), Alexander Schöler-Meyer (Netherlands); Petra Svensson Källberg (Sweden), Anna-Marietha Vogler (Germany)

And the Local Organizing Committee

Máire Ní Ríordáin (Chair), Craig Neville, Jincai Yang

Preliminary timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30	Arrival of participants Program for early career researchers starting at noon organized by the YERME representatives (more details with second announcement)		Paper Session 2	Paper Session 3	Departure of participants
9:00		Registration Tea & Coffee			
9:30		Opening			
10:00		Plenary 1	Tea & Coffee	ST Session 2	
10:30			Plenary 2		
11:00					
11:30		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
12:00					
12:30		Paper Session 1	Data Session	Posters & museum walk	
13:00					
13:30					
14:00		Tea & Coffee	Tea & Coffee		
14:30		ST Session 1		Commentary Panel	
15:00					
15:30					
16:00			City Tour	Closing	
16:30					
17:00					
17:30			Conference Dinner		
18:00					
18:30					
19:00					