



## ***Call for Papers***

### **Online Conference – 21 May 2026**

## **Quality Education and Welfare for Children in Vulnerable Life Situations**

Children living in vulnerable circumstances depend significantly on well-functioning, inclusive educational and welfare systems. Schools play a central role not only as places of learning, but also as key sites of socialisation, protection, and psychosocial support. In contexts marked by forced migration, armed conflict, displacement, and social inequality, these responsibilities become even more complex and demanding.

This international online conference is organised within the framework of the project “Quality Education and Welfare for Children in Vulnerable Life Situations: Developing and Assuring Staff Competences for Holistic Support Systems in Ukraine, Poland, and Sweden (QEW-CVLS)”, funded by the Swedish Institute. The project brings together researchers and practitioners to strengthen professional competencies in education and welfare through interdisciplinary, needs-based approaches.

The conference seeks to provide a forum for scholarly exchange, critical reflection, and dialogue between research, professional practice, and policy. It invites contributions that address the situation of children in vulnerable life circumstances, with particular attention to war-affected, displaced, and traumatised children, and to the competencies required by professionals working in educational and welfare settings.

### **Conference Themes**

We welcome theoretical, empirical, and practice-oriented contributions related (but not limited) to the following themes:

- Children in vulnerable life situations in educational contexts
- War, displacement, and forced migration: implications for schooling and well-being
- Trauma-informed education and psychosocial support in schools
- Professional competencies of teachers, special educators, psychologists, social workers, and teaching assistants
- Digital, online, and HyFlex formats in education and professional development
- Comparative and transnational perspectives on education and welfare systems
- Policy frameworks and governance structures supporting vulnerable children

## **Types of Contributions**

The conference welcomes:

- Research papers (theoretical or empirical)
- Practice-based and case-study contributions
- Conceptual and methodological papers
- Policy-oriented analyses and reflections

Submissions from early-career researchers and self-advocates are particularly encouraged.

## **Submission Guidelines**

- Abstracts of 300–400 words
- Title, author(s), affiliation(s)
- Clearly state the aim of the study, research question(s), theoretical framework, methodology, and key findings
- Abstracts should be submitted in English.
- Please, indicate the language of the presentation! (preferably English; alternatively Ukrainian)
- Submit your abstract as a Word file by 27 February 2026 to [tied@oru.se](mailto:tied@oru.se)

Accepted abstracts will be published on the [TIEd | Trauma-informed Education](#) website.

## **Important Dates**

- Abstract submission deadline: 27 February 2026
- Notification of acceptance: 20 March 2026
- Registration opens: 20 March 2026
- Latest registration: 14 May 2026
- Online conference: 21 May 2026

## **Conference Format**

The conference will be held entirely online (Zoom) and is free of charge. It aims to facilitate cross-border participation, particularly for contributors and participants in contexts affected by war and displacement.

## Conference Language

The working language of the conference is English. All presentations will typically be delivered in English and accompanied by simultaneous interpretation into Ukrainian to ensure broad accessibility for participants from diverse linguistic and professional backgrounds. In exceptional cases, and where thematically appropriate, presentations may also be delivered in Ukrainian with simultaneous interpretation into English.

## Organising Institutions

The project partners organise the conference:

- Örebro University (Sweden)
- Kryvyi Rih State Pedagogical University (Ukraine)
- Melitopol State Pedagogical University (Ukraine)
- Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin (Poland)

## Registration

The conference registration will open on 20 March 2026. For registration, please visit the [TIED | Trauma-informed Education](#) website.

## Contact

Further information regarding registration and the conference programme will be published on the project website: [TIED | Trauma-informed Education](#). For enquiries, please get in touch with the conference organisers at Örebro University at [tied@oru.se](mailto:tied@oru.se).