



Teaching that matters
for migrant students

Teaching that Matters for Migrant Students Understanding Levers of Migrant Integration in Scotland, Finland and Sweden



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New blog post: Teachers as policy agents in multilingual classrooms

By Professor Mirja Tarnanen

From a policy perspective, teachers can be considered policy agents who are, consciously or unconsciously, involved in representing and reproducing (language) education policies in their talk, practices and classroom interaction (Honan, 2004). In official documents such as curricula, language policies can be explicitly articulated, and how this is done reflects a set of societal values and beliefs. However, there are also more covert underlying assumptions and practices of language use and learning in educational contexts that affect language policies (Tarnanen & Palviainen, 2018). Therefore, teachers are not only actors who implement the curriculum in terms of education policy, but also as actors who represent, produce and reproduce (language) education policies in their talk and actions. [Read the full blog post here.](#)



Invite to contribute to special issue of Education Sciences journal titled, "Migrant Integration in Schools: Policies and Practices"

Dear all,

TEAMS members will host a special issue of the journal Education Sciences titled, "Migrant Integration in Schools: Policies and Practices". We would like to invite you to contribute to this issue. If you are interested, please send us an abstract by **Friday 1st October 2021**. Feel free to forward this invitation to any colleagues who might be interested.

[For more information, please follow the link to the Special Issue website](#). The paper submission deadline is 1st February 2022. You may send your manuscript any time up until the deadline. Submitted papers should not be under consideration for publication elsewhere. We also encourage authors to send a short abstract to the Editorial Office in advance (education@mdpi.com or kate.gin@mdpi.com). We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

[Dr. Nataša Pantić](#)

[Prof. Dr. Mirja Tarnanen](#)

[Prof. Dr. Anna Lund](#)

[To submit to the journal, click here.](#)

TEAMS will host a special meeting on Tuesday 19th October to discuss the submitted abstracts, see 'Future events' below for more information.

Website updates

Outputs: On our website, you can find links to books and journal articles under 'Publications', all of our newsletters, and our previous blog posts. If you want to write a guest blog post, please get in touch.

Community and External Resources: If you have any stories, resources or other items to share on our website, let us know. If you want us to share a promotional piece for your work, please contact us. We have recently added information on the Helsinki Reflexive Tool to our website, [see here](#). The tool aims to help teachers support and teach newly arrived migrant pupils.

Events: Our upcoming events are listed under 'Future Events' below. Our past events (including presentation slides and other resources) can be viewed on our website. This includes the knowledge exchange workshop organised by the Finnish team on Friday 3rd September titled, "Migrant education lessons with Finland: Opportunities, challenges and ways forward?" You can find information about the event and view Dr Ashley Simpson's presentation [on our website](#).



Featured team member

Dr Katja Vähäsantanen is a university researcher in the field of education and adult education at the Department of Education, University of Jyväskylä, Finland. Her current research and teaching interests lie in the areas of professional identity, agency, learning, and emotions in work organizations, with a further interest in various methodological approaches applicable to investigate agency and learning in working life. She

has many publications, including a recent article in the Nordic Journal of Working Life Studies - see 'Team member news' below. [To read more about Dr Vähäsantanen see here.](#)

Project news

TEAMS members will meet on Monday 18th October 2021 to discuss their wave 1 data and findings. The findings and presentations will be made available after the meeting.

News from Scotland

The Scottish team have now finished wave 1 data collection. They managed to get over 160 responses to the staff survey, more than 30 reflective log submissions, and more than 60 responses to the student survey. The team are now planning wave 2 data collection, which begins in October. They are especially looking forward to the fieldwork visits to meet staff and students in the three schools.

News from Finland

The Finnish team have finished processing the 15 staff interview transcriptions and have co-coded data examples from Wave 1 with other TEAMS members. They are very excited to be able to examine the wave 1 data more thoroughly.

TEAMS is very thankful to the Finnish team for leading the workshop with Dr Ashley Simpson on 3rd September. You can find information about the event and view the presentation, "Migrant education lessons with Finland: Opportunities, challenges and ways forward?" [on our website.](#)

News from Sweden

The Swedish team are currently analysing their wave 1 data. They managed to conduct 14 interviews with staff members in their two participating schools and three interviews with students. They are now planning their wave 2 data collection, which begins in October.

Team member news

[Dr Katja Vähäsantanen](#) and [Dr Päivi Hökkä](#), along with two colleagues, Eija Räikkönen and Susanna Paloniemi, have recently published in the Nordic Journal of Working Life Studies. The article, *Acting Agentically at Work: Developing a Short Measure of Professional Agency*, outlines the new short measure to explore professional agency at work. They shortened the original 17-item Professional Agency Measure, while also exploring its usability for cross-validating questionnaire datasets, and investigating the relationship between professional agency and work engagement. To read the full abstract and to access the article, [see here](#).

Future Events

Tuesday 19th October 2021

TEAMS members will host a special meeting to discuss the abstracts submitted for the special issue of the journal Education Sciences titled, "Migrant Integration in Schools: Policies and Practices". If you wish to

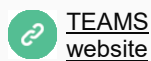
submit an abstract please [see the information on our website](#). The deadline to submit an abstract is **Friday 1st October 2021**.

September 2021 - June 2022 (dates TBC)

Arts and filmmaking workshops in participating TEAMS schools

TEAMS are currently preparing art and filmmaking workshops for migrant students in participating TEAMS schools, to explore the notion of identity. During the workshops, students will explore the many ways that identity can be expressed through artwork, looking at the work of prominent migrant artists. Part of the workshop will be conducted by teachers from the schools, in collaboration with the project's filmmaker [Silvia de Riba](#). Students will then work on their own artwork and creative design, to explore their own experiences and journeys of migration and identity. [Read more here](#).

To hear more about events and future opportunities (such as seminars, workshops, and outreach activities) sign up via the link at the bottom of this newsletter.



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