

Call for Paper Title

Reinventing University: Digital Challenge in Higher Education. Opportunities, critical and emerging issues

Description (suggested less than 600 words for promotional purpose)

This special issue aims to advance the research on the effect of digital transformation on higher education (HE). In the coming years, the Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) will be reconstructed at all levels of their operation, considering that it is a major priority for the European Union (EU). By adopting the Digital Education Action Plan (2021-2027) on 30 September 2020, the EU targets a high-quality, accessible and inclusive digital education supporting the Member States' entry into a digital era. The latest developments in AI technologies make reflection on the role of the university in the digital society even more urgent. The higher education system - with other key stakeholders of education, training, guidance and the labour world – is crucial in preparing people for future challenges. Digital technologies have the potential to offer lifelong learning opportunities to a wide constituency of learners. However, unless the issue of access and competencies are addressed, digital technologies will increase social inequalities at the national and local levels, states and education authorities acknowledge the need to adopt policies and strategies to ensure affordable access to infrastructure, digital equipment technology, and overall digital and data literacy skills for all. These changes require HEIs to review organisation, management, evaluation processes, relations systems and competencies framework for teaching and learning and, above all, the meaning of the university's mission in the digital society, the values towards which to direct, conduct and disseminate research; and the same traditional methodology of research, collection and analysis of data, tested by the proliferation of big data and the new frontiers of artificial intelligence and machine learning. The university faces an epochal challenge that cannot be ignored. This also implies an ethical responsibility regarding the choices and priorities to be pursued for the present and the future of the next generations and how we research.

Based on these premises, the special issue is interested in understanding:

- critical theoretical reflection and/or empirical research focused on the reciprocity relationship between digital transformation and HEIs;
- the evolution of HE in its effort to react to and address the triple transition, digital, ecological and demographic.
- Theoretical and empirical research addressing the proposed timings at the meta, macro, meso, or micro levels are welcome.

Special Issue Topics

We invite articles that address topics such as (but not limited to):

A. New Role of HEIs in Front of Globalisation and Global Crises. Values, Mission And Goals For The Future Of HEIs

B. Artificial Intelligence in HEIs

C. The Economic, Social and Ecological Sustainability of Digital in HE

D. Curriculum design and mismatch job supply demand, skills for a changing society

E. Soft skills for HE students, innovating teaching models, tools for supporting teaching and learning (e-learning, traditional, gamification, AI, augmented reality: methodologies, competencies, etc.)

F. Academic Research: ethical and methodological issues, Computational challenges for humanity

G. The university's strategies in facing democratic and migration crises

Guest Editors Name, Affiliation, and Country and areas

Stefania Capogna

Professor and Coordinator of MA Technologies and languages of communication
University and Scientific Director of DITES Research Centre at Link Campus University
(Italy)

Adjunct Professor at Roma Tre University (Italy)

Francesca Greco

Research at the University of Udine (Italy)

Adjunct Professor at Sapienza University (Italy)

Maria Chiara De Angelis

Research Fellow at Link Campus University (Italy)

Adjunct Professor at Niccolò Cusano University (Italy)

Keywords

HE organisation and management, HE teaching/learning, HE in digital society, Academic Research in big data society, digital university

Others

Full Manuscript Submission instruction:

Please refer to the Author Guidelines to prepare your manuscript. When submitting your manuscript, please answer the question: "Is this submission for a special issue?" by selecting the special issue title from the drop-down list.

Planned Timeline:

1. Abstract (around 250 words) submission deadline: April 1, 2024
2. Notification of abstract acceptance: May 1, 2024
3. Full-text submission deadline: July 1, 2024
4. Notification of paper acceptance: 1 August 2024

5. Expected Publication Date: Late mid-2025

Author Services:

The website (<https://authorservices.wiley.com/home.html>) provides easy-to-access publishing resources and training tools for authors, reviewers, and editors

Open Access:

Authors who wish to publish their paper open access can check their availability for funding (<https://authorservices.wiley.com/author-resources/Journal-Authors/open-access/affiliation-policies-payments/institutional-funder-payments.html>).

References (Optional)

Capogna S. et. al (2021). Digital Technologies in HE: from the European vision to the university governance. Theoretical framework European framework Template and tools for national Case Studies: https://ecolhe.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/IO1.A1_ECOLHE.pdf

Capogna S. et. al. (2023). *University governance facing challenges of digital transformation. Some results of the field research*. In ECOLHE International Conference Proceedings Protaras, Cyprus. Pasithee. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.26220/eco.4439>

Capogna S., De Angelis M.C. (2019). "The digital world between risks and opportunities: ethical dimension and digital skills" in La Rocca, G., & Martínez Torvisco, J. (Eds.). (2020). *Technological and Digital Risk: Research Issues*. Bern, Switzerland: Peter Lang D. Retrieved Nov 1, 2020

Capogna, S. De Angelis M.C., Greco, F. (2023) *The symbolic-cultural dimension of the digital transformation in HE. A comparative analysis*. In ECOLHE International Conference Proceedings Protaras, Cyprus. Pasithee. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.26220/eco.4428>

Capogna, S., De Angelis M.C., Musella, F. (2020). "Practices, training and skills needs of the digital teachers". In Capogna S. Cianfriglia, L., Coccozza, A. (Edited by). *Digital Culture for Educational organizations Guidelines for Teachers and Education Agencies*. Roma: Eurilink Press

De Angelis M.C., *The impact of digitalization in scientific research: risks, opportunities and ethical challenges*, in Quaderni di Comunità. Persone, Educazione e Welfare nella società 5.0 n. 3/2023, Eurilink Press, Roma.