



Developing Program for Access of  
Disadvantaged Groups of People and Regions to  
Higher Education



**DARE International Conference, 20<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> November 2017, Tbilisi, Georgia**

### **Inclusive Education: Research, Learning, Teaching and Student Support**

The Ministry of Education & Science of Georgia (Eka Dgebuadze), Sokhumi State University (Lia Akhaladze), Georgia; University of Haifa (Hanan Alexander), Israel; and European Access Network (Mee Foong Lee), UK, have the pleasure in inviting you to our DARE international conference on inclusive education. The working languages are English and Georgian.

In the constantly changing world, the introduction, research and development of the principles of Inclusive Education (IE) is being increasingly discussed. Embracing and implementing the idea of IE will enable our institutions to increase student diversity, open up opportunities for disadvantaged and under-represented groups to enter higher education, help overcome difficulties in their learning process, and empower them to engage in all areas of public life. The Conference will facilitate the sharing and dissemination of knowledge and experience in IE development in Georgia, Israel, Europe, and beyond. Forum discussions will be arranged around the themes of the papers received.

We now **Call for Submission** of Theses or Reports on inclusive education in the following topics:

1. Teaching, research and implementation of Inclusive Education in the learning process
2. National minorities and the challenges for the higher education system
3. Elaboration and implementation of support strategies for students with special education needs
4. Multicultural education
5. Socially vulnerable groups
6. Forms of support
7. Teaching and evaluation

All abstracts must not exceed 1,500-2,000 characters. Font: Acadnuxx, Sylfaen, Times New Roman

Please note that the work should not be published or read at any other conferences; and the theses should clearly state the results of the study. The results of the conference will be published in the international Georgian-English journal "*Education*".

Submissions must be sent **electronically** to Prof Lia Akhaladze, Dean of Education Faculty, Sokhumi State University: [education@sou.edu.ge](mailto:education@sou.edu.ge)

**Deadline:** 25<sup>th</sup> October 2017 **Notification of acceptance:** 30<sup>th</sup> October 2017



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## Developing Program for Access of Disadvantaged Groups of People and Regions to Higher Education

**Education inequalities** contribute to social divisions and disharmony. Eliminating them is vital. All of us seeking to change the ideas, policies, practices, systems and other factors that support and perpetuate education inequalities are 'advocates for change'. It is a challenging role. It is also a very important role. But we can sometimes find ourselves in a very lonely place. We need more 'equity champions' to join forces with us to effect change. Through 'collective impact' we will find effective ways to achieve results that are otherwise unattainable by working alone and in isolation.

We will share insights on preparatory courses, diversity, language, curriculum development and cultural sensitivity. We will discuss innovative strategies in student support, and spotlight on an online student assistance programme accessible 24/7 with anonymity. One of the highlights will be a workshop using 'Lego Serious Play' which incorporates participants experience and background to foster their engagement in designing a student support system adapted to their context.

Conference speakers include:

*Eka Dgebuadeze*, Head of Inclusive Education Development Division, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia

*Prof Lia Akhaladze*, Dean of Education Faculty, Sokhumi State University, Georgia

*Prof Michal Shany*, Department of Learning Disabilities, University of Haifa, Israel

*Lobke Dedrie* (Career), *Nele Pierlet* (Diversity), Artevelde University College Ghent, Belgium

*Mee Foong Lee*, DARE Consortium Partner, European Access Network, UK

To register for the Conference please click on [this link](#). For more information about the programme please contact Rachel Pear: [rachels.a.pear@gmail.com](mailto:rachels.a.pear@gmail.com); or Mee Foong Lee: [m.f.lee@roehampton.ac.uk](mailto:m.f.lee@roehampton.ac.uk)

## ABOUT DARE



DARE is a three-year Erasmus+ programme co-ordinated by University of Haifa, Israel, with 13 partners from Czech Republic, Georgia, Israel, Lithuania, Romania, Spain and UK; and four NGO associated partners: 2 Georgian and 2 Israeli. The European partners will play a major role in supporting DARE's endeavour to implement higher education strategies that promote equal opportunities and access to inclusive education in partner HEIs in Georgia and Israel. The target groups are:

- Women in socio-economic or geographically disadvantaged situations
- Minority and/or ethnic groups in vulnerable situations
- Students with special needs



The main areas of focus are: raising awareness in diversity and inclusion; institutional capacity building; staff development and training; distance and e-learning; support services for students with physical or learning disabilities; national and institutional development in the principles of inclusive education.

More information about DARE can be found on: <https://dare.erasmus-plus.org.il/>



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