



CALL FOR PAPERS

2026 GELYDA International Conference in Seoul



June 24 – 26, 2026

Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul, South Korea

Building Civic and Community Engagement in Youth Development: A Shared Responsibility of Schools and Extended Education

Rapid advances in AI promise efficient and productive futures, yet they also pose threats when they erode the critical and reflective capacities that define us as Homo sapiens. The coexistence of humans and AI requires rigorous ethical, philosophical, and pedagogical inquiry, as well as the careful design of modes of coexistence that preserve, rather than diminish, our shared humanity. The integration of AI into everyday life has introduced significant challenges of widening economic and social gaps, particularly through unequal access to and use of AI technologies. In this context, civic engagement and social inclusion are indispensable for sustaining our society.

There is also growing concern that societies may shift from being governed by reason and reciprocity to being dominated by power and self-interest. Preparing the future generation to become civic-minded and socially responsible citizens capable of sustaining a rational and coexistent way of life is an urgent imperative. Children and youth need meaningful opportunities to learn civic values and experience them concretely in both public schooling and everyday life. Civic and social capacities such as empathy, responsibility, cooperation, and commitment to the common good do not arise spontaneously. They are cultivated through intentional, systematic educational experiences.

The cultivation of civically responsible citizens who embody humanity, human dignity, multicultural respect, social solidarity, and inclusion is a shared responsibility of schools and communities. Together, they must create rich spaces of learning and experience in which children and youth can learn civic values and social norms and practice civic and community engagement.

Potential Topics

We welcome theoretical, empirical, comparative, and practice-oriented contributions.

Papers and symposia may address, but are not limited to, the following themes:

- Fostering civic capabilities, social solidarity, and human dignity through extended education programs
- Enhancing understanding of the importance of multiculturalism and diversity
- Defining and enacting the new responsibilities of extended education in developing civic-minded whole person
- Designing educational ecosystems that integrate formal, non-formal, and community-based learning for civic and community life
- Understanding wellness, resiliency, and thriving from the perspective of extended learning and positive youth development
- Building civic and community engagement in youth development in the era of AI by extended education programs

Formats of participation

- Presentation of **Individual Papers** / Thematic Sessions
- **Organized Symposia** in which a convener brings together multiple presenters under a clearly defined theme. Organized sessions are welcome from:
 - National or regional organizations related to extended education
 - Practitioner groups in specific fields
 - Country sessions showcasing cases, policies, or practices from particular countries or regions
- Symposia are organized in advance by the proposers, while thematic sessions are formed by the program committee based on the submitted papers.
- A hybrid on-line and on site format may be possible, but it should be discussed with the executive committee in advance due to the technical arrangements.

Key Dates

- Abstract Submission Deadline: 3/14/26
- Abstract Acceptance Announcement: 3/15/26

Contact & Inquiries

- Conference Website: <https://2026gelyda.com/>
- GELYDA Website: www.gelyda.org
- Executive Committee: 2026.gelyda.conference@gmail.com