



3rd International Scientific Conference

Competent Systems in Early Childhood Education and Care

Sarajevo (BiH), October 22nd – 24th, 2026

We are pleased to invite you to the 3rd International Scientific and Professional Conference

KOMPAS - Competent Systems in Early Childhood Education and Care,

which will be held from 22 to 24 October 2026 in Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina). The conference is organized by the Faculty of Education, Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek, and the Faculty of Education, University of Sarajevo.

The central theme of the KOMPAS 2026 Conference is *professional identity in the context of competent systems*, with a particular focus on the professional identity of ECEC educators and other stakeholders within the ECEC system.

Professional identity is viewed as a dynamic, contextual, and relational process, rather than as a static role defined by qualifications or a job description. Through dialogue with diverse perspectives brought by the keynote speakers—ranging from the Reggio philosophy (Cristian Fabbi), pedagogy of participation and critical reflection (Edita Slunjski, Ida Somolanji Tokić, Tijana Borovac), to local and political challenges of professional practice within a social context (Dženeta Camović)—KOMPAS 2026 opens a space for reflecting on identity not only as an individual form of professional self-understanding, but also as a collectively constructed value within competent systems. In this context, professional identity is not approached as the question "*Who am I?*", but rather as "*What are we becoming together?*"—through relationships, reflection, and collective action.

Such an approach also opens a series of provocations worth careful consideration: Who has the right to define professional identity—practitioners, educational policy, or the academic and scientific community? Is a professional someone who possesses specific competencies, or someone who co-creates them in collaboration with others? Can professional identity exist without professional autonomy? Can it exist if it is not recognized by the system?

These and many other themes and questions will be discussed at KOMPAS 2026 in Sarajevo.

Venue: **Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.**

Participation: It is possible to participate in the conference with an oral presentation or without a presentation as an attendee.

Official languages of the conference: Croatian, Bosnian, Serbian, and English.

Official script of the conference: Latin alphabet.



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KEYNOTE SPEAKERS - KOMPAS 2026:

Prof. **Edita Slunjski**, University of Zagreb, Croatia

Cristian Fabbi, Director of Fondazione Reggio Children, Italy

Assoc. Prof. **Dženeta Camović**, University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Assoc. Prof. **Tijana Borovac**, University of Osijek, Croatia

Assist. Prof. **Ida Somolanji Tokić**, University of Osijek, Croatia

IMPORTANT DATES

Opening of submissions for participation **with presentation**: Tuesday, **23 December 2025**

Opening of registration for participation **without presentation**: Monday, **2 February 2026**

Abstract submission deadline (presentations): Sunday, **1 February 2026**

Notification of abstract acceptance: Sunday, **1 March 2026**

Early registration fee payment deadline: Wednesday, **1 April 2026**

Late registration fee payment deadline: Monday, **1 June 2026**

KOMPAS 2026 Conference: 22–24 October 2026

Opening of full paper submissions: Sunday, **8 November 2026**

REGISTRATION FOR PARTICIPATION

Applications for Oral Presentation

Oral presentations are submitted by uploading an abstract via a Google Form (<https://forms.gle/hkxZ9J3Q3rEgAJtY6>).

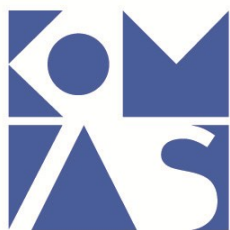
Abstracts must be submitted in one of the following languages: Croatian, Bosnian, or Serbian, with a mandatory translation into English. Abstracts written in English must include a mandatory translation into Croatian. All submissions must be linguistically edited. The official script of the conference is the Latin alphabet.

The abstract should contain 200–300 words and must include: the aim of the research, theoretical framework, methodology, methods, ethical considerations, expected results, and possible implications for policy, theory, or practice. If submitting a good practice presentation, please state the aim, purpose, basic theoretical background, and provide a brief description.

Each abstract must include up to five (5) keywords, listed in alphabetical order and separated by commas, using specific rather than general terms.

Each participant may submit a maximum of two papers (two presentations).

Submission of full papers will open after the conference. Participants will be informed in due course about the procedure for submitting scientific papers.



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Applications for Participation as an Attendee

Participants who do not submit a presentation may attend the conference as listeners/attendees. Registration via the Google Form (<https://forms.gle/VRpintRZjBs8oY11A>) for participation as an attendee opens on 2 February 2026.

REGISTRATION FEE

Participant Category	Registration Deadline	EU Countries and Other Countries		Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Albania, Serbia, Kosovo, North Macedonia*	
		Early registration	Late registration	Early registration	Late registration
PRESENTERS – academic and research professionals (assistant professors, associate professors, full professors, researchers)		180,00 €	210,00 €	50 €	60 €
PRESENTERS – students of undergraduate, graduate, specialist, and postgraduate university study programmes in Croatia and abroad		110,00 €	140,00 €	30 €	40 €
PRESENTERS – others (practitioners employed in kindergartens and other educational institutions, associations, agencies, etc.)		110,00 €	140,00 €	30 €	40 €
ATTENDEES		80,00 €	110,00 €	20 €	30 €

*Payments made in convertible marks (BAM) are calculated according to the mid exchange rate on the date of payment.

All details are available on the official conference website kompas-konf.com.

We look forward to your arrival and participation!

Chair of the KOMPAS 2026 Organising Committee

Prof. **Jasmina Bećirović-Karabegović**

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