Longitudinal Data For INequalities In Education

LINEup Final Event

Hosted by Institut national d'études démographiques (INED) in Paris, France

28 January 2027

Venue: Centre de Colloques, Campus Condorcet, Place du Front populaire, 93300 Aubervilliers, France

Funded by the European Union's Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZONCL2-2023-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-06) under grant agreement No 101132455.

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From Longitudinal Evidence to Educational Action – LINEup Final Conference

Paris 2027 – Thursday 28 January 2027

In a nutshell: Europe has more longitudinal evidence than we thought. Using and improving that evidence changes the questions we can ask about educational inequalities. The answers can help schools and policymakers act more effectively. The conference is organised as a journey from evidence to action.

Throughout the day, participants will move through five successive stages:

- Understanding – What have we learned?
- Interpreting – Why does it matter?
- Translating – So what does this mean?
- Acting – What should schools, policymakers and researchers do?
- Committing – What should we take forward?

Key Messages:

1. **Educational Inequalities Are Dynamic: Understanding Them Requires Longitudinal Evidence**
   Educational inequalities do not emerge overnight; they develop and evolve throughout students' educational trajectories. By mapping and analysing longitudinal datasets across Europe, LINEup has provided an unprecedented overview of the data infrastructures available to study how individual, family, school, and system-level factors shape learning outcomes over time. The project demonstrates both the potential and the current limitations of longitudinal data for understanding educational inequalities and supporting evidence-informed policymaking.

2. **Longitudinal Data Reveal Not Only Whether Inequalities Exist, but How They Develop**
   Beyond describing educational gaps, longitudinal data make it possible to investigate the mechanisms through which inequalities emerge, persist, or widen across different educational systems. LINEup's comparative analyses contribute new insights into students' educational trajectories, the role of contextual factors, and the opportunities and challenges of conducting cross-country research on educational inequalities.

3. **Schools Can Make a Difference: Engagement and Compensatory Actions Matter**
   Educational inequalities are not inevitable. Through its qualitative research conducted in schools across six European countries, LINEup has explored how schools can actively support students facing disadvantage. The findings highlight the importance of student engagement, supportive school environments, strong relationships, and targeted compensatory interventions in shaping more equitable educational experiences.

Target Audience: The event will bring together researchers, policymakers, school leaders/teachers, and other stakeholders interested in understanding and addressing educational inequalities through evidence-informed policies and practices.

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LINE UP Longitudinal Data For INequalities In Education

Thursday 28 January 2027, from 9:30 to 19:00 (CET Time) Moderated by Altheo Valentini, General Manager, European Grants International Academy Srl Auditorium 250, Centre de Colloques, Campus Condorcet	
9:00-9:30	**Welcome Coffee & Registration**
9:30-9:50	**Welcome & Opening Remarks** • Daniele Vidoni, Policy Officer, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, European Commission • François Clanché, Director, Institut National d'études démographiques • Marzia Sica, "People" Goal Manager, Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo
9:50-10:00	**Warm-Up Exercise – Getting to know the Audience** • Altheo Valentini, General Manager, European Grants International Academy Srl
10:00-10:20	**Keynote Address** **Why Educational Inequalities Continue to Challenge European Education Systems** • Paulo Santiago, Head of the Policy Advice and Implementation Division, OECD Directorate for Education and Skills
10:20-10:35	**The LINEup Journey: Looking Back, Moving Forward** **From Longitudinal Evidence to School-Based Insights** • Veronica Mobilio, Head of Research, Fondazione per la Scuola
10:35-11:30	**Panel 1** **What Longitudinal Data Tell Us About Educational Inequalities** *Presentation of the main LINEup quantitative findings.* **Moderator:** Martin Neugebauer, Professor, Karlsruhe University of Education **Speakers**: • Gianluca Argentin, Ilaria Lievore — Italy • Leonard Moulin, Priya Maurya — France • Martin Neugebauer, Johanna Unewisse — Germany • Ioannis Cholezas, Nikolaos C. Kanellopoulos — Greece • Carlos Miguel Figueiredo Afonso — Portugal • Luis Ortiz Gervasi, Giampiero Passaretta — Spain
11:30-11:55	**Coffee Break**
11:55-12:50	**Panel 2** **What Schools Can Do: Lessons from the LINEup Qualitative Research** *Presentation of the main LINEup qualitative findings.* **Moderator:** Paulo Moreira, Professor, University of Trás-os-Montes and Alto Douro **Speakers:** • Antonella Capalbi — Italy • Leonard Moulin, Léa Larchevêque — France • Marina Liakova — Germany • Paraskevi Foti — Greece • Marta de Oliveira Rodrigues — Portugal

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	• Rafael Merinos, Eva Jove Casabella — Spain		
12:50-13:20	**Reflections & Discussion** **What do these findings mean for European Education Systems? Implications for Schools, Policy and Research** Reflections on the quantitative findings - *Carlo Barone, Professor of Sociology and Director of the Centre for Research on Social Inequalities (CRIS), Sciences Po, Paris, France* Reflections on the qualitative findings - *Agnès van Zanten, Senior Research Professor at the Centre for Research on Social Inequalities (CRIS) and Sciences Po, Paris, France*		
13:20-13:30	**From Evidence to Action: Questions for Policy, Research and Practice** • Veronica Mobilio, Head of Research, Fondazione per la Scuola • Altheo Valentini, General Manager, European Grants International Academy Srl		
13:30-15:00	**Networking Lunch**		
15:00-17:00	**WORKSHOPS**		
	POLICY **Strengthening Longitudinal Data Infrastructures** *Discussing how research infrastructures and longitudinal data can support educational policymaking.*	**RESEARCH** **Advancing Longitudinal Research on Educational Inequalities** *Reflecting on findings from LINEup and sister projects and identifying priorities for future research on educational inequalities.*	**PRACTICE** **Supporting More Equitable Schools** *Exploring the role of schools, teachers and compensatory actions in supporting disadvantaged students.*
17:00-17:15	**Break before coming back to the plenary**		

17:15-18:00	**From Workshop Insights to the LINEup Recommendations**
	• Rapporteurs from the three workshops (5 min each)
	  ○ Emmanuele Pavolini and Gianluca Argentin
	  ○ Ilaria Lievore and Leonard Moulin
	  ○ Marta de Oliveira Rodrigues and Antonella Capalbi
	• Roberto Ricci, President, President, INVALSI
	• Daniele Vidoni, Policy Officer, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, European Commission		

18:00-19:00	**Farewell Reception**		

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Workshops Agenda:

WORKSHOP 1 – Policy (by INVITATION) Coordinated by Emmanuele Pavolini (University of Milan) and Gianluca Argentin (University of Milan-Bicocca) - AB members: Cordula Artelt – Nuno Neto Rodrigues – Massimo Loi – Luís Pereira dos Santos – Roberto Ricci - Vasileios Gkamas.	
15:00-15:15	**Setting the Scene. Welcome & Objectives** Introduction to the workshop objectives, format and expected outcomes, followed by a brief overview of the LINEup mapping, Education Data Explorer and the four strategic scenarios identified in the Feasibility Study. • Veronica Mobilio, Head of Research, Fondazione per la Scuola
15:15-16:00	**Four Pathways to Stronger Longitudinal Education Data Infrastructures** Four presentations of approximately 10 minutes each, supported by slides: **1) LINEup – Mapping the European landscape and testing feasibility** What can Europe already achieve with existing longitudinal education data? Where do gaps in coverage, accessibility and comparability call for new approaches? • Emmanuele Pavolini, Professor, University of Milan • Gianluca Argentin, Professor, University of Milan-Bicocca **2) From national datasets to shared standards – Lessons from LIS** What can the LIS experience teach us about the governance arrangements, common standards and institutional cooperation needed to improve cross-national data comparability? • Daniele Checchi, Professor, University of Milan, former Director of the Luxembourg Office of LIS **3) From cross-sectional to longitudinal – Building on existing infrastructures** How can existing international assessments be leveraged to generate longitudinal evidence? What opportunities and challenges emerge from the TIMSS pilot experience? • Rolf Strietholt, Professor, Aarhus University **4) Growing Up in Digital Europe – Building longitudinal by design** What does it take to establish a sustainable, cross-national longitudinal research infrastructure from the outset? What lessons can be drawn from the GUIDE experience? • Gary Pollock, Professor, University of Manchester/Helsinki
16:00-16:45	**Designing the Next Generation of Longitudinal Data Infrastructures. Plenary discussion.** Moderated discussion. Guiding questions: • What are the most critical gaps in Europe's capacity to monitor educational trajectories and inequalities over time? • What are the main institutional and technical barriers to strengthening longitudinal education data infrastructures, and how can they be overcome? • Building on the four approaches presented, what should be the priorities for European cooperation, and which concrete steps could be taken in the next three to five years?
16:45-17:00	**Moving Forward Together** Agreement on three key priorities for strengthening longitudinal data infrastructures in Europe, followed by brief closing remarks.

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WORKSHOP 2 – Research Coordinated by Ilaria Lievore (Fondazione per la Scuola) and Leonard Moulin (INED) AB members: Francesca Borgonovi – Artur Pokropek – Orazio Giancola – Adrien Pawlik	
15:00-15:15	**Setting the Scene. Welcome & Objectives** Introduction to the workshop objectives, format and expected outcomes. Brief framing of the contribution of longitudinal research to understanding how educational inequalities emerge and evolve over time. • Ilaria Lievore, Researcher, Fondazione per la Scuola
15:15-16:15	**Advancing Longitudinal Research. Insights from LINEup and Sister Projects** Selected empirical contributions from LINEup and sister projects, based on the abstracts submitted in response to the call. Each contribution will have 10 minutes for presentation followed by 5 minutes for discussion. Contributions will focus on educational inequalities and explicitly highlight the added value of a longitudinal perspective for understanding when inequalities emerge, how they evolve over time, and the mechanisms through which they are reproduced or reduced. Possible topics: • Early-life origins of educational inequalities • Transitions across educational stages • Family background, migration, gender and socio-economic inequalities • Institutional effects and policy contexts • Cumulative advantage/disadvantage over time
16:15-16:50	**Shaping the Future Research Agenda. Plenary discussion** Moderated discussion. Guiding questions: • What are the most important unanswered questions about how educational inequalities emerge and evolve over time? • Where can longitudinal research make the greatest contribution to answering them? • How can researchers and projects work together to advance a shared European research agenda on educational inequalities?
16.50-17.00	**Moving Forward Together** Agreement on three key priorities for the future European research agenda on educational inequalities, followed by brief closing remarks.

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WORKSHOP 3 - Practice Coordinated by Antonella Capalbi (Fondazione per la Scuola) and Marta de Oliveira Rodrigues (UTAD) - AB Members: Andrea Pastorelli – Angelo Paletta – Tom Wambeke	
15:00-15:10	**Setting the Scene. Welcome & Objectives** Introduction to the workshop objectives, format and expected outcomes. Participants will be invited to reflect on the LINEup conceptual model and qualitative findings, bringing these into dialogue with their own experience and identifying implications for school practice. • Antonella Capalbi, Researcher, Fondazione per la Scuola
15:10-15:20	**Understanding Inequalities in Action.** Presentation of the LINEup conceptual model of variables • Samuele Bettuelli, Researcher, Fondazione per la Scuola
15:20-16:00	**Reflecting together.** National discussions on the value of the LINEup conceptual model: • Are the identified variables clear and meaningful? • Is there any important element that should be added, revised, or removed? • How well do these interactions between variables capture the complexity of what you observe and experience in your daily work?
16:00-16:10	**What Have We Learned?** Short presentation of the main cross-country findings emerging from the LINEup qualitative research, drawing on the national case studies and country factsheets. *Based on the country and cross- country factsheets (FpS; UTAD; INED; UAB; PHKA; Piraeus)* • Paulo Moreira, Associate Professor, UTAD • Marta de Oliveira Rodrigues, Researcher, UTAD
16:10-16:50	**Turning Evidence into Practice.** National discussions on implications and good practices: • Do these findings resonate with your experience? • What should schools do differently in light of these findings? • Which practices do you consider most valuable and transferable to other school contexts?
16:50-17:00	**Moving Forward Together** Agreement on three key messages for schools and practitioners emerging from the discussion, followed by brief closing remarks and an invitation to remain engaged through the LINEup School Network.

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