

*In connection to the 42nd NERA congress 'Education for sustainable development' that will be held in Lillehammer on March 5-7, 2014, the Nordic Centre of Excellence 'Justice through Education in the Nordic Countries' will organize a **pre-conference***

## **JUSTICE THROUGH EDUCATION: MARKETISATION AND EQUITY IN EMBEDDED CONTEXTS**

**March 4-5, 2014, Lillehammer, Norway**

Over the last 40 years we observe across Europe extensive reforms of education systems that accompany wider reforms of the welfare states and political institutions. Also in the Nordic countries, the idea of universal welfare has, especially from the 1990s onwards, been increasingly affected by marketisation due to the market-oriented and globalised economy's close connections with educational policy. Given this changing educational landscape, this conference aims to shed light on the impact of marketisation on the issue of justice in educational policies, discourses, schooling and everyday practices, and educational outcomes, within Nordic and other educational contexts.

The pre-conference, organised by the Nordic Centre of Excellence Justice through Education in the Nordic Countries (JustEd), focuses on the different embedded contexts of marketisation and equity. These contexts range from transnational policy-making to classroom practices. Marketisation processes rely on competition, consumer choice, differentiation and hierarchy, and encourage principles that are not necessarily compatible with the ideas of justice. However, in the complex process of embedding, new possibilities and rooms for creative action, equality and equity emerge.

Educational markets are continuously changing and evolving, and they operate within different social, political and economic contexts as these are defined by legal parameters, but also by long traditions of schooling practices, socio-historical path-dependencies, and ideologies of welfare and social justice. The key theme circles around the question how the Nordic and other contexts have been able to sustain their potential to treasure justice through education.

### **Keynote speakers**

*Ken Jones*, Professor of Education, Goldsmiths, University of London

*Lisbeth Lundahl*, Professor of Educational Work, Umeå University

## Guidelines for proposals

The conference welcomes abstracts from a variety of disciplines on this wide-ranging theme. Papers should explore the relationships between marketisation processes, practices or policies in education and considerations around equity in educational practices. Abstract should be in English, have a maximum of 500 words and should include the research question, background/theoretical framework (max 200 words), methods (max 150 words) and a discussion of expected outcomes (max 150 words). Abstracts are to be submitted for review through the [online submission system](#). All submissions will be peer reviewed and acceptance is based on their quality as well as relevance to the pre-conference theme. **Deadline for submission is November 15, 2013.** Notification of acceptance will be sent by December 5, 2013.

## Programme

*Tuesday March 4<sup>th</sup>*

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13.00-14.15 Keynote: Professor Ken Jones, Goldsmiths, University of London  
*'Spaces of conflict, spaces of crisis: European education and its uneven development'*

14.15-15.30 Parallel session 1

15.30-16 Coffee break

16-17.15 Parallel session 2

*Wednesday March 5<sup>th</sup>*

9.00-10.15 Parallel session 3

10.15-11.15 Keynote: Professor Lisbeth Lundahl, Umeå University  
*'Justice, equity and marketisation in and of education: concluding comments'*

## Practical information and registration

The conference will be held in Lillehammer, Norway, at Radisson Blu Lillehammer Hotel, the same venue as the NERA congress. The conference is open for all and free of charge, but requires online registration before December 15, 2013. For more details, please see [www.helsinki.fi/justed](http://www.helsinki.fi/justed)