

Crises et renouveau éducatif dans un monde complexe, 1870-1950

Crises and Educational Renewal in a Complex World, 1870-1950

*Standing Working Group
2025 Annual Report*

Convenors

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The SWG “Crises and educational renewal in a complex world - 1870-1950”, was adopted at the ISCHE 45 General Assembly held in Natal in August 2024.

This SWG, whose first session was held in Lille in 2025, proposes to reflect on the different pedagogical models and approaches developed in periods of crisis, as well as in the phases that precede and follow them, in an approach that intends to trace the itineraries of social actors engaged in inter- and transnational phenomena (Vera & Fuchs, 2019), with a vision of transforming society in a complex world. The proposed study, which covers the period from 1870 to 1950, will show how different countries mobilise but also deflect pedagogy during periods of conflict, and debate it after defeats. If the war and post-war periods reveal a willingness to use different pedagogical methods, from early childhood to vocational training, to reinvent a lost identity as a state and democracy (Luc, Condetta & Verneuil, 2020; Condetta, 2014), pedagogy, to be renewed and transmitted, must be grounded both in theoretical models and in practices implemented by committed stakeholders in the education sector with a vision of transforming society.

Papers presented at the conference, ISCHE 46, Lille

- Papers submitted: 14
- Papers approved: 12
- Papers delivered: 11

For this first session, 3 in-person sessions were held. Exceptionally, only one paper was presented online.

1. Papers delivered on site:

- Crises and Educational Renewal in a Complex World, 1870-1950: introduction (French); Serina-Karsky, Fabienne, (Institut Catholique de Paris, France); Comerio, Luca Andrea Alessandro (Università di Milano-Bicocca, Italy); Van Ruyskensvelde, Sarah (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium)
- The French Catholic School and the Franco-Prussian War Of 1870-71 (French); Murez, Jean-Baptiste, (Institut Catholique de Paris, France)
- John Dewey and the Transformation of Chinese Education During the Reform Era at the Beginning of the 20th Century (French); Wang, Jing (Université de Picardie Jules Verne, France)

- 1930s: The Intellectual and Political Evolution of Educational Activists in the Face of the Disillusionment of Pacifist Education (French); Mole, Frédéric (Université de Saint-Étienne, France)
- The Application of the Montessori Method in the Agro Romano (1915-1919) through the Work of Irene Bernasconi (French); Gilsoul, Martine (Università degli Studi Roma Tre, Italy)
- Montessori pedagogical model applied to orphaned children during World War I: the action of the Società Umanitaria of Milan (1917-1923) (English); Pozzi, Irene (University of Bologna, Italy)
- Austrian Rural School Renewal after 1945. Reform and Continuity as an Answer to Post-war Crisis and Modernization Crisis (English); Göttlicher, Wilfried (University of Graz, Austria);
- Crises and Educational Renewal in a Complex World, 1870-1950: Perspectives (French); Comerio, Luca Andrea Alessandro (Università di Milano-Bicocca, Italy); Serina-Karsky, Fabienne, (Institut Catholique de Paris, France); Van Ruyskensvelde, Sarah (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium)

2. Paper delivered online

- Zhou, Ying; LYU, Hyunjung; Park, Daekwon (The Academy of Korean Studies, Korea, Republic of South Korea); Crises and Renewal: The Role of The Globe Magazine (萬國公報) in Educational Reform and Social Transformation in Late Qing China (English)

Activities implemented outside ISCHE conference

- A research visit: Fabienne Serina-Karsky spent a week at the Università di Milano-Bicocca, meeting Prof. Gabriella Seveso and working on the SWG with convenor Luca Comerio.
- An online seminar was held in November 2025 with 7 of the SWG participants.

Publications

Several publications are planned during the 5 years of the SWG, which will be specified as the work progresses:

- Special issues
- Several articles and book chapters