# AEA Europe Annual Conference 2025

The Hague, Netherlands

5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> November 2025

#### Call and instructions for submissions

The submission of proposals for the 2025 Association for Educational Assessment Europe annual conference is now open. This document includes the conference theme and describes the different submission formats and how to make a submission. Submissions will be made through EasyAcademia at: <a href="https://www.easyacademia.org/aea2025">https://www.easyacademia.org/aea2025</a>

This link to the submission page can also be found on the AEA Europe website <a href="https://aea-europe.net/">https://aea-europe.net/</a>. and conference website <a href="https://2025.aea-europe.net/">https://aea-europe.net/</a>.

Please read the guidelines carefully before uploading your proposal(s) to EasyAcademia.

#### **Important dates**

Main conference: November 6-8, 2025

Pre-conference workshops: November 5, 2025

Submission deadline for pre-conference workshops: April 6, 2025

Submission deadline (other than workshops): April 22, 2025

Acceptance notification: June 30, 2025

Registration by presenters: August 31, 2025

Online registration closes: October 6, 2025

There will be no deadline extensions.

# Designing tomorrow's assessment landscape for positive impact on learning

Assessment and learning are fundamentally intertwined. It is widely acknowledged that the design and implementation of educational assessments directly and indirectly impact how teaching and learning are approached in the classroom. In high-stakes assessments like pre-university qualifications, final grades significantly impact students' future academic and career paths. These assessments also have major implications for teachers, schools and other stakeholders, and feed into broader issues of public trust in educational systems. Pressures and tensions associated with high-stakes assessments therefore inevitably create a backwash (or washback) effect on classroom-based activities, and risk practices of 'teaching to the test'. Assessment for Learning (AfL) influences very directly and intentionally the interactions between the teacher (assessor) and learner in the classroom. Other low-stakes assessments can also impact classroom practices. This is seen in international large-scale assessments – for example, with 'PISA shock' reverberating through national education policymaking and curriculum-based decisions in many countries. Thus, whether assessments are designed for summative or formative purposes, whether they are intended to reflect content in a particular curriculum, or to measure skills considered to be generalizable across different groups of students - assessment and learning are inexorably interconnected. Yet, despite the symbiotic relationship of assessment and learning, they are so often dealt with separately – in both theory and practice (Baird et al, 2017). Yet, if assessment and learning are not consciously integrated from the point of design, intended learning outcomes can be undermined. Thus, the theme for the 26th annual AEA Europe conference in 2025 focuses on: Designing tomorrow's assessment landscape for positive impact on learning. Several focal points within this overarching theme demonstrate the myriad of connections between and avenues for integration of assessment and learning.

The first focal point of the conference theme is: *Integrating assessment and curriculum design*. Assessment is the means for students to demonstrate their learning in relation to certain curricula. However, an artificial disconnect between assessment and learning can be exacerbated by conflicting priorities from curriculum and assessment specialists, as well as the lack of established, underlying theory

to unite them (Newton, 2024). Despite the best intentions in assessment design, practices of 'teaching to the test' can risk superficial learning experiences, such as a disproportionate focus on rote memorization over critical thinking skills (Hamer & van Rossum, 2017). It can also result in increased anxiety, decreased motivation, and negatively impact students' wellbeing. The onus is therefore on assessment specialists to strive for a positive backwash effect, one example being consciously designing authentic assessments that provide opportunities to demonstrate learning outcomes that are valued. This can include encouraging the development of higher order thinking skills or supporting inquiry-based learning. This strand may include areas such as approaches to uniting theories of learning and assessment, designing curriculum-based assessments, backwash effect, and assessing authentic skills with real-world application. With the recent explosion of generative AI, this latter area in particular also connects with emerging technologies, which is the focus of the next strand.

The second focal point of the conference theme is: Al and authentic assessment. Here, the 2025 conference theme also builds on the AEA-Europe 2024 theme: 'Advances in Educational Assessment Practices: Considering the use of Technology, Artificial Intelligence, and Process Data for Assessment in the 21st Century'. In the rapidly evolving world of digital technologies, challenges and opportunities related to AI and large language models (LLMs) are a reality faced by teaching and learning settings around the world. As authentic assessments are intended to reflect real-life learning, the impact of AI in the classroom cannot be ignored in assessment design. Concerns have naturally been raised about authenticity of student work, and the risks to academic honesty and malpractice issues posed by easily available AI tools, so new approaches are needed to determine the veracity of assessed work. However, emerging technologies also offer new opportunities, such as more adaptive, personalised assessment approaches and the inclusion of interactive elements and simulations requiring more integration with the learning itself (Bennett, 2015). New and innovative assessment designs may also allow students to engage critically with AI generated materials, such as by encouraging them to fact-check sources, investigate possible AI hallucinations, and question biases that may be perpetuated or reinforced in AI-generated content. Assessment task design can play an important role in these aims, such as by encouraging critical thinking skills, and the ethical use of AI. Carefully designed summative assessments, that promote critical thinking skills, awareness of inherent biases in and limitations of AI-generated content, will equip learners for the future where AI and AI generated content will be embedded in daily life. Similarly, there is a need for research on and development of guidance and frameworks for educators on how to design formative tasks for AI use and embed the ethical AI practices in the classroom.

However, it is also important to recognize the limitations of AI tools in educational contexts, such as inconsistencies in the quality and availability of resources in LLMs across different languages. This brings us to the third and final focal point: *Inclusive assessments for all learners*. Educational assessments offer social value in that they can contribute to the improvement of student learning, whilst also contributing to a more equitable society (Sireci, 2021). However, to do so, they must be underpinned by core values,

such as recognizing that there are no inherent differences in the capacity to learn across different groups, such as cultural, linguistic or racial (ibid). The final strand therefore focuses on designing assessments that are inclusive and valid for all groups of learners. This may include exploring validity in cross-lingual and cross-cultural assessment, such as how exams are developed for use in different languages, and how scores are evaluated and compared across different language versions. Research into accommodations that can support student learning in the classroom as well as in assessments would be relevant here, as would universal design approaches that aim to reduce barriers for all learners. This may also include exploring how systematic biases against subgroups of students (e.g., race, gender or neurodiverse) can be avoided in assessments design, thereby supporting and creating a positive impact on the learning experience and outcome for all students.

#### References

- Baird, J. A., Andrich, D., Hopfenbeck, T. N., & Stobart, G. (2017). Assessment and learning: Fields apart? Assessment in Education: Principles, policy & practice, 24(3), 317-350.
- Bennett, R. E. (2015). The changing nature of educational assessment. Review of Research in Education, 39(1), 370–407.
- Hamer, R., & Van Rossum, E. J. (2017). Students' conceptions of understanding and its assessment.

  In *Innovative practices for higher education assessment and measurement* (pp. 140-161). IGI Global Scientific Publishing.
- Newton, Paul (2024). (In search of) Educational Certification Theory. *The 24th annual meeting of the Association for Educational Assessment-Europe (AEA-Europe)*. 6-9 November, 2024. Paphos, Cyprus.
- Sireci, S. G. (2021). NCME presidential address 2020: Valuing educational measurement. *Educational Measurement: Issues and Practice*, 40(1), 7-16.

For the Annual Conference of the Association for Educational Assessment Europe 2025, in The Hague, Netherlands, we encourage submissions that delve into various aspects of assessment. We are excited to invite practitioners, researchers, students, and policymakers to submit research proposals in particular that relate to the conference theme.

#### Sub-themes

In the conference programme papers are grouped by sub-theme. We encourage you to tick a sub-theme in the submission system indicating your sub-theme grouping preference. While we cannot guarantee grouping in a particular session/sub-theme, we will take your preferences into account. Possible sub-themes for the conference can include but are not limited to:

- Artificial Intelligence and Assessment
- Assessment Cultures

- Assessment of Practical Skills
- Assessment that is reactive to unforeseen/disruptive circumstances (e.g. Covid 19, conflict, climate change)
- Comparative Judgement
- Educational Policy and Assessment in the era of decolonising curriculum
- E-assessment
- Fairness and Social Justice
- Formative Assessment
- Higher Education and Assessment
- Holistic Assessment
- Inclusive Assessment
- Assessment for Qualifications for Work
- International Assessments
- Language Issues in Assessment
- National Tests and Examinations
- Perspectives of End-users and the General Public on Assessment
- Process data
- Psychometrics and Test Development (including Reliability, Validity)
- Summative Assessment
- Test Development
- Technical, Vocational and Applied Assessments
- Other

If a submission is being made by or on behalf of one of the AEA E's Special Interest Groups (SIGs) please make that clear on the submission form by ticking the relevant check box in the Easy submission system - Easy Academia.

#### **Submission Formats**

The AEA E conference comprises Keynote addresses, open paper presentations, symposia, discussion groups, and posters. We welcome submissions for all formats, except the keynote addresses, which are by invitation only.

All submissions are evaluated in accordance with criteria applied according to the applicant's preferred format.

This call also covers proposals to lead a pre-conference workshop. Normally several workshops are held on the day before the main conference – so submissions for these workshops are also welcome. Please note that the deadline for submission of workshops is **earlier** than for other submissions.

You might propose one or more of the following:

- Pre-conference workshop: Closing date midnight (GMT) 06<sup>th</sup> April (note that the submission date for pre-conference workshops is earlier than for other proposals).
- Paper presentation: Closing date for submissions midnight (GMT) 22<sup>nd</sup> April.
- Discussion group: Closing date for submissions midnight (GMT) 22<sup>nd</sup> April.
- Poster presentation: Closing date for submissions midnight (GMT) 22<sup>nd</sup> April.
- Symposium: Closing date for submissions midnight (GMT) 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

For each submission, please follow the instructions below. <u>Please note that</u> although you may submit several proposals:

- (i) your name can only appear a maximum of **four times** across the conference programme;
- (ii) your name can only appear **once as lead presenter** for any given format for example, you can only be lead author for one paper presentation.

## Pre-conference workshops (submission deadline 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025)

On the day preceding the conference a number of optional pre-conference workshops are run for conference delegates. A participation fee is payable.

The proposal should consist of a short abstract (maximum 200 words) and completion of Appendix A which is provided in the online submission system. The submission should include:

- a short presentation of the aim of the workshop,
- a description of required previous knowledge, and
- a description of the target audience.

The proposal should indicate a good balance of professional input from the workshop leaders and time for input and discussion by the participants.

The proposal should be written in Times New Roman 12pt with 1.5 line spacing. Use bold for headings and underline the name(s) of the main organiser(s).

Pre-conference workshop proposals are reviewed by the Scientific Programme Committee (SPC). A maximum of two organisers/presenters for each workshop can be reimbursed for one night of accommodation and, in addition, receive a deduction of 50 Euros on their conference fee.

The pre-conference workshop evaluation criteria have been reproduced in full here for your information.

Criterion	Description	
Relevance	<ul> <li>Offers a topic relevant to educational assessment, including a fresh perspective on an existing topic, important to assessment.</li> </ul>	
	Displays scientific rigour and up-to-date insights.	
Appeal to delegates	Has appeal for delegates.	
	Can expect a 'reasonable' number of registrations.	
Quality of submission	Underlying rationale/argument is sound.	

	Proposal is clear and well-written.
Adherence to submission instructions	<ul> <li>Submission adheres to instructions described in the 'Call and instructions for submission'.</li> <li>submission consists of a short abstract (200-word max.) and</li> <li>fully and accurately completed 'Appendix A'.</li> </ul>
Balance (between presentation and participant interaction activities)	<ul> <li>Participants have opportunities to engage in ample discussion and relevant activities throughout the workshop.</li> </ul>

#### **All Other Submissions**

All other submissions (for open paper presentations, discussion groups, symposia, and posters) are considered through a blind peer review process and each proposal is reviewed by two independent reviewers. Proposals are judged on their scientific quality. Whilst poster and discussion group sessions are evaluated against the same criteria as open papers and symposia, the criteria are less stringently applied.

#### Non-anonymised submissions will be rejected immediately.

Scores	Evaluation Criteria
0 - reject	Unacceptable scholarly/scientific quality.
1 - poor	The content, style, examples, and/or description of previous work, conceptual ideas or results need further development or represent a work in progress.
2 - fair	Borderline submission of uneven quality – in other words, some aspects are well-developed, and others not so well.
3 - good	A good submission that would benefit from some changes to strengthen its conceptual/theoretical, technical or presentation qualities.
4 - very good	A very good quality submission that would benefit from some minor changes in preparing the presentation.
5 - excellent	The submission represents excellent conceptual/theoretical and/or technical work.

There are a number of parallel paper sessions on each conference day. These sessions comprise three individual papers and are allocated to 90-minute themed slots. Speakers are asked to present their paper briefly and allow some time for questions, within the overall time allocation of 30 minutes for their paper in the conference programme. Please consider this when writing your proposal. Papers describing empirical studies as well as conceptual/theoretical accounts are welcomed. For unfinished research or research in the early stages, please consider the poster format.

The proposal should consist of a short abstract (maximum 200 words) and a long abstract (maximum 800 words including references). The short abstract should be written without references, while at least one reference should be given for the long abstract. The long abstract provides reviewers with more detailed information on which to base their evaluations. Both abstracts should be anonymised.

The proposal should be written in Times New Roman 12pt with 1.5 line spacing. Use bold for headings. The proposal itself should be anonymised but you will be asked to provide separately the name of the main presenter and any co-presenters with affiliations. E.g. Names of people involved in developing and submitting the proposal should not be included on either the short or long abstract or on the filename of any uploaded abstract. As part of registering your proposal on the EasyAcademia portal you will be asked to provide the name of the main presenter and any co-presenters.

It is possible to submit several proposals but you can only be the main presenter for ONE open paper during the conference. You may be co-presenter of other open papers.

### Discussion groups (submission deadline 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025)

Discussion groups can offer opportunities to continue discussions begun at a previous conference on particular topics, or new topics can be introduced. Each discussion group will occupy a 60-minutes slot in the programme. The proposal should consist of a short abstract (maximum 200 words) and a long abstract (maximum 800 words including references). The short abstract should be written without references, while at least one reference should be given for the long abstract. The long abstract should also include details relating to:

- the focus of the discussion,
- the format of the discussion (e.g. 'crossing the line'; 'goldfish bowl'; panel discussion), and
- the questions to reflect on for the discussion.

The proposal should be written in Times New Roman 12pt with 1.5 line spacing. Use bold for headings. Please note that presentations should be kept short to allow most of the time to be spent on discussions. Please consider this when writing your proposal. Both abstracts should be anonymised.

# Symposia (submission deadline 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025)

will normally consist of three linked individual papers and will occupy a 90-minutes slot (3 papers with 15 minutes each, a discussant for 15 minutes, and 30 minutes for discussion with the audience).

The symposium convenor must submit the symposium.

Please note that this year there is only one submission per symposium – the required overview. The overview must include:

- Symposium title, convenor/chair and discussant with their affiliations
- Title, author(s) and affiliation(s) of each of the three papers in the symposium (maximum of 3 papers) marked as presenters.
- An 800-word overview of the symposium from the convenor/ chair (including at least one reference).
- A 200-word abstract from authors (but submitted by the convenor) for each of the three linked papers (no references).

The proposal should be written in Times New Roman 12pt with 1.5 line spacing. Use bold for headings.

#### Posters (submission deadline 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025)

The proposal for a Poster should consist of a 200-word, anonymised abstract.

It is possible to submit more than one proposal; however, you will only be able to be the main presenter for ONE poster during the conference. You are allowed to be a co-presenter of other posters.

If your proposal is accepted, the poster should be sent digitally to the conference organisers as a **single-page** pdf. You will receive all necessary instructions at the appropriate time. This digital version will be presented electronically on a large screen during a poster plenary session in which presenters have a maximum of **60 seconds** to present their poster to conference delegates. The session chair will keep track of time to ensure that each presenter finishes within the allotted time (adherence to the 60 seconds will be strictly observed).

In addition to the 60 second presentation there will be time in the programme for conference delegates to discuss posters with their presenters in the area where physical posters will be displayed.

In addition to the digital pdf, presenters are therefore required to prepare a physical poster with size A0 and portrait orientation to display during the conference. This physical version of the poster will be mounted on boards at a central location at the conference venue.

In addition to being beside their physical posters and prepared for discussions immediately after the 60 second plenary presentations, presenters are encouraged to spend time at their posters throughout the conference, including during dedicated coffee breaks when delegates will be invited to view the posters and interact with the poster presenters.

There is a Poster Award of €500, sponsored by Cito.

Once the posters plenary session is finished, voting for the Poster Award will be opened.

Delegates can vote through the conference app, which allows each delegate a single voting opportunity during which up to three posters can be nominated for the award. The AEA E Professional Development Committee (PDC) will receive the results from the conference app after voting is closed. The poster with the highest number of nominations will be announced as the Poster Award winner by the PDC during the closing session of the conference.

The conference app can also be used by delegates to chat/ exchange messages with you or schedule time with you to get more information on your topic/research, as long as voting is still possible.

Further information about the Poster Award can be found on the AEA Europe website.

#### **Review process**

The review process will be managed by the Scientific Programme Committee (SPC).

- Anthony Furlong (IB, Netherlands)
- Rebecca Hamer (IB, Netherlands)
- Doreen Said Pace (Ministry for Education, Sports, Youth, Research and Innovation, Malta)
- Dario Pirotta (University of Malta, Malta)
- Michalis Michaelides (University of Cyprus, Cyprus)
- Angela Verschoor (CITO, Netherlands)
- Stuart Shaw (*Chair of SPC*), Institute of Education, University College London, UK

Please note that we will not proof-read submissions so authors need to ensure that all submissions have been proof-read and are error free.

#### EasyAcademia System

To access EasyAcademia, please use the link provided on the conference website or the one below:

#### https://www.easyacademia.org/aea2025

The submission process has two parts:

1. Log in to EasyAcademia using an existing account or set up a new account and log in.

Note that if you previously submitted for an AEA-E conference you may use the same account details.

If you have not used EasyAcademia previously, you will need to set up an account. Please follow the instructions in Appendix B.

2. Submit your abstract(s)

Before you submit your abstract(s), please make certain you have the necessary information for co-authors: full name, affiliation, country of residence and email. You will need to provide a list of keywords for your submission. The keywords will be used in the programme.

You will be asked to indicate the submission category of your proposal (pre-conference workshop, open paper, discussion group, symposium or poster).

You will, in addition, be asked to choose a subtheme category from a list provided (e.g. assessment of practical skills, comparative judgement, educational policy and assessment, e-assessment).

We will use the subtheme category and the short abstract to allocate reviewers to your proposal. If more than one category fits your proposal, please select the most appropriate. If none fits, please select 'Other'. Proposals submitted as 'Other' will be reviewed following the same standards and guidelines as all other proposals.

Please use the instructions below to help you submit your abstract(s). The procedure is quite simple and we do not anticipate many problems, but if you do need help, please contact us at <a href="mailto:support@easyconferences.org">support@easyconferences.org</a>

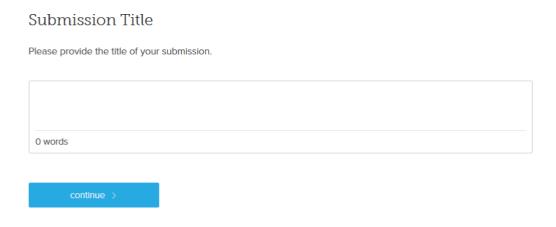
If you want to submit more than one proposal, you will need to submit each individually. Please note that EasyAcademia does not run effectively if you use Internet Explorer. We recommend using another browser, for instance Chrome, Opera or Firefox.

#### Step 1: Submission Format

inal d	e choose one of the following submission formats as your preferred format. If your submission get accepted, t decision on the format will be made by the chair.
0	Pre-conference workshop
$\bigcirc$	Open Paper [what is this?]
$\bigcirc$	Discussion Group [what is this?]
$\bigcirc$	Poster [what is this?]
0	Symposium [what is this?]

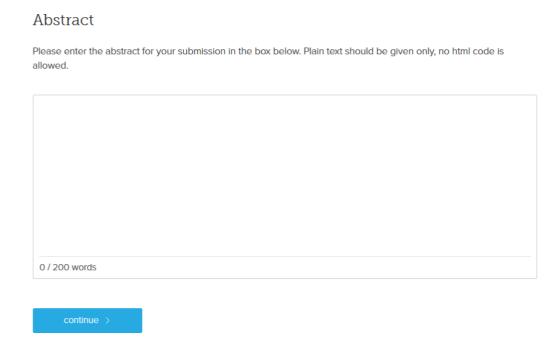
Select the format corresponding to your submission.

Please provide the title for your proposal.



Step 3: Short Abstract

Please provide a short abstract for your proposal.

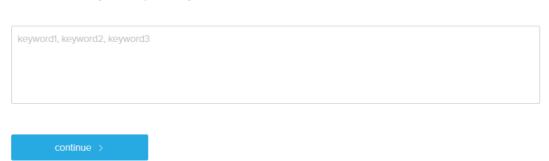


Step 4: Keywords

Please provide a minimum of 3 keywords.

#### Keywords

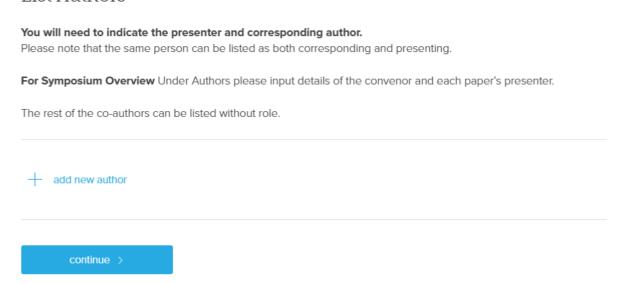
Please enter the keywords separated by a comma.



#### Step 5: Authors

Please input details for each author and mark them with appropriate roles. Corresponding authors will receive updates and information regarding the submission. Authors not marked as presenter, convenor or corresponding, will only receive an initial notification of submission.

#### List Authors



#### Step 6: Subthemes

Please select the most appropriate subtheme for your proposal. We will use the themes and the short abstract to allocate reviewers to your proposal. If more than one theme fits your proposal, please select the most appropriate one. If none fits, please select 'Other'.

e select subthemes most applicable to your submission. If none of the topics below suit your submission, please se the nearest applicable topic(s).
Artificial Intelligence and Assessment
Assessment Cultures
Assessment of Practical Skills
Assessment that is reactive to unforeseen/disruptive circumstances (e.g. Covid 19, conflict, climate change)
Comparative Judgement
Educational Policy and Assessment in the era of decolonising curriculum
E-assessment
Fairness and Social Justice
Formative Assessment
Higher Education and Assessment
Holistic Assessment
Inclusive Assessment
International Assessments
Language Issues in Assessment
National Tests and Examinations
Perspectives of End-users and the General Public on Assessment
Process data
Psychometrics and Test Development (including Reliability, Validity)
Summative Assessment
Test Development
Technical, Vocational and Applied Assessments
Other

continue

Indicate if the submission is on behalf of one or more of the SIGs.

Cloups			
Indicate if the submission is on behalf of one or more of the SIGs.			
eAssessment SIG			
Assessment Cultures SIG			
Inclusive Assessment SIG			
Postgraduate Student and Early Career Researcher Network			
Holistic Assessment SIG			
Submission is NOT on behalf of a SIG			
Assessment for Qualifications for Work SIG			
continue >			

Step 8: Upload

Grouns

Please ensure that the identity of a contributor/presenter is not included in the name of the uploaded file.

#### FOR PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

Complete the form (Sample in Appendix A) <a href="https://2025.aea-europe.net/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/APPENDIX-A-1.docx">https://2025.aea-europe.net/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/APPENDIX-A-1.docx</a> and upload it as part of your submission. Once it is completed please upload it below as an attachment to your submission.

**FOR OPEN PAPER PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSION GROUPS** please upload the extended abstract (800 words)

**FOR SYMPOSIA** please upload one document that includes:

- Symposium Overview (800 words)
- Abstracts and Presenters of the 3 linked/symposium papers

# Upload Document

Please upload the document by clicking on the upload button below and select the file from your computer. Make sure that your file is prepared by the conference standards before you upload.



#### Step 9: Submit

You will now be presented with a summary of your submission. If you are happy with this information please click on 'submit now' to finalise.

# Summary

A summary of your submission can be seen below. If all information is correct, please finalize the submission by selecting *submit now*.

Format	Open Paper
Submission Title	
Abstract	
Keywords	keywords not set
Authors	
Groups	
Topics	
Document	

submit now

# **APPENDIX A: Template pre-conference workshop**

WORKSHOP TITLE:
Presenters:
Presenters' bios (500 words max per presenter):
Why AEA E members / conference delegates should attend this workshop:
Who this workshop is for:
Overview of workshop (500-600 words):
Preparation for the workshop:

# **Tentative Schedule**

Time	Session	Presenter
9.30- 12.00	Block I	
(Inc. a 15 min break 10:30-11:00)		
12.00- 13.00	Lunch	
13.00- 14.30	Block II	
14.30- 14.45	Tea/coffee break	
14.45- 16.30	Block III	

#### APPENDIX B: Setting up an account with EasyAcademia.

Go to www.easyacademia.org and click on the "Get Started" button.



This link will bring up a signup page:

easy	SIGN	1 IIP	×
	Please provide the deta		
	Prof. V first name	last name	
	email address	password	
	university / organization	Serbia v	
	Create /	k to	

Follow the on-screen instructions and complete the form and click on "Create Account".

Now, you will receive an email with the activation code. Use the link provided in the email to verify your account.

Note: Please check your Spam folder if you have not received the email within a few minutes.

Note: If your email appears taken, it is possible that you have signed up for EasyAcademia in the past for another conference. In this case, you simply need to ask the system to remind you of your password based on your email.