



Call for Papers:

“Virtual Exchange in a Changing World: Innovation and Inclusion”

An International Research Conference organised by UNICollaboration

CYPRUS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

LIMASSOL, CYPRUS

4-5 JUNE 2026

Focus and Topics:

The UNICollaboration organisation is organising an international research conference on the theme of “Virtual Exchange in a Changing World: Innovation and Inclusion”. Our 2026 theme acknowledges the transformative power of digital connectivity and collaborative learning in times of global complexity. As education continues to evolve amidst socio-political shifts, environmental challenges, and technological acceleration, virtual exchange stands as a uniquely positioned practice to foster intercultural dialogue, international collaboration, and equitable access to learning opportunities. This conference brings together researchers, educators, teacher trainers, policy makers, and students across disciplines to explore the dynamic potential of VE to shape more inclusive and innovative learning environments.

The conference will serve as a venue for all models of virtual exchange, including COIL and telecollaboration, exploring a wide range of topics including, but not limited to, the following:

- Innovative models and best practices in designing VE projects
- Intercultural competence development through VE
- Curriculum integration and accreditation of VE within degree programs
- Assessment of learning outcomes in VE projects
- Institutional strategies for scaling and sustaining VE initiatives
- Equity, accessibility, and inclusion in VE initiatives
- The role of VE in advancing internationalization at home (IaH)
- Case studies of successful VE partnerships in diverse academic fields

Student voices and experiences in VE programs
Integrating AI, VR/AR, and other emerging technologies in VE
Innovative research methodologies for studying VE impact
The role of VE in promoting global citizenship and social responsibility
The intersection of VE and Blended Mobility programs (BIPs, etc.)
VE as a response to global crises, conflict, or isolation
Interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary VE collaborations in formal and informal educational settings, including Higher Education

Keynote Speakers:

Anthony Liddicoat



Anthony J. Liddicoat is Professor in Applied Linguistics at the University of Warwick and Adjunct Professor in Justice and Society at the University of South Australia. His research interests include language and intercultural issues in education, language policy and planning. He is a Fellow of the UK Academy of Social Sciences, the Executive Editor of Current Issues in Language Planning and Co-editor of the book series Language and Intercultural Communication in Education (Multilingual Matters).

Laia Canals



Laia Canals holds an Associate position at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya. Her research addresses technology enhanced task-based language learning, development of L2 through interaction in collaborative tasks in computer-mediated communication settings, the development of intercultural communicative competence, the development of digital skills and online language teacher education.

Submissions:**The conference will welcome abstracts for:**

- Research Papers: empirical or theoretical studies on Virtual Exchange.
- VE Practical Reports: reflective accounts of VE implementations, including challenges and lessons learned.
- Project Reports: outcomes and experiences from funded or institutional VE projects.
- Workshops: interactive sessions focused on skill building, tools, pedagogical strategies.
- Panel Discussions: thematic panels led by a chair bringing together diverse perspectives on key VE issues. Panel organizer(s) should outline the panel's central theme and include the names of all participants, along with the titles and abstracts of their individual presentations. Panels should consist of 4 to 8 speakers.
- Posters: visual presentations of ongoing or completed VE initiatives.

UNICollaboration 2026 Conference will be held in person only. We welcome submissions for the following presentation formats:

- Presentations (20 minutes + 10 minutes Q&A)
- Workshops (90 minutes)
- Panel Discussions (60 minutes)
- Poster Sessions

Important dates:

Call for Papers: 1 July 2025

Deadline for Submissions: ~~15 November 2025~~

30 November 2025

Notification of Acceptance: ~~30 November 2025~~

15 December 2025

Registration Opens: 1 December 2025

Registration Closes: 15 May 2026

Opportunities for publication:

UNICollaboration encourages presenters to publish their contributions in the Journal of Virtual Exchange (JVE). The JVE is an open-access, peer-reviewed international journal aimed at virtual exchange practitioners and researchers and published by UNICollaboration. All submissions will undergo a double-blind peer review process. Articles selected for publication must meet the established criteria and guidelines of the journal, which can be found at the JVE's website.

Registration fee:

For UNICollaboration members: €220.00

For non-UNICollaboration members: €250.00

To become a UNICollaboration member, please click the link to the membership page [HERE](#) where you can read about the different membership types and fees. Further down the page, you can also find information and a link for how to register and pay for your membership. Please note, this is a separate system from that used to register for the conference. If you have difficulties with becoming a member, please send an email to register@unicollaboration.org

Hosting Institution:

Cyprus University of Technology (CUT) is a leading academic and research institution in Cyprus, emphasizing innovative education and international collaboration. Located in the heart of Limassol, CUT provides state-of-the-art facilities and a vibrant academic environment, promoting virtual exchange and telecollaboration. CUT is part of the European University of Technology (EUT+), a university alliance of 9 European partner institutions aiming at creating a sustainable, inclusive, and multidisciplinary European technological university that fosters innovation, intercultural collaboration, multilingualism, and excellence in education, research, and societal engagement. **The Language Centre of the CUT**, founded in 2007, provides high-quality, student-focused language education with an emphasis on Language Learning for Specific Purposes, CALL, and teacher training. Its mission is to promote multilingualism and intercultural understanding through modern, technology-enhanced teaching aligned with the needs of today's globalized society.

Organising committee:

Anna Nicolaou, CUT (Local Chair)
Androulla Athansiou, CUT
Dimitrios Boglou, CUT
Maria Christoforou, CUT
Elis Kakoulli Constantinou, CUT
Panayiota Hadjiconstantinou, CUT
Stavroulla Hadjiconstantinou, CUT
Christina Yerou, CUT
Shannon Sauro (President of UNICollaboration)
Lorenza Bacino, UNICollaboration
Francesca Helm, UNICollaboration
Sara Pittarello, UNICollaboration
Alexandra Reynolds, UNICollaboration
Müge Satar, UNICollaboration
Hülya Tuncer, UNICollaboration

Information and enquiries:

For more information about the conference, visit www.unicollaborationconference2026.org

Submit your abstract to: <https://forms.gle/SsmG2AhutBpSkGeJ9>

Any enquiries can be directed to: unicollabconference2026@gmail.com

We look forward to welcoming you to Limassol!