

Keynotes

Thursday the 16th September – 17.45 – JATIK - Lecture Hall

School leadership and pupil learning outcomes

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The main message of this presentation is that a radically new situation seems to emerge regarding the way we think about the links between the quality of school leadership and the effectiveness of school education. Those who have been actively involved in the development of school leadership have never had doubts about the determining role of leadership in the creation of outstanding educational outcomes. What seems now to be new is that others also start recognising this. One visible sign of this is the growing explicit attention paid to leadership and leadership development in the various educational policy documents and actions of the European Union. Among the causes of this there is one that deserves a particular attention: this is the growing quantity and quality of related empirical evidence. Research, applying better elaborated and more sophisticated design than earlier, produces more and more convincing data on the direct and indirect impact of leadership on educational results, including measurable learning outcomes. This presentation will evoke some of the relevant recent research results and also the evidence of the growing weight of leadership and leadership development in European educational policy.