

EAPRIL 2026

24-26 NOVEMBER
CORK, IRELAND

CONFERENCE THEME

EAPRIL 2026 is jointly organised by:



Making meaning: The craft of collaborative construction of understanding

Education has always been a space where meaning is made rather than simply delivered. Yet the question of how meaning emerges in educational practice and research has become increasingly pressing. Across sectors and across the lifespan, educators and researchers are navigating growing complexity, new technologies, shifting societal expectations and persistent inequalities. Within this landscape, EAPRIL continues to cultivate a community where practice and research meet as equal partners in the shared work of improving education.

The 2026 conference in Cork invites participants to explore education as both a scholarly field and a professional craft. The metaphor of craft reminds us that education is shaped through experience, judgement, collaboration and reflection. It acknowledges that knowledge is not only produced in formal research settings but also in classrooms, workplaces and professional learning environments. Bringing these perspectives together has long been central to EAPRIL, and the conference seeks contributions that deepen this dialogue and strengthen the bridges between research and practice.

Meaning making in learning and teaching lies at the heart of this call. How learners, educators and communities construct understanding is never neutral or universal. It is shaped by context, relationships and values, as well as by the tools and environments through which learning unfolds. We welcome work that explores pedagogy, assessment, curriculum, inclusion and lifelong learning, and that examines how research and practice inform one another in authentic settings.

Attention to the craft of professional practice and development is equally vital. Educational professionals rely on reflective judgement, tacit knowledge and collaborative inquiry as they respond to evolving challenges. Understanding how expertise develops, how professionals learn from one another and how innovation emerges within practice remains central to the EAPRIL community. Contributions that illuminate these processes help to strengthen the foundations of professional learning and leadership.



A defining characteristic of EAPRIL is its emphasis on collaboration and impact. Research and practice partnerships offer opportunities to co create knowledge that is both rigorous and relevant. At the same time, questions of implementation, knowledge mobilisation and sustainable improvement continue to challenge the field. This conference invites contributions that explore how collaborative approaches can generate meaningful change in real world contexts.

Educational systems are also shaped by broader societal, technological and policy developments that demand critical reflection and innovation. Digital transformation, sustainability, equity and social change are reshaping the purposes and possibilities of education. Understanding how education can remain meaningful and responsive within this changing world is a shared responsibility for practitioners and researchers alike.

In bringing these conversations together, EAPRIL 2026 aims to create a space for dialogue, reflection and collaboration. The conference in Cork invites the community to explore how meaning is crafted across educational contexts and how the partnership between practice and research can continue to evolve in ways that benefit learners, professionals and society.



<https://www.eapril.org>



European Association for Practitioner Research on Improving Learning

