

Call for abstracts for the 10th NKL international conference

Theme: «Centre-Periphery in the AI-Informed Digital Society»

We are delighted to announce the Call for Abstracts for the Navigating Knowledge Landscapes, NKL 2026, conference, **Doctoral Consortium, May 18-19, and Main Conference, May 20-21**. The Conference Call for abstracts will be published at the website: <http://knowledge-landscapes.hiim.hr/>.

Observe: Sunday May 17th is the Norwegian national day.

Observe: Saturday May 24th is Pentacost Sunday, and Monday 25th second Pentacost day and also a holiday in Norway.

Important dates:

~~February 15, 2026~~ **February 25, 2026** - Abstract submission deadline.

~~March 1, 2026~~ **March 11, 2026** - Notification of acceptance/rejection.

The conference theme for the 10th upcoming annual NKL-conference is **changes and learning in centre-periphery relations and bottom-up/top-down dynamics, and how they pertain to issues such as digitalisation, migration, climate change, democracies in decline as well as aggregation and dissemination of knowledge**. How does learning and knowledge about life and communication in social, cultural and digital on/off-line spaces challenge established centres and peripheries and our perceptions of the same?

We encourage empirical examples and theoretical perspectives that challenge Euro-centric and Anglo-American understandings and approaches to these changes. This is a twofold interest: research representing not-yet-included stories and perspectives is given space to enrich the discussion, and mainstream researchers are invited to develop presentations that actively include and discuss experiences and theories from locations and groups outside of the mainstream. In this context, we also welcome contributions that examine the role of Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) in relation to these themes, for instance, how collaborative knowledge practices and learning through work may contribute to shifting power relations, bridging spatial, institutional, and epistemic gaps, and fostering new forms of centre-periphery interaction.

The intention is to ensure a conversation based on a broad spectrum of empirical examples from today's professional and personal life, including those emerging from work-integrated learning contexts, where knowledge is produced in and through practice. The conference aims to facilitate an arena where dialogue, cross-disciplinary understanding, and collaboration can arise.

Questions include:

- How is today's world organised in terms of centre-periphery?
- How does work-integrated learning challenge or reinforce centre-periphery dynamics?
- How are non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and professional health and welfare services affected by, responding to, and themselves relating to, or changing centre-periphery dynamics?

- How can work-integrated learning contribute to transformation within society?
- How do we conceptualize and theorize centre-periphery to better understand governance, (public-) health and welfare services, daily life and citizenship?
- Which stories are missing in ongoing discussions?
- What kind of knowledges can support democracy, human rights and societal sustainability?
- How can co-created knowledge through work-integrated learning support democratic and sustainable development?
- How does work-integrated learning take shape in digital environments, and how does it impact knowledge and communication in centre-periphery contexts?
- In addition to the main topic of the conference, we welcome presentations on knowledge, communication, and work-integrated learning in the digital society, that connect with the overall theme of the NKL-network (<http://knowledge-landscapes.hiim.hr/index.php/publications/>)

Abstracts of 300-500 words are to be sent to Ann Svensson and Anna Lydia Svalastog both - ann.svensson@hv.se and als@hiiof.no. The abstracts will be published (see former books of abstracts (<http://knowledge-landscapes.hiim.hr/index.php/events/>), and fully developed articles based on the abstracts can be submitted to a peer-reviewed journal, for example we have plans for a Special Issue in a scientific journal. Information on plans for publication will be further updated.