

19-21 October 2026



Second Conference of the European Children's Literature Research Network

Monday 19 October 2026

9:30-10:00

Welcome session

10:00-11:00
Panel 1: Animals

Moderator: Nina Goga (Norway)
Pauline Gaspard (Germany): "Just' Horse Books? Introducing Politics to an Underestimated (Female) Genre"
Bettina Kümmerling-Meibauer (Germany): "Animal Olympics: Transmission of Factual Knowledge and Moral Values"

11:00-11:30

Coffee break

11:30-13:00
Panel 2:
Movement 1

Moderator: Sara Pini (Italy)
Katja Kobolt (Slovenia): "If I can't dance [with children], I don't want to be a part of your revolution': Exploring and Creating Relationships through Movement"
Beate Laudenberg (Germany): "Swimming: How Characters Gain Control over their (Dis)Ability"
Matilde Portalés-Raga and Sandra Bellver-Morant (Spain): "Embodied Multiliterartistic Reading: Visualizing the Transfer Impact of 'Diane Dances'"

13:00-14:30

Lunch break

14:30-16:00
Panel 3: Football

Moderator: Jaanika Palm (Estonia)
Karla Fernández-de-Gamboa-Vázquez (Basque Country): "Beyond the Pitch: Football in Basque Children's Literature"
Ave Mattheus (Estonia): "Football as politics in Estonian children's literature"
Sara Reis da Silva (Portugal): "Football and Ideology in Portuguese Children's Literature: a case study"

16:00-16:30

Coffee break

Guided tour



Tuesday 20 October 2026

**9:00-10:00
Roundtable**

Nina Goga, Ahmed Khateeb, Ann Sylvi Larsen, Tatjana Kielland Samoilow, and Gro Ulland (Norway): "The Bench of Substitutes – Facets of Football in Norwegian Children's Literature"

**10:00-11:00
Panel 5:
1900-1920**

Moderator: Bettina Kümmerling-Meibauer (Germany)
Ricarda Musser (Germany): "Spanish Sports Book Series on Boxing for Young Readers"
Atlanta Tsiaoukkas (UK): "Cricket and National Identity in Early Twentieth-Century Girls' School Fiction"

11:00-11:30

Coffee break

**11:30-13:00
Panel 6:
1920-1990**

Moderator: Ilgım Veryeri Alaca (Türkiye)
Susanne Blumesberger (Austria): "Sport as Propaganda. Children's and Young Adult Books in Austria 1933–1945"
Claudia Maria Pecher and Markwart Herzog (Germany): "Soccer and the Military in German Youth Literature, 1920–39"
Jörg Meibauer (Germany): "Ethical Storytelling in GDR Sports Novels for Young Adults"

13:00-14:30

Lunch break

**14:30-16:00
Panel 7:
Movement 2**

Moderator: Tatjana Kielland Samoilow (Norway)
Ilgım Veryeri Alaca (Türkiye): "Sports in Children's Literature in Türkiye in the Early Republican Era"
Steffen R.M. Sørum (Norway): "Girlskate Literature as an entry point to skateboarding, and skateboarding to literature"
Vladyslav Vardanian (Ukraine) and Maryna Vardanian (Ukraine-Germany): "The Academy Series: The Game, Values, and Young Player's Story Across Translation"

16:00-16:30

Coffee break



9:00-11:00 Panel 8: Gender 1

Moderator: Jörg Meibauer

Maria Chatzianastasi (Cyprus): "Breaking football gender stereotypes in the teacher's shoes"

Stefanie Jakobi (Germany): "Dancing 'Backfische'? Intersectionality and Ambivalence in Girls' Ballet Fiction"

Carla Plieth (Germany): "Trans* and Non-Binary Athletes in German-language Youth Literature"

Dora Batalim Sottomayor (Portugal): "A Girl with a Whistle: Rethinking Football Narratives"

11:00-11:30

Coffee break

11:30-13:00 Panel 9: Gender 2

Moderator: Sara Reis da Silva

Maria Balkan-Małecka (Poland): "Gender and Sport in Contemporary Polish Children's Literature"

Jaanika Palm and Helena Kostenok (Estonia): "Does sport have gender in Estonian children's literature?"

Anna Travagliati (France): "Gendered depictions of sports in contemporary French picturebooks"

13:00-13:30

General assembly

13:30-14:30

Lunch break

Organizing Committee

Małgorzata Cackowska (University of Gdańsk)
Nina Goga (Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, Bergen)
Bettina Kümmerling-Meibauer (Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen)
Jörg Meibauer (Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz)
Sara Pini (IUAV University of Venice)

Scientific Committee

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Nikola Novaković (University of Zagreb)
Cécile Pichon Bonin (CERCEC, Center for the Study of the Russian, Caucasian, and Central European Worlds, Paris)
Carla Plieth (TU Darmstadt)
Sara Reis da Silva (University of Minho, Braga)
Krzysztof Rybak (University of Warsaw)
Björn Sundmark (University of Malmö)
Vassiliki Vasiloudi (University of Crete)
Jochen Weber (International Youth Library, Munich)

