

Special issue 3/2018

Call for papers

Using International Large-Scale Assessments for Informing National Policies

Guest editors: Paulína Koršňáková, Jana Straková

Dear colleagues,

It is our pleasure to invite you to participate in the preparation of a new special issue of the Orbis Scholae journal focused on International Large-Scale Assessments (ILSAs).

In recent decades, developed countries have invested a lot of money in the implementation of ILSAs in order to compare the knowledge and skills of their students internationally. The achievements of individual countries in different assessment domains and their developments over time have been receiving considerable attention in scientific journals, as well as among policymakers. Academics have been excitedly debating the limitations of the findings and especially the negative impacts of ILSAs on teaching and learning in individual countries.

The aim of the special issue under preparation is to show the useful and interesting utilization of ILSAs and of the data they have been providing at the national level. We are interested in regional, national or sub-national analyses that seek to provide answers to important questions of respective education policies that may be difficult to answer by other means.

We especially welcome papers that present extensions that countries add to ILSAs and that allow them to study these important issues. These can be, for example, additions to questionnaire surveys or tests or follow-up studies related to ILSAs.

In all contributions we seek an explanation of the policy issue that is dealt with in the study, detailed descriptions of the methodological approaches, and discussion of the importance of the results for national policy.

If you are interested in contributing to this issue of Orbis Scholae, we kindly ask you to confirm your participation and send us the title and the abstract (100-150 words) by the end of November 2017 (jana.strakova@pedf.cuni.cz). The full text is due on 30th April 2017. The papers will be reviewed by two anonymous reviewers during May-June 2017. Revised papers are to be sent to the editors by the end of September 2017. The issue will be printed by the end of 2018.

On behalf of the guest editors,

Jana Straková

Orbis scholae is a journal published by Charles University (Prague, the Czech Republic) in cooperation with Masaryk University (Brno, the Czech Republic). It comprises articles on school education in the wider socio-cultural context. It aims to contribute to our understanding and the development of school education, and to reflection on teaching practice and educational policy. It is included in the SCOPUS database. Further information is available at <http://www.orbisscholae.cz>.