

## Call for the EARA Collaborative Research Network

The EARA Collaborative Research Network was launched for the first time in 2022 by the former EARA President, Ingrid Schoon, and will be repeated in 2024 to provide early career scholars with the opportunity to work together with an EARA mentor on a joint publication.

The Call is organized in **two steps**:

1. **mentors** (EARA members with at least 10 years of experience after the PhD) are invited to join the Network, become mentor, and propose possible ideas for Collaborative Research
2. after a list of mentors is made available, **early career scholars - mentees** (defined for this call as those who are currently working on pre-doctorate levels or have obtained their doctoral degree within the last five years) can apply to be matched with a mentor.

### Call for Mentors

We are looking for mentors interested in supporting early career scientists in collaborative research on adolescence and youth development. Our hope is that mentors would be available to:

- Prepare information about ongoing projects and ideas in which they can involve early career scholars. Drawing on datasets already collected by the mentors and/or open/existing datasets, the mentors and the mentees can work on a joint publication.
- Meet regularly (virtually) with mentees (e.g., once a month).
- Meet with mentees at the 2026 EARA biennial meeting in Utrecht, 18-21 August 2026 in-person, should you both be in attendance.

As a token of appreciation, EARA mentors will have their membership extended for two years.

The possibility to apply as a mentor is open to all EARA members, including those who hold specific roles in the association (e.g., national representatives, members of the EARA committees) and those who have applied for the EARA Visiting program.

### How to apply to become a mentor?

**Step 1.** The EARA members interested in applying to become a **mentor** need to get in touch and specify:

- Their idea/ topic for investigation (five keywords regarding the topics they would like to propose)
- Brief description of suggestions for the collaborative research (max 200 words)
- Available data sources
- Five keywords regarding their methodological expertise/interests
- Their short CV

These documents must be sent to the EARA secretary, Fabrizia Giannotta, by email ([fabrizia.giannotta@unito.it](mailto:fabrizia.giannotta@unito.it)). Indicate in the Object: "Application for the EARA Call for Mentors".

**Step 2.** Once a list of mentors has been generated, the EARA early career scholars interested in applying to become a **mentee** need to:

- fill out a form to indicate
  - Five keywords regarding their research interests
  - Five keywords regarding their methodological expertise/interests
  - The data they are interested in using, or have already experience with
  - Which mentor (they can express up to two preferences) they would like to work with
  - a motivation statement (max 200 words to indicate why they are interested in the program and why they think they could match well with the mentors)
- submit their CVs (labeled Surname\_cv.docx)

The form and CVs must be sent to the EARA secretary, Fabrizia Giannotta, by email ([fabrizia.giannotta@unito.it](mailto:fabrizia.giannotta@unito.it)). Indicate in the Object: “Application for the EARA Call for Mentees”.

### **When to apply?**

The schedule for the 2024 Call is the following:

- Call opens: December 2024
- **Step 1. Deadline for mentors to self-nominate: January 31, 2025**
- Mentors are selected and a list of possible mentors is provided to early career scholars: End of February
- **Step 2. Deadline for early career scholars: March 31, 2025**
- Selection of applicants and notification of responses: By the end of April 2025
- Collaborative research completed between May 2025 and August 2026.

The evaluation committee consists of Ingrid Schoon (EARA Past President), Fabrizia Giannotta (EARA Secretary), and Jennifer Symonds (EARA President-elect).

### **What is the expected outcome?**

Each team, including one mentor and mentees, is required to prepare a report to document the collaborative research conducted together. Each report will be published in one of the editions of the EARA newsletter.

Each team is also encouraged to present their work at the next EARA 2026 conference in Utrecht, the Netherlands, in a dedicated symposium. Early career scholars can apply for the EARA travel grants to attend the conference.