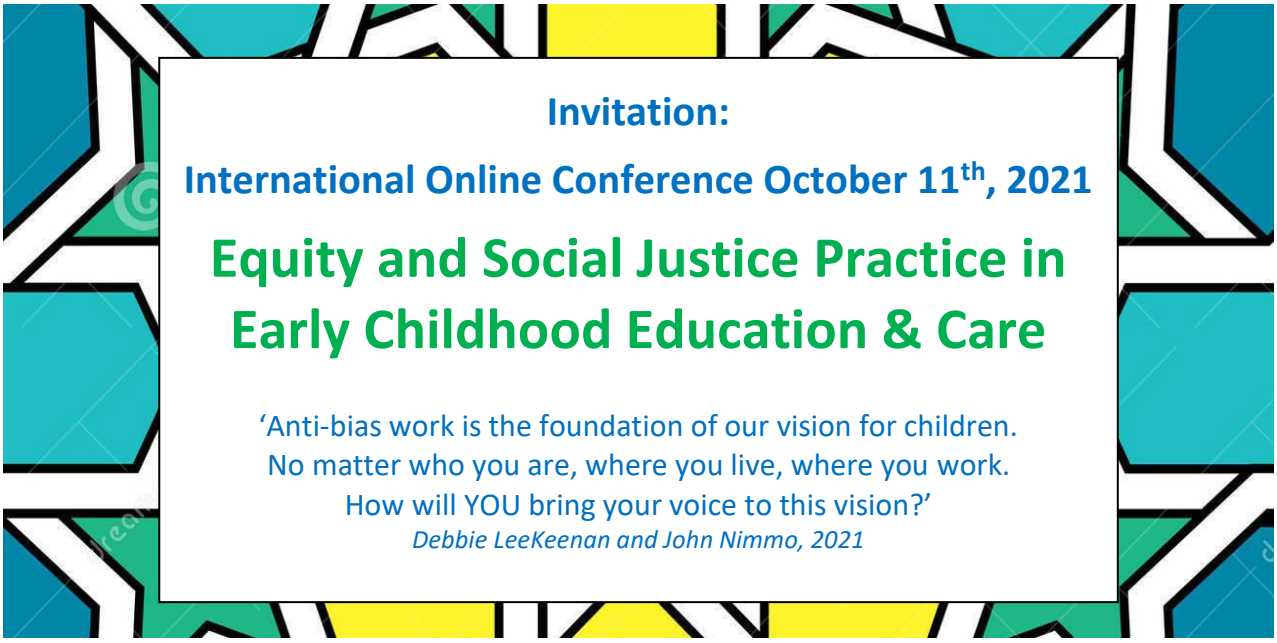

During more than a year of multiple challenges and isolation from each other ECEC practitioners throughout the world have worked hard to keep on doing equity education. Now it is time to take steps to reflect, connect, rekindle, and build our work.

We would like to invite you to join us in this first international online conference to think together about where we are and to reflect on how we need to move forward in our ECEC equity and social justice work.

This is a personal invitation to join a group of about 60 professionals from 6 countries who are interested in and are working to promote and implement an Anti-bias approach in early childhood education and care.

The conference is the first of a series of reflecting events. Our goals are to

- connect and meet one another
- reflect on current dynamics in the world and how they affect our work
- learn with and from each other
- explore next steps for ECEC equity work and identify supports needed to grow and sustain it
- recharge our commitment to equity ECEC work with children and adults and strengthen each other to go further.

While much has been achieved - e.g. in raising awareness of the structural injustices built into our early childhood education and care systems - fundamental questions remain relevant, and new ones have arisen. Coming together as ECEC professionals, advocates and activists offers us an opportunity to begin an international conversation about practical ways forward in our own national and local contexts.

We hope you will join us in this vital task!

Conference logistics

Target groups:	Educators/pedagogues, coaches and trainers, managers in all aspects of Early Childhood Education and Care, with experience implementing Anti-bias approaches with young children, families and communities, 10 participants from 6 countries each.
Online-event:	The conference is an online-event via Zoom. Participants will receive their login dates after their registration.
Costs:	The conference is free of charge.
Date:	October 11th, 2021
Time:	5 pm to 8 pm
Programme:	1. Welcome and introduction to the event: Petra Wagner (Germany) 2. Opening addresses by Louise Derman-Sparks (USA), Dalvir Gill (UK), Mathias Urban (Ireland) 3. Discussion groups with prepared questions to frame the discussion: Groups identify questions for the plenary discussion 4. Plenary session and panel, open to all 5. End of day: Next steps and thank you
Language:	The primary language of the conference will be English. We will expect participants who can use English comfortly to offer support to people who are not as proficient. While we are not able to provide interpreters, we will place participants who so wish with small group discussion facilitators who speak a participant's home language.
Registration:	Please register by **September 20th** 2021. For your registration use this link: **https://forms.office.com/r/DK47UPhfcR** After registration you will receive by email a brief confirmation, the Zoom link and some inspirational resources for your preparation. For questions please contact Petra Wagner: wagner@situationsansatz.de

The conference organisers include ECCE equity/social justice/anti-bias education professionals, advocates and activists working in several countries, including:

Dalvir Gill:	Senior lecturer and Programme convenor for MA Education Studies, University of Roehampton, London, UK Dalvir.gill@roehampton.ac.uk
Petra Wagner, Gabriele Koné:	Trainers at ISTA/ Kinderwelten, Berlin/ Germany www.kinderwelten.net
Anastasia Hatzistefanou-Vafea:	Director of "Schedia" (Raft) - Center for Artistic and Pedagogical Training, Athens/ Greece www.schedia-art.gr
Colette Murray:	Lecturer Technological University Dublin/ Ireland Equality and Diversity Early Childhood National Network www.edenn.ie
Mathias Urban:	Professor of Early Childhood Education and Director, Early Childhood Research Centre, Dublin City University, Dublin/ Ireland
Ana del Barrio Saiz:	Trainer/advisor diversity & inclusion in ECEC and education Ana del Barrio Training & Consulting, Voorschoten/ The Netherlands, www.anadelbarrio.nl
Louise Derman-Sparks:	Teacher of young children, college teacher, author and activist, California/ USA

The conference organizers are also members of the international network DECET (Diversity in Early Childhood Education and Training). For 20 years the DECET network has worked to promote principles of equity, social justice and Anti-bias Education in working with young children, their families and communities. Anti-bias work is embedded in social justice principles, which include proactively engaging with equity and anti-discriminatory practices focusing on racism, sexism, ableism, LGBTQ-phobia, classism and other -isms.

VZW
Diversity in Early Childhood Education and Training