

ESERA Travel Grant Report

Research Stay at the University of Helsinki (Finland)

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Thanks to the ESERA Travel Grant, I had the opportunity to undertake a research stay at the **University of Helsinki** from **February 21, 2025, to July 4, 2025**. During this period, I was hosted at the **Kumpula Campus** and carried out my work under the supervision of **Dr. Laura Riuttanen** and **Dr. Taina Ruuskanen**, from the *Institute for Atmospheric and Earth System Research (INAR)*, as well as **Dr. Antti Laherto**, from the *Department of Education*.

Throughout my stay, I actively participated in the academic life of the host institution. In particular, I attended the regular meetings of the **INAR Education research group**, where I had the opportunity to discuss ongoing research activities and exchange ideas with senior researchers and fellow PhD candidates. This collaborative environment provided continuous feedback and inspiration for my own work, fostering a deeper understanding of the interdisciplinary connections between climate science and education research.



A major focus of the research stay was the advancement of my **doctoral thesis writing process**. I worked intensively on key parts of my dissertation, benefiting greatly from regular discussions with my supervisors and informal exchanges with colleagues. These interactions supported a significant refinement of my theoretical framing and methodological approach, and contributed to strengthening the overall coherence and quality of my research project.



During the mobility period, I also contributed to the organization of the **Final Conference of the Climademy project**, held in **Hyytiälä, Finland, from March 31 to April 4, 2025** (<https://climademy.eu/climademy-final-conference/>), as a member of the **Local Organizing Committee (LOC)**. Within the conference program, I delivered an oral presentation entitled **“Narrative Thinking for**

Climate Change Education: Results from a Pilot Study”, which allowed me to share preliminary results and receive valuable feedback from an international audience.

In addition, I participated in two major academic conferences during my stay. The **NERA Conference (The Nordic Educational Research Association)**, held in **Helsinki from March 5 to 7, 2025**, where I presented my work entitled **“Characterizing Narratives through ‘Narrativity’ for Climate Change Education”**; and the **ISLS – 5th Annual Meeting of the International Society of the Learning Sciences**, held in **Helsinki from June 10 to 13, 2025**, where I presented a poster entitled **“Principles for a Balanced Narrative–Paradigmatic Approach for Climate Change Education”**. The contribution was also published in the official **conference proceedings**.

Beyond conference participation, I had the privilege of delivering two invited seminars. The first seminar took place at **INAR** and was entitled **“Towards a Balanced Narrative–Paradigmatic Approach to Make Sense of Climate Change”**. The second seminar was hosted by the **Faculty of Educational Sciences** and was entitled **“Narrativity for Climate Change Education: A Short Story”**. Both events represented meaningful opportunities



to engage in dialogue with researchers from different disciplinary backgrounds and to further consolidate my academic identity within the field of Climate Change Education.



Overall, this research stay represented an extremely valuable experience of **discovery and growth**, both professionally and personally. The extended time spent in discussion with supervisors and colleagues, often through long and stimulating conversations, played a crucial role in helping my doctoral work reach a new level of depth and clarity. The opportunity to work within a highly international and

interdisciplinary academic community significantly strengthened my research skills and broadened my perspectives.

At the same time, living in Finland offered a unique chance to explore a different cultural context and to experience a strong sense of connection with nature and everyday life. Discovering Finnish culture, academic practices, and local traditions was deeply enriching. I am sincerely grateful to all the people I met during these months—researchers, colleagues, and friends—who contributed to making this stay



not only productive, but also personally memorable and inspiring. A special thanks goes to Juliana Friedriksen and Janina Taurinen, two wonderful people without whom my stay would not have been nearly as interesting or joyful.

I would like to warmly thank **ESERA** for supporting this mobility experience through the Travel Grant, as it had a clear and lasting impact on my doctoral research trajectory and professional development.