

# Future (ready) teachers

*Preparing student teachers for tomorrow's classrooms through  
eTwinning*

## **European conference for initial teacher education 2026**

Date: 26-28 November 2026| Venue: Hotel Melia Lebreros, Seville

### **Introduction**

"eTwinning for future teachers" brings together initial teacher education (ITE) institutions that include eTwinning in their teacher education activities. The aim is to introduce teacher educators and student teachers to eTwinning so that they can benefit from an international and professional community, with the opportunity to implement innovative pedagogical methodologies with their peers.

The current document outlines the proposal for the 2026 European conference for initial teacher education, including:

- the background and policy context of the conference;
- the theme and its rationale;
- the goals of the conference;
- the target audience;
- the draft agenda.

### **Background of the conference**

The European (higher) education area is undergoing rapid transformation, driven by digital innovation, artificial intelligence, and evolving societal challenges. Schools and teacher education institutions are being called upon to prepare not only pupils but also the next generation of teachers to manage and shape these changes with confidence, creativity, and resilience.

In this context, the European Commission has set forward-looking priorities around digital transformation, AI literacy, inclusion, basic skills, and intergenerational fairness. The concept of 'future-ready' schools, and by extension, 'future-ready' teacher, has emerged as a central principle: one that calls for learning environments that are inclusive, supportive communities; that equip learners with strong foundational skills including digital and AI-related competences; that foster socio-emotional learning and student agency; and that embed international and European collaboration into their development. The 2026 conference theme, 'Future (ready) teachers', adapts this perspective to the context of initial teacher education via eTwinning for future teacher, emphasising:

- inclusive, safe, and supportive learning communities;
- strong basic skills, including digital and AI literacy;
- socio-emotional learning and student teachers' voice;
- embedding international and European collaboration;
- resilience and preparedness for change.

Transposing this perspective to ITE means asking: What does it mean to prepare student teachers who are 'future-ready'? How can teacher education institution, with the support of eTwinning, develop curricula, practicum models, and collaborative projects that build the competences student teachers will need to thrive in tomorrow's classrooms?

## Goals of the conference

The 2026 conference seeks to:

- Explore what it means to be a 'future-ready' teacher and how eTwinning supports this perspective within initial teacher education.
- Share innovative curriculum models, pedagogical approaches, and eTwinning projects developed by ITE institutions across Europe.
- Foster dialogue between teacher educators, student teachers, Erasmus+ Teacher Academies representatives, and BIP participants on how to embed eTwinning sustainably in ITE.
- Provide meaningful networking opportunities and collaborative spaces for participants to develop new partnerships and co-create future projects.
- Amplify the voice of student teachers as active contributors to pedagogical innovation and European collaboration.

## Target audience

The target audience of the conference includes:

- ☐ newly registered teacher educators;
- ☐ teacher educators nominated for the European award and their student teachers;
- ☐ teacher educators with a national ITE label and their student teachers;
- ☐ any other interested teacher educators and their student teachers.

Practical arrangements:

- Country quotas apply for the conference.
- The maximum number of onsite attendees is 100 participants.
- Plenary sessions will be streamed via YouTube.
- Online workshops will be held via MS Teams.

## Draft agenda

### DAY 1 – 26 November 2026

*Streamed for online attendees – no registration required.*

| Time          | Activity / session                                                                                                     |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 14:00 – 15:00 | Registration                                                                                                           |
| 15:00 – 15:15 | <b>Opening</b><br>Welcome remarks – Central Support Service<br>Welcome remarks – Host NSO and/or Ministry of Education |

|               |                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 15:15 – 15:30 | <b>The EU Teachers and Trainers Agenda for future-ready educators in a digital and inclusive era</b><br>DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, European Commission |
| 15:30 – 16:00 | <b>What does a future-ready teacher look like?</b><br>Speaker from ETUCE (European Trade Union Committee for Education)                                             |
| 16:00 – 16:30 | Break + informal networking                                                                                                                                         |
| 16:30 – 17:00 | <b>European ITE award ceremony.</b>                                                                                                                                 |
| 17:00 – 19:00 | <b>Future-ready teaching in practice</b>                                                                                                                            |
| 19:30         | Dinner at the hotel                                                                                                                                                 |

## DAY 2 – 27 November 2026

| Time          | Activity / session                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| 09:30 – 11:00 | <b>Workshop session 1</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | Break + informal networking                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 11:30 – 13:00 | <b>Workshop session 2</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 13:00 – 14:30 | Lunch + informal networking                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 14:30 – 15:30 | <b>Practice sharing session</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 15:30 – 17:00 | <p><b>Co-creation world café</b><br/>Facilitated discussions in mixed groups of teacher educators and student teachers around tables. Each table selects one of the five angles (digital skills, AI, inclusion, futures literacy, international collaboration) and focus on the following aspect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Digital skills and AI:</b> From AI curiosity to AI confidence: What does the ITE curriculum need to change? Groups identify one concrete curricular adjustment their institution could make (e.g., a new module element, an assessment redesign, or a practicum task) that develops responsible AI use in student teachers.</li> <li>• <b>Inclusion:</b> How do we make eTwinning projects work for all learners? Groups co-develop a short checklist or set of design principles for inclusive eTwinning project design in ITE, drawing on examples from the morning's workshops.</li> <li>• <b>Futures literacy:</b> What can teacher educators and student teachers do on Monday morning? Groups design a concrete activity (a scenario exercise, a foresight task, a cross-border discussion) that teacher educators and student teachers could realistically implement in the short-term.</li> <li>• <b>International collaboration:</b> What makes European collaboration stick? Groups map the conditions that make eTwinning and Erasmus+ partnerships sustainable beyond a single project and draft a short "partnership charter" or set of commitments they would take back to their institutions.</li> <li>• <b>The student teacher perspective:</b> What do we need to feel future-ready? A table led and facilitated by student teachers themselves (with a light-touch facilitator), feeding back what they heard in Day 1 that resonated and what was missing. Their output feeds directly into the closing session on Day 3.</li> </ul> |
| 18:00 – 20:30 | Cultural activity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 20:30         | Dinner                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

## DAY 3 – 28 November 2026

*Streamed for online attendees – no registration required.*

| Time          | Activity / session                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| 09:30 – 10:00 | <b>Erasmus+ Teacher Academy project “<a href="#">Teacher Education for a Future in Flux (teff) Academy</a>”</b><br>Exploring the innovative model-framework developed which blends digital, green, diversity, inclusion, and well-being skills with a European dimension, empowering students and teachers to champion European democracy and citizenship. |
| 10:00 – 12:00 | <b>Co-creation and partnership-building</b><br>Based on the input of the previous days, teacher educators and student teachers develop together concrete outputs such as a lesson plan, a teaching toolkit, or a mini eTwinning project. Each group presents a summary of their ideas at the end of the session.                                           |
| 12:00 – 12:30 | <b>Closing of the conference</b><br>Summary of key outcomes and takeaways from a teacher educator and a student teacher.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 12:30         | Lunch boxes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |