



CIEC IN THE NEWS

Here's what happens at CIEC!



Editorial

I am very pleased to be writing this editorial. Following the latest FCT evaluation of research centres by a panel of international evaluators, CIEC has been rated EXCELLENT. This news fills us with pride and joy. The Centre's development strategy and the work carried out over the last few years have helped it to achieve this magnificent result, placing CIEC among the top five centres of excellence in the field of Education Sciences in the country. Once again, this edition of the CIEC Newsletter is a good illustration of its internationalisation, the diversity of projects and initiatives, the dynamism of its researchers and the culture of collaboration and support at the Centre. I would therefore like to thank all those who, through their commitment and effort, have contributed to making CIEC a benchmark centre, starting with the members of the previous and current Board of Directors, all our researchers and doctoral students, as well as grant holders and technicians. We greet this result with optimism, but also with a sense of responsibility and a desire to continue working in support of children's development and well-being.



Maria Assunção Flores
Diretora do CIEC

CIEC IS AN EXCELLENT CENTRE!

As part of CIEC Day, held on 3 June, we celebrated the EXCELLENT result achieved by the centre in the latest FCT evaluation. It was a moment to share and celebrate together, involving the participation of our researchers, doctoral students, grant holders and technicians. It was, once again, a memorable event that also provided an opportunity to embrace our partners, since CIEC maintains strong links with the wider community, demonstrating the political, scientific and social importance of its research. CIEC Day, details of which can be found in this newsletter, culminated, as usual, with the CIEC Dinner.



CIEC'S NEW FACE

Linda Inês de Freitas Ferreira

My name is Linda Inês de Freitas Ferreira. I have a degree in Graphic Design from the Polytechnic Institute of Cávado and Ave and I am currently studying for a Master's in Digital Design at the same institute, with an interest in UX/UI and Interface Design. I am part of the project 'Era uma Vez (Once Upon a Time): a Toolkit to Promote the Development of Multiliteracies, Social Competences and Intercultural Sensitivity', as a Research Fellow in the area of Graphic Design, where I am responsible for creating and maintaining graphic elements for the project. I am continually involved in academic research, since the focus of the Master's project will be the applicability of Design Systems for pedagogical innovation under the co-supervision of Dr Cristina Sylla.



Beatriz Raquel Miranda Alves

I am Beatriz Raquel Miranda Alves, and I hold a bachelor's and a master's degree in Informatics and Computer Engineering from Instituto Superior Técnico, with a special interest in the areas of Interaction and Visualisation. During my master's degree, I developed and studied an augmented reality mobile application designed to support the creation of stories by children, in the context of the project 'Era uma Vez (Once Upon a Time): a Toolkit to Promote the Development of Multiliteracies, Social Competences and Intercultural Sensitivity'. I am currently working in the same project team as a Research Fellow, collaborating in the development of new digital tools.



OUR RESEARCHERS

António Camilo Cunha



I am António Camilo Cunha, Associate Professor with Qualification at the Institute of Education at the University of Minho. My academic career has spanned five institutions: Degree in Physical Education Teaching from the School of Education of the Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco; Master's Degree in Educational Sciences - Methodology of Physical Education from the Faculty of Human Motricity of the Technical University of Lisbon; PhD in Child Studies - IEC- University of Minho; Adjunct Professor in Sports Sciences from the Faculty of Sports of the University of Porto; Post-Doctorate in Theory and Pedagogical Practice in Physical Education from the Federal University of Santa Catarina. I am currently Director of the Department of Theory of Education and Artistic and Physical Expressions at IE/UM and I am responsible for undergraduate and postgraduate curricular units in the areas of Physical Education, while also being a member of research projects and programmes. My interests for research and reflection are Teacher Training, with regard to Physical Education, Body, Movement and Early Childhood Education, involving its various scientific, pedagogical, social, cultural and didactic aspects, together with theoretical/practical support from the fields of Education, Sport, Sociology, Literature, Philosophy (hermeneutics/phenomenology), Anthropology and Semiotics.

OUR PHD STUDENTS

João Pedro Gonçalves

I have a degree in Sports Science from the Faculty of Sport of the University of Porto (2017), and I completed my master's degree in Exercise and Health, specialising in Exercise Physiology, at the same institution in 2023. I am currently on a PhD scholarship from the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) in collaboration with the Portuguese Football Federation, and I am attending the Doctoral Programme in Child Studies, specialising in Child Health and Physical Education. I worked as a personal trainer, fitness coach and physiologist for several years. My enthusiasm for the fields of sports and epidemiology goes back a long way. I have therefore chosen to continue my academic career by pursuing a doctorate with an ambitious project: The analysis of the impact of the "Superkids Hour" programme on children's cognition and academic performance, as well as its economic impact. I am being supervised by Professor Rute Santos (Institute of Education), Professor Paulo Mourão (School of Economics and Management) and Professor André Seabra (Portuguese Football Federation - Portuguese Football School).



ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT AS PART OF OUR PROJECTS

AI2PI project meeting

The launch meeting for the project "AI2PI - From Artificial Intelligence to Pedagogical Innovation" [Ref. ERASMUS-EDU-2024-PEX-TEACH-ACA] The project is funded by the European Commission under Erasmus+Teacher Academies and aims to integrate reflection on Artificial Intelligence (AI) into pedagogical practices to improve the quality of teaching in the European context. AI2PI includes a consortium of seven universities (Berlin, Kaunas, Turku, Bolzano, Minho, Innsbruck and Umeå). The Portuguese team is led by CIEC researcher Cristina Sylla, and also includes CIEC researchers Cristina Parente, Diana Pereira, Eva Lopes Fernandes and Orlanda Tavares.



EMIC-STEAM project meeting

The 2nd International Meeting of the 'EMIC-STEAM - ECOLOGICAL MAKING IN INTERCULTURAL COOPERATION THROUGH STEAM' project took place from 12 to 14 May at the University of Minho's Institute of Education. The meeting, organised by CIEC researchers Cristina Sylla (coordinator of the Portuguese team), Sandra Palhares, Diana Pereira, Orlanda Tavares and Eva Fernandes, aimed to enable students to participate in building the future, following the principles of transformative education in the context of ESD (Education for Sustainable Development). The project includes universities and schools from Portugal, Germany, Austria, Luxembourg and Sweden.



ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT AS PART OF OUR PROJECTS

Final Conference of the Erasmus+ Project 'Observatory SOS - Attendance'



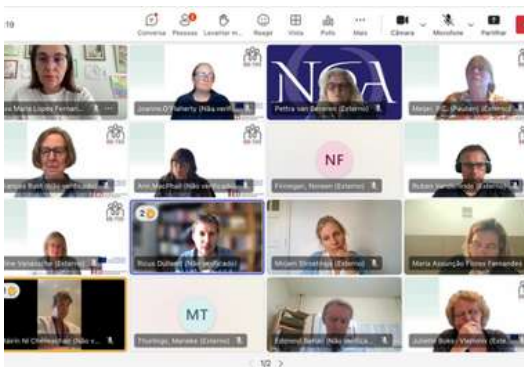
CIEC researchers Maria Assunção Flores, Diana Pereira, Eva Lopes Fernandes and collaborator João Sampaio took part in the Final Conference of the Erasmus+ Project 'Observatory SOS - Attendance' [Erasmus+ Project, Ref. 2022-1-ES01-KA220-SCH-000088733], held in Alicante, Spain, on 19 and 20 June 2025. The Portuguese delegation also included eight teachers from two school groups in the districts of Braga and Porto, partners in this project.

As part of this conference, researcher Maria Assunção Flores took part in the plenary session "WP4 & WP5 - E-learning and Awareness Campaign experiences in Italy, Portugal, Spain, and Türkiye", where she presented the Portuguese team's main contributions to the project. Researchers Diana Pereira and Eva Lopes Fernandes took part in the "II International Workshop: Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Global Strategies to Address School Attendance Problems", where they shared preliminary results from the Portuguese context. Scholarship holder João Sampaio presented the poster "Observatory SOS Attendance - Round Table" and partners from the school clusters presented their educational contexts through poster presentations.

This meeting allowed for the sharing of experiences and the development of partnerships, with a special focus on issues related to student attendance, as well as the definition of possible strategies and solutions to combat absenteeism and early school leaving.



ED-TED project webinar



On 26 May 2025, the International Webinar "Policies focusing on equity and diversity in higher education: Cross-national webinar" took place as part of the "ED-TED - Education for Equity and Diversity in Teacher Education" project, co-funded by the European Union through the Erasmus+ Programme (Ref.: 023-1-DE01-KA220-HED-000152242). This project aims to establish a European network to support the professional development of teacher educators, with a focus on issues of equity and diversity in teacher education. It involves eight partner institutions from seven European countries: Belgium, Germany, Finland, Norway, Ireland, the Netherlands and Portugal. In Portugal, the project is co-ordinated by researcher Maria Assunção Flores, from CIEC at the University of Minho.

The event brought together around 60 participants, including researchers, teachers, teacher training students and policy makers from various countries, including Germany, the Netherlands, Portugal, Ireland, Belgium, Finland, Norway and the United States of America. This meeting provided a space for critical reflection, the sharing of good practices and international collaboration, allowing for the discussion of policies and strategies that promote equity and diversity in higher education, particularly in teacher training.

The event was co-organised by CIEC researchers Maria Assunção Flores, Diana Pereira, Eva Lopes Fernandes and Orlanda Tavares

ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT AS PART OF OUR PROJECTS

Round table and meeting of the ‘Observatory SOS-Attendance’ project

On 9 June 2025, the ‘Observatory SOS-Attendance’ Round Table was held at the University of Minho in Braga, as part of the ‘Observatory SOS-Attendance’ project, co-funded by the European Union through the Erasmus Programme [Ref. 2022-1-ES01-KA220-SCH-000088733]. This project, coordinated by the University of Alicante in Spain, involves higher education institutions and schools from Spain, Portugal, Italy and Turkey. In Portugal, the project is under the coordination of researchers Maria Assunção Flores and Diana Pereira, from CIEC at the University of Minho.

The event brought together 72 participants, including teachers, students and carers from the Vila Verde (Braga) and Diogo de Macedo (Vila Nova de Gaia) School Clusters.

This meeting provided a space for reflection, sharing and collaboration, allowing discussion of the phenomenon of school absenteeism and its impact on learning, personal development, social integration and students' future opportunities.

During the session, participants learnt about the actions developed in the context of the ‘SOS-Attendance Observatory’, which aims to support schools, families and communities in the fight against school absenteeism.

The event was organised and facilitated by CIEC researchers Maria Assunção Flores, Diana Pereira and Eva Lopes Fernandes.



ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT AS PART OF OUR PROJECTS

Mobeybou Angola

The Reading Observatory has released its recommendations and reading suggestions, one of which is the interactive story Mobeybou in Angola. The app was developed as part of the "Era uma Vez" (Once Upon a Time) project led by CIEC researcher Cristina Sylla and is part of a set of digital materials that aim to promote the development of literacy skills, as well as promoting interculturality. All the materials are published in the PlayStore and AppleStore and are free to download. More information at: <https://mobeybou.com/>



OUR RESEARCHERS ABROAD

Assunção Flores

From 23 to 27 April, CIEC researcher Assunção Flores took part in the American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Congress in Denver, Colorado, USA, where she presented the papers 'Nurturing teacher wellbeing as a way to counter dead spaces', 'Educating for equity and diversity in teacher education', 'Leading schools in challenging times: factors influencing instructional leadership', 'Invisible colleges: small group spaces for growth, inquiry, healing and repair' and 'Transforming teacher education to repair educational inequality', as part of the symposium 'Toward just and equitable teacher preparation: A global conversation'.

She also took part in the 'World Federation of Associations for Teacher Education (WFATE) 8th Biennial Conference & Association for Teacher Education in Europe (ATEE) - Spring Conference', which took place at Rovira i Virgili University in Tarragona, Spain, from 27 to 30 May, presenting the papers 'What are the Implications of Teacher shortage for Teacher Education in Portugal?' and 'Rethinking Teacher Education in a Changing World'.

The researcher also spoke at the Round Table 'Retos en la docencia universitaria' (Challenges in university teaching), as part of the International Congress on University Teaching, at the invitation of the organisation, which took place online.



OUR RESEARCHERS ABROAD

Irene Cadime

During the months of May and June 2025, CIEC researcher Irene Cadime spent time at the University of Jyväskylä (Finland) under the FCT Mobility programme. This stay, at the invitation of Professor Mikko Aro, was aimed at developing joint research work with the teams at InterLearn - The Centre of Excellence for Learning Dynamics and Intervention Research.



Fernando Ilídio Ferreira e Mara Pinto

Fernando Ilídio Ferreira took part in the Erasmus+ Mobility Agreement for Training programme at the University of Tampere (Finland) from 19 to 23 May 2025. Activities included meetings with fellow researchers with a view to deepening cooperation between the two institutions in the fields of education and child studies, particularly through joint applications for research grants.

In addition, together with Mara Pinto, he took part in the international conference 'Education in Emergencies: A Lifeline for the Future' held at the University of Helsinki from 20 to 21 May 2025, organised by INEE (Inter-agency Network for Education in Emergencies), presenting the paper 'Coordinating Education in Emergencies: Insights from Cameroon Northwest Southwest Education Cluster actors'.

Maria Teresa Sarmento e Sara Reis da Silva

On 17 June, Maria Teresa Sarmento was invited to take part in a round table at the International Seminar "Third spaces in teacher education", with the paper "Third Spaces" in initial teacher education at the UMinho", at the Federal University of Minas Gerais-Institute for Advanced Transdisciplinary Studies - FUNDEP Magda Soares Chair in Basic Education at IEAT/UFMG.

In addition, from 3 to 6 June, CIEC researchers Maria Teresa Sarmento and Sara Reis da Silva took part in the 'XIV Biennial Conference - Europe Research Network about Parents in Education International Conference Educational Partnership between Families, Schools, and Communities Weaving vibrant alliances to empower individuals and overcome collective vulnerabilities', which took place at the University of Verona (Italy). Together with Fernanda Martins (CIEd) and Maria João Silva (Municipality of Braga), the CIEC researchers presented the paper 'My First Pages: A project to promote books and reading in a family context in a community network in a municipality with vulnerabilities', which took place at the University of Verona (Italy).



OUR RESEARCHERS ABROAD

Zélia Anastácio, Isabel Condessa and Andrea Kerckhoff dos Santos

CIEC researcher Zélia Anastácio was involved in the organisation of the 12th International Congress on Health, a scientific event that takes place annually in partnership with CIEC-UM and UNIJUÍ, RS, Brazil. This year it was held at UNIJUÍ under the theme '12th CIS - Health in a Time of Crisis: Emerging Technologies and Equity in Access'. Besides being a member of both the international organising committee and the scientific committee, she took part in the opening session of the congress, gave a paper by invitation entitled 'Health Promotion and Environmental Sustainability from the School Community and co-presented other oral papers, together with CIEC researcher Isabel Condessa and Child Studies PhD student Andrea Kerckhoff dos Santos.



Zélia Anastácio and Regina Alves

CIEC researchers Zélia Anastácio and Regina Alves took part in the '25th IUHPE World Conference on Health Promotion - Settings for Planetary Health & Well-Being', which took place from 13 to 16 May 2025 at ADNEC, the National Conference Centre in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, presenting oral papers and posters. At this event they met with the coordinators of the UNESCO Global Health Education Chair and also took part in the workshop organised by them as part of this international conference.



Zélia Anastácio

CIEC researcher Zélia Anastácio spent 6 March to 4 April 2025 as a visiting guest researcher on the project Bases for the Projection of Teacher Training Policies in Rio Grande do Sul, which includes several universities (including UNICRUZ, UNIJUÍ, UPF, UNIPAMPAS and UFRGS). While there, she carried out a variety of research activities, such as drawing up questionnaires and collecting data, preparing articles and book chapters, visiting schools, taking part in master's and doctoral juries, reactivating the agreement with PUCRS, meetings with doctoral students and co-supervisors, project coordination meetings, seminars in postgraduate programmes and conferences, in particular that which celebrated the 30th anniversary of UNIJUÍ's Postgraduate Programme in Science Education, entitled 'Teacher Training in Brazil and Portugal: shared reflections for a joint response'. The lecture is available on Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/live/P8VQAXKEY3Q> (intervenção da investigadora a 1:45)



OUR RESEARCHERS ABROAD

Rui Ramos

CIEC researcher Rui Ramos took part in a workshop in Graz between 14 and 16 May for the 'EDU-CLIMA - cross-disciplinary education for climate action' project, an interdisciplinary education project focusing on climate action, led by the Arqus European University Alliance. This project involves the universities of Graz (Austria), Wrocław (Poland), Leipzig (Germany), Padova (Italy), Granada (Spain) and the University of Minho. The project aims to create a platform for interdisciplinary collaboration and knowledge exchange on climate education and innovative teaching methods.

Between the 19th and 23rd of the same month, Rui Ramos carried out an exchange at Shota Rustaveli University in Batumi, Georgia, as part of the European Union's Erasmus+ Programme, Key Action 1 - International Credit Mobility - Peers Project.

Between 13 and 23 June, he travelled to East Timor to carry out activities under the protocol that UMinho established with the Naroman Esperansa University Institute in Gleno. Besides other activities, he organised various workshops for the students at that institution.

OTHER PARTICIPATIONS BY OUR RESEARCHERS

Orlanda Tavares

CIEC researcher Orlanda Tavares took part, as a speaker, Chair and member of the Scientific and Organising Committee, at the Edulog International Conference: 'International students: a profitable industry or the prevalence of academic and socio-cultural values?', which took place on 22 and 23 May 2025 at the Almeida Garrett Municipal Library, Porto.

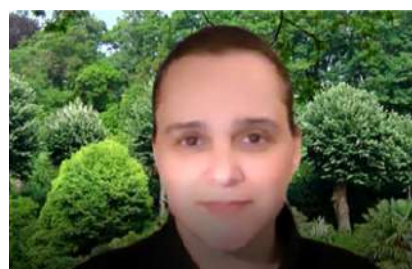
Orlanda Tavares was also co-author of the EDULOG study "Balanço Anual da Educação 2025", which was presented to the public on 26 June 2025 in Lisbon. The study was widely publicised in the media on 25 June, for example: <https://www.dnoticias.pt/2025/6/25/453800-menos-de-metade-das-criancas-ate-aos-tres-anos-em-creches-em-2023/#>

She also attended the HEAd'25 conference, from 17 - 20 June 2025, in Valencia, Spain, presenting a paper and moderating session 9c. "Educational Transformation".



Ana Paula Malotti and Maria Helena Vieira

CIEC researchers Ana Paula Malotti and Maria Helena Vieira (supervisor) presented a paper at the 32nd 'Conference of the European Association for Music in Schools (EAS) and 10th European Regional Conference of the International Society of Music Education (ISME)'. The meeting was held at the University of Évora from 4 to 7 June with the support of the Portuguese Association for Music Education and the paper, based on the results of the research carried out during her doctorate, was entitled 'Specialist music teachers in early childhood education institutions in Portugal and Brazil: evidence of a growing phenomenon'.



OTHER PARTICIPATIONS BY OUR RESEARCHERS

Ana Sani

Ana Sani is part of a group of 51 figures personally or professionally involved in the protection of children, who are behind the book-length campaign entitled 'What Happens in Childhood Doesn't Stay in Childhood' by João Pedro Gaspar and Paulo Guerra, which aims to raise public awareness of the undeniable consequences of adverse childhood experiences in adulthood. Volume II, like Volume I, is a 'manifesto' for the protection of children and their healthy development and was launched on 31 May 2025 at the Bissaya Barreto Foundation in Coimbra. The work entitled "Protecting child victims of domestic violence: socio-legal aspects and legislative developments in Portugal" by Ana Rita Ferreira and CIEC researcher Ana Sani is included as a chapter in the book coordinated by Eunice Magalhães, Joana Cerdeira and Paulo Guerra, entitled "Promoting Rights and Protecting Children and Young People in Danger: Scientific Contributions and Practical Considerations", published by Almedina.



Diana Martins

On 5 June, a session was held at the Paços de Ferreira Secondary School Library, especially aimed at a 12th grade Visual Arts class, as part of the 'Intersections' project (a project with the 'Ideas with Merit' seal from the School Libraries Network), also attended by the respective art and Portuguese teachers and the Librarian Teacher. The activity was based on Dr Diana Martins' career as a researcher in the areas of Children's Literature, Literary Education and Illustration, with a special focus on object books and toy books. The session was aimed at critical and creative reflection on the potential of illustrated literature and the book as an artefact and form of artistic expression and pedagogical tool.



Maria Teresa Sarmento

As a guest, she took part in the Round Table '50 Years of Education in Democracy', on 6 June, at the Congress Teachers' Lives Today: Challenges and Transformations, at FPCE-University of Porto.

At the same congress, she took part in the presentation of the papers: 'Being a Teacher in Learning Support Centres - Narratives of experience and collaborative practices' (with Isabel Cavas and Conceição Leal da Costa, UÉvora), and 'Narratives of experience: (re)figurations of teachers' identities and lifelong learning' (with Conceição Leal da Costa, UÉvora, and M^a da Conceição Passeggi, UFRN).

HELD AT CIEC

UPA - UMinho de Portas Abertas

CIEC, as part of the MOBEYBOU project coordinated by researcher Cristina Sylla, took part in the UPA - UMinho Open Doors initiative on 4 April. The event was attended by over 70 participants, who explored the potential of the app developed by the project to help disseminate the cultures of countries such as Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, China and Portugal.



II International Week of Arts, Math & Culture

The II International Week of Arts, Math & Culture took place from 12 to 16 May, with the participation of students and teachers from Thomas Morehs University (Netherlands), Howest University (Belgium) and the University of Minho. The students are future kindergarten teachers and future primary school teachers from the respective countries. The event included seminars, workshops and study visits. The event was organised by CIEC researcher Ema Mamede, with the collaboration of researchers Carla Antunes and Carla Cunha in organising the thematic sessions.



HELD AT CIEC

World Children's Day

As part of the World Children's Day celebrations, various activities were held for and with children, organised by researchers Ema Mamede and Zélia Anastácio.

The event began on 30 May with the screening of a documentary entitled 'Children's rights from their voices', organised by CIEC researcher Natália Fernandes, as part of her Master's degree in Child Studies.

On 2 June, CIEC welcomed children from the 1st cycle. On 2 June, CIEC welcomed primary school children from various schools who took part in workshops run by researchers from this Research Centre, including 'Matematicando' run by researcher Ema Mamede; 'Once upon a time' by researcher Cristina Sylla, with the collaboration of Andreia Couto, Rafael Faria and Linda Ferreira; "Conversations on children's rights" promoted by researcher Natália Fernandes; "Drama games" organised by researcher Carla Antunes with the collaboration of Andreia Braga and Margarida Silva; and "SAM and story time in nature" by researcher Zélia Anastácio with the collaboration of Daniela Fernandes, Daniela Queirós, Francisca Castro and Dalila Maitê Sena.

The event ended with a mini-recital by four young trombonists from the Calouste Gulbenkian Conservatory of Music in Braga, members of the 2nd and 3rd Cycle Trombone Quartet, directed by Prof. Zeferino Pinto and organised by researcher Helena Vieira.

The event was also organised with the support of researchers Cristina Sylla, Regina Alves, Eva Fernandes and Orlanda Tavares, doctoral students Adriana Cunha and Luís Carlos Costa and collaborators Gabriela Silva and Jeremias Correia.



HELD AT CIEC

CIEC Day

The 3rd edition of 'CIEC Day' was held on 3 June and included two panel discussions as well as an exhibition of projects by the Centre's researchers. The first panel - Childhoods in focus: language, inclusion and social skills - was moderated by researcher Graça Carvalho, opening with the participation of researchers Cristina Sylla (CIEC lead researcher and coordinator of the 'Era uma Vez' project), Dr Filipa Andrade (kindergarten teacher at Vila Verde Elementary School) and Dr Juliana Félix ('Era uma Vez' project grant holder), who shared their experiences in the 'Era uma Vez' (Once Upon a Time) project. This was followed by a discussion of "Screening and assessment of communication and language in children with and without atypical development: new perspectives, new evidence" involving Dr Sandra Ferreira (CIEC researcher from the School of Education at The Polytechnic Institute of Viseu), Dr Etelvina Lima (CIEC collaborator from the Centre for Innovation in Technologies and Health Care [ciTechCare] at the Polytechnic of Leiria), and Dr João Paulo Santos (PhD student in Child Studies), coordinated by Professor Anabela Cruz-Santos (CIEC researcher, lecturer at the Institute of Education). The second panel - Between words and books - was moderated by Professor Fernando Azevedo (Researcher at CIEC and lecturer at the Institute of Education) and included the participation of Dr Regina Campos (Inter-Council Coordinator of the School Library Network), Professor Rui Ramos (Researcher at CIEC, lecturer at the Institute of Education), and Professor Fernanda Leopoldina Viana (INVESTIGARE - Association for Research in Reading, Writing and Neurosciences). The panel centred around the themes of 'The potential and practices of the Braga School Library Network' and 'Teaching and learning Portuguese'.

The afternoon ended with a visit to the 'Growing up with Science' exhibition, which showcased the research and practices developed at CIEC. The exhibition allowed direct contact with materials, resources and research results that reflect a strong commitment to children's development, learning and well-being. This was followed by an informal get-together to strengthen networks and exchange ideas and experiences among the participants, and to celebrate the Centre's Excellent result in the latest FCT evaluation, culminating with the traditional CIEC dinner.



HELD AT CIEC

Exhibition of work and video festival

On 2 June, an exhibition of work and a video festival took place, organised by the third-year students from the degree in Education, as part of the curricular unit 'Theory and Practices of Assessment and Training' under the coordination of CIEC lecturers and researchers Assunção Flores and Diana Pereira. The event took place at 2pm in the Multimedia Auditorium of the Institute of Education, and was attended by Professor Eusébio André Machado, from Universidade Portucalense.



Education Biennial

The 2025 Education Biennial took place between 16 and 20 June at the Institute of Education of the University of Minho, on the theme "The Future is Education. People, Life and School." This dynamic event brought together voices from research, educational practice and civil society. This was a major event for the whole IE community and CIEC collaborating in organising it with the help of its researchers and doctoral students. CIEC's researchers also participated as speakers, enriching the discussion of various education topics. The Centre's research team presented papers and posters while also attending project presentations given by its doctoral students and scholarship holders. For five days, researchers, teachers and students, together with institutional and civic representatives debated the great challenges and possibilities of contemporary education, with Teacher Training as a cross-cutting theme.



IT'S GOING TO HAPPEN ...



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CIEC'S REGULAR ACTIVITIES

CIEC Conferences

During the second quarter of this year, CIEC hosted the following Conferences given by national and foreign researchers:

10/04/2025 - 'The early childhood educator and mathematics education: pedagogical coordination acting in continuing teacher training'.
Cláudia Roberta de Araújo Gomes, Federal Rural University of Pernambuco - UFRPE, Brazil.
Moderated by Alexandra Gomes, CIEC - UM.

22/04/2025 - 'Narrative research: theoretical and methodological contributions'.
Laura Noemi Chaluh, Universidade Estadual Paulista (UNESP), Brazil
Moderated by Teresa Sarmento, CIEC - UM.

22/04/2025 - 'Mediation in Poland: High hopes and a bumpy road ahead'.
Katarzyna Kobielska and Monika Wichłacz, University of Wrocław
Moderated by Isabel Viana, CIEC-UM and Patrícia Guiomar, IE-UM.



CIEC'S REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Science over coffee

Another Science over Coffee meeting was organised by CIEC researcher Eva Fernandes. The meeting was attended by Adriana Cunha, Andreia Couto, Linda Ferreira and Rafael Faria, who shared their experience of the MOBEYBOU project, coordinated by CIEC researcher Cristina Sylla.



Permanent Seminar on Research Methodologies

During the same period, two Permanent Seminars on Research Methodologies were held, organised by CIEC researchers Regina Alves and Irene Cadime on 'Exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis' and 'Structural equation models and path analysis', respectively.



Scientific Writing Workshop

In the second quarter of the year, CIEC organised two Scientific Writing Workshop sessions, run by CIEC researchers Irene Cadime and Regina Alves.



DOCTORATES COMPLETED BETWEEN APRIL AND JUNE 2025

01 Welbert Vinícius de Souza Sansão

Perceptions of Libras/Portuguese Language Translators and Interpreters about their work in Maths classes in Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

Doctorate in Child Studies, Speciality in Special Education

Supervisors: Anabela Cruz-Santos and Maria Helena Silva Sousa Martinho

Conclusion date: 9 April 2025

02 Renier Cavalcanti Dantas

"The Contents of Physical Education in Integrated High School Youth and Adult Education at IFRN: Contributions to Curriculum Organisation and Systematisation"

PhD in Educational Sciences, specialising in Curriculum Development

Supervisors: Carlos Manuel Ribeiro da Silva e António Camilo Teles Nascimento Cunha

Conclusion date: 29 May 2025

Congratulations to the new doctors and their supervisors!

DOCTORATES COMPLETED BETWEEN APRIL AND JUNE 2025

03 Francisco Sérgio Manuel Mabiala.

'A lexical and morphosyntactic analysis of the Portuguese writing of secondary school students in Cabinda/Angola'.

PhD in Educational Sciences,
specialising in Literacy and
Portuguese Teaching

Supervisor: Rui Ramos

Conclusion date: 25 june 2025

04 Martins Nvuenda Baveca.

'Syntactic knowledge in the writing of narratives: a case study with 9th grade students from Chitato'.

PhD in Educational Sciences,
specialising in Literacy and
Portuguese Teaching

Supervisor: Rui Ramos

conclusion Date: 26 june 2025

05 Ana Paula Ribeiro Cardoso Malotti

"The specialised music teacher in Portuguese pre-school education and Brazilian early childhood education. Multiple case study"

PhD in Child Studies, in the
speciality of Artistic Education

Supervisor: Maria Helena Vieira

Conclusion date: 27 june 2025

**Congratulations to the new
doctors and their supervisors!**

CIEC'S REGULAR ACTIVITIES

5th Edition of the 2024/2025 Webinar Cycle

Between March and June 2025, CIEC held 2 webinars, hosted by foreign and Portuguese researchers and moderated by researchers from the Centre:

01/04/2025 - 'Self-efficacy: development and role in learning'.

Pilvi Peura, University of Jyväskylä, Finland.

Moderated by Irene Cadime, CIEC - UM.

04/04/2025 - "The iconotext in action. How the reading of Children's picture books can participate in the structuration of space at Pre-school".

Christophe Meunier, University of Orleans, France.

Moderated by Sara Reis da Silva, CIEC-UM.

**4th CIEC WEBINAR SERIES
2024/2025**

**SELF-EFFICACY:
DEVELOPMENT AND ROLE
IN LEARNING**

01.04 10H

Organização:
Research Centre on Child Studies

PILVI PEURA
UNIVERSIDADE DE JYVÄSKYLÄ,
FINLÂNDIA

CHAIR: IRENE CADIME, CIEC- UM

**4th CIEC WEBINAR SERIES
2024/2025**

**THE ICONOTEXT IN ACTION.
HOW THE READING OF
CHILDREN'S PICTUREBOOKS
CAN PARTICIPATE TO THE
STRUCTURATION OF SPACE
AT PRE-SCHOOL**

04.04 14H30

Organization:
Research Centre on Child Studies

CHRISTOPHE MEUNIER
UNIVERSITY OF ORLEANS

OUR VISITORS

Monika Wichłacz, Polónia

"I was deeply interested in visiting the University of Minho through the Erasmus+ mobility program, inspired by the insightful work of prof. Ana Maria Costa on social mediation, which emphasizes its transformative role and the empowerment of individuals—topics that closely align with my academic and teaching interests. During my stay, I was impressed by the engaged academic community and the university's strong commitment to intercultural communication and the social responsibility of academic teaching. The welcoming atmosphere and focus on collaborative learning left a lasting impression on me."



Laura Noemi Chaluh, Brasil

During the technical visit to the University of Minho (Braga), I had the opportunity to discuss issues such as initial teacher training and the organisation of pedagogical work in Early Childhood Education in Portugal with Professor Maria Teresa Jacinto Sarmento Pereira. It was of great interest to have access to the pedagogical guidelines on nurseries, since my latest research is linked to this theme.

There was also an opportunity to share research that we have carried out with teachers from early childhood education networks, and to problematise the practice of writing narratives for teachers who take part in the training courses that we promote at each other's institutions and their implications for training processes.

I gave a talk on 'Narrative research: theoretical and methodological contributions' at the Research Centre on Child Studies at the University of Minho. It was an opportunity to meet students from Africa and Brazil who are doing their Masters and PhD programmes at the university. Professor Maria Teresa Sarmento is a leading researcher on life stories. With this in mind, we shared our theoretical-methodological perspectives which, though clearly distinct, aim to broaden our understanding of educational practice.

Like me, Professor Maria Teresa Sarmento is also responsible for placements in Early Childhood Education. Therefore, we spent one full day at the São Miguel de Seide Kindergarten, located in Vila Nova de Famalicão (in the district of Braga), where I had the chance to meet the teacher Elsa, together with her assistant teacher and class, made up of children aged 3, 4 and 5. I would like to highlight the visit we made that day with the class to the forest, a space provided by the community where they had the chance to play in a different environment, as well as carry out activities led by the teacher. It was interesting to observe how the community relates to the school, not only through offering this space but also by promoting meetings with neighbours in the street, providing interesting dialogues between children and adults.



OUR VISITORS

Cláudia Gomes, Brasil

My name is Cláudia Gomes and I am from the Federal Rural University of Pernambuco – Brazil. In April I was a visiting researcher at CIEC, under the supervision of Professor Alexandra Gomes. During my stay I gave the conference “Early childhood educators and mathematics education: pedagogical coordination in continuing teacher training”. In collaboration with my supervisor, I examined the Pedagogical Project and the Curriculum of the Bachelor's Degree in Basic Education in Portugal and Brazil, analysing mathematical knowledge aimed at Early Childhood Education and discussing approaches to the training of teachers who work with children. I also had the opportunity to attend classes and with the support of Professors Cristina Parente, Teresa Sarmiento, Daniela Silva and Ana Domingues I visited Early Childhood Education institutions in Braga. It was also an opportunity to start a joint research project, with the objective of developing future actions for initial training of educators, with a focus on Mathematics Education, based on the writing of a scientific article for publication.



NEWS

CIEC researcher Diana Pereira featured in the media

CIEC researcher Diana Pereira was recently interviewed for the UMdicas newspaper about ‘Current challenges in educational evaluation: between multiculturalism, the digital world and artificial intelligence’, which you can read at the link:

<https://www.sas.uminho.pt/cms/2025/06/UMdicas%202023.pdf>



WORTH A READ...

Book ‘Information’ by James Gleick

James Gleick's ‘Information’ brilliantly tells the captivating story of the evolution of information and its effects on human consciousness. The author sees information as a unifying principle of science, bringing together linguistics, logic, codes, computing, maths, philosophy and genetics. He argues that information is in danger of no longer being seen as an expression of human thought and emotion, but as just another commodity to be processed, albeit one whose quality defines the modern age.

In just over 500 pages, this highly topical book reveals the importance and complexity of the digital world, encouraging reflection on our need and desire to communicate. In it, the author offers some hope in humanity, believing that morality and intellect can achieve great things, and seeing the evolution of information as an opportunity for us to grow. Well worth a read! In addition, James Gleick is the author of bestsellers such as ‘Chaos - The Making of a New Science’, and one of the great authors of science communication, having been nominated several times for the Pulitzer Prize.

Ema Mamede



SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

V International Conference on Literary Education brings together more than 140 participants from eight countries at UMinho's Institute of Education

The Institute of Education at the University of Minho hosted the V International Conference on Literary Education on 22 and 23 April, a landmark event co-organised by CIEC researchers Ângela Balça, Fernando Azevedo and Sara Reis da Silva, which this year brought together 144 participants from eight countries, underlining the global nature and growing relevance of literacy and reading mediation in different educational contexts.

With representatives from Brazil, Portugal, Angola, Colombia, Spain, Venezuela, Cape Verde and Chile, the event reflected a vibrant geographical and cultural diversity, providing opportunities to exchange practices, knowledge and experiences in the field of Literary Education.

Of the total number of participants, 54 gave presentations, sharing projects, research and innovative pedagogical experiences in a joint effort to build an international, critical and collaborative educational community.



As part of the latest call for PhD Scholarships 2025 from the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), 19 applications were submitted with CIEC as the host institution.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT...

Pedagogical Guidelines for Nursery Schools - An invitation to read and reflect

In 2024, Portugal marked a historic moment in early childhood education with the publication of the Pedagogical Guidelines for Nursery Schools (Marques, et al. 2024). For the first time, daycare work has now been given national pedagogical recognition, acknowledging education from birth as a fundamental right and a decisive stage in the development of a holistic and integrated approach to daycare. The Pedagogical Guidelines for Daycare (OPC) are a pivotal contribution towards recognising daycare as an educational space, where pedagogy and care are inextricably linked, and where each baby and child are recognised as subjects and agents of the educational process with potential and participatory competence from birth. The document emphasises the centrality of safe and affective relationships and interactions, of free play as the founding dimension of learning, and of active partnership with families and the community. Aimed at nursery teachers, educational teams and all those involved in early childhood, the OPC offers a guiding framework for pedagogical practices in nursery schools (0-3 years), in conjunction with the Curriculum Guidelines for Pre-School Education OCEPE(3-6 years). They share the same foundations and principles of early childhood pedagogy, respecting the specificities of education and care for children up to the age of three. They reflect a commitment to building inclusive educational environments that promote equity, participation, well-being and meaningful learning.



The organisation in eight chapters provides a theoretical framework that supports an intentional, reflective and contextualised pedagogical practice. As well as presenting the fundamental principles of early childhood pedagogy in nursery schools, the document challenges professionals to think critically about the role of the nursery school teacher, the organisation of the educational environment, areas of experience and learning, educational continuity and transitions, working in partnership with families and the community, as well as teamwork and pedagogical leadership.

Getting to know and deepen the OPC is giving a voice to babies and young children and an act of commitment to the transformation of educational contexts, contributing to the creation of safe, inclusive, sustainable and higher quality educational environments for children up to the age of three.

We invite all those concerned with the education of babies and young children to discover and reflect critically on this reference and let themselves be inspired to transform the daily life of nurseries in Portugal.

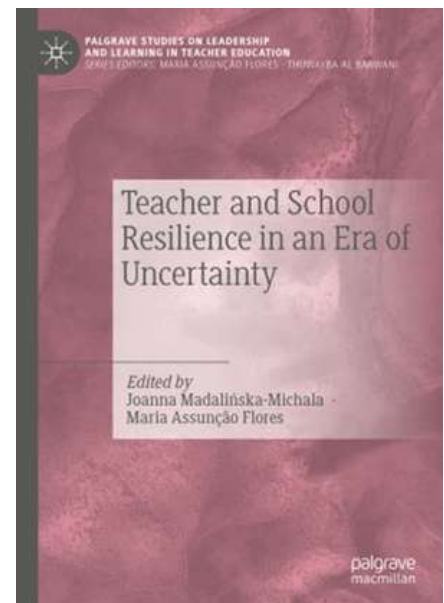
Cristina Parente

SOME PUBLICATIONS BY OUR RESEARCHERS

Martins, D. M. (2025). Notes on censorship under the Estado Novo regime in Portugal: the case of História do Barba Azul from Livraria Civilização. *Bellaterra Journal of Teaching & Learning Language & Literature*, 18(1), e1317. <https://doi.org/10.5565/rev/jtl3.1317>

Martins, Diana M., & Reis da Silva, S. (2025). L. F. Baum's short story The Wonderful Wizard of Oz for pre-readers. *Elos: Revista de Literatura Infantil e Juvenil*, (12), 1 - 13. <https://doi.org/10.15304/elos.12.10293>

Madalińska-Michalak, J. & Flores, M. A. (2025) *Teacher and School Resilience in an Era of Uncertainty*, Palgrave Macmillan Cham, 978-3-031-93960-0



More about us:

CIEC is a research institution at nationwide level dedicated just for the child studies in Portugal. You can visit us personally in the Institute of Education of University of Minho, but you will also find more information about us in our website www.ciec-um.com, our contacts: ciec@ie.uminho.pt (+351) 253601212

And can also reach us on our social media:

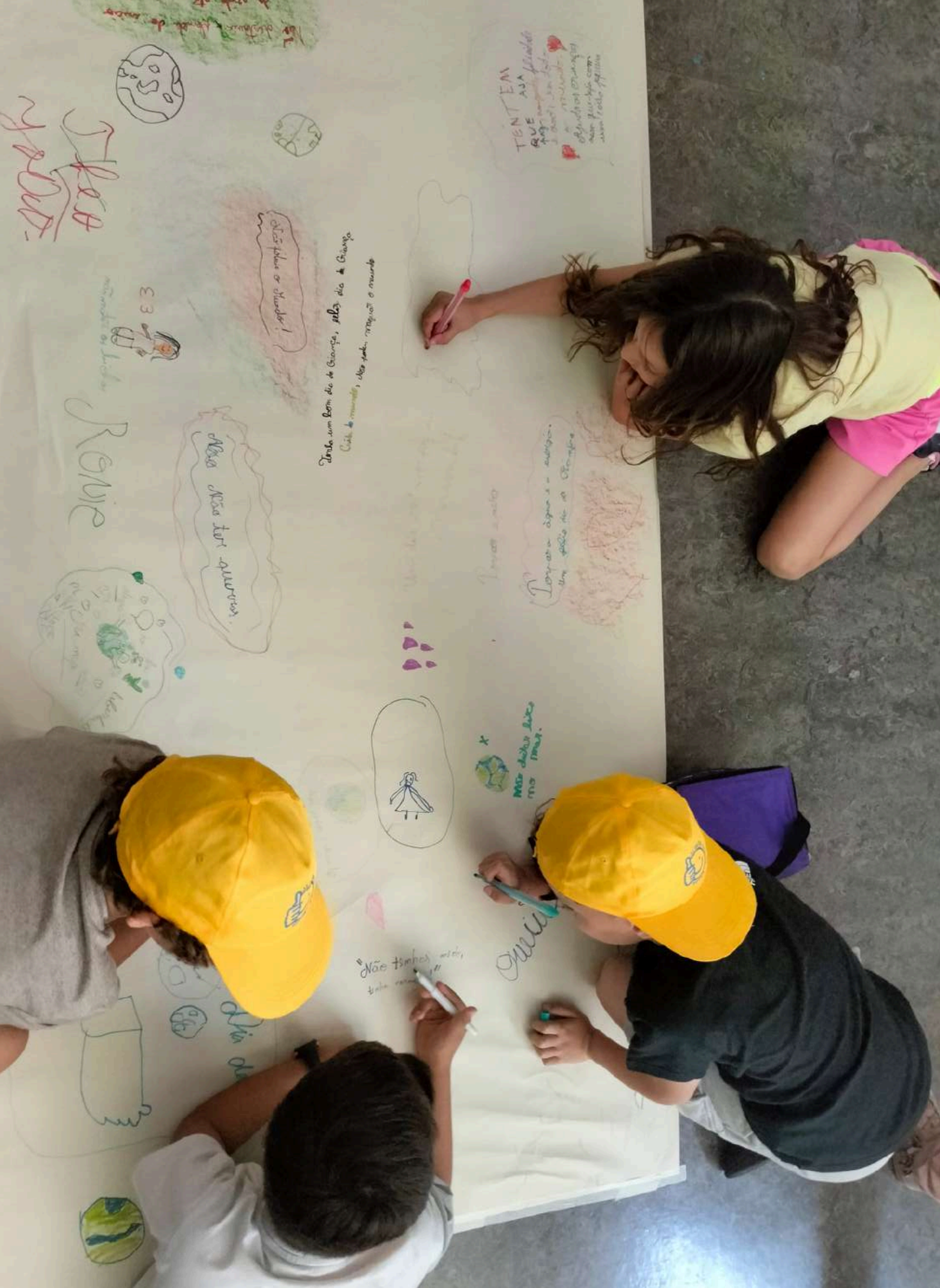
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TECHNICAL INFORMATION

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