



Dear CHER members,
Dear HE community interested in CHER 2020 conference,

We write to you now at a time of uncertainty, stress, and difficult decisions as higher education, and the world, respond to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. We speak on behalf of the CHER Board and the local organisers of the CHER 2020 conference in wishing you and your families health, safety and well-being.

As you know, our 33rd annual conference, hosted jointly by the University of Rijeka and NUI Galway with both their cities being European Capitals of Culture 2020, is scheduled for September 2-4, 2020 in Rijeka/Opatija. While it seems that September is still far away, at this time of uncertainty we are all wondering about the status of our own conference and whether it will occur. The CHER Board, Programme Committee and Local Organising Committee have, after serious discussions, reached a decision to **move forward with plans for a place-based conference in Rijeka/Opatija**.

If the pandemic and all the following security measures continue throughout the June 2020, we will have to change the plans for CHER 2020 in-person conference, and we will be in contact. In the meantime, here are a few relevant updates related with **dates extension**:

Abstract Submission: 30th April
Notification of Acceptance: 31st May
Early Bird Registration: 14th June, 2020
Best Doctoral Paper Award: 31st July, 2020
Full Papers for Conference: 20th August, 2020
(Note: papers submitted will be given priority considering the publication)

In the meantime, you will continue to receive conference updates in the coming weeks and months, and please follow all the news at our website - <https://cher2020.eu/>, and follow us on Facebook and on Twitter @cherconf2020 (please use #cherconf2020).

If you have any questions, please contact Bojana Culum Ilic at bojana@cher2020.eu and/or Lorraine McIlrath at lorraine@cher2020.eu.

Please note that the CHER Board as well as all the members of both CHER 2020 Programme and Organising Committee are currently working remotely, but we are all doing our best in responding to your emails promptly.

Take care and we all hope to see each other at CHER 2020!

