

Mr. Matti Helimo
Deputy Mayor
Tampereen kaupunki - City of Tampere
Sivistyspalvelut - Education & Culture Services
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Sua referência	Sua comunicação	Nossa referência	Data
		SAI-CMO/2024/26534	05-12-2024

Assunto: Invitation to participate in the upcoming series of conferences of the Municipality of Oeiras, Portugal

Dear Mr. Helimo,

On behalf of the Municipal Education Council of Oeiras, it is with great pleasure that I invite you to participate as a keynote speaker in our upcoming series of conferences on the Portuguese education system and the transfer of competences to municipalities. This series, scheduled for the 1st Semester of 2025, is organized to foster a dialogue about decentralization processes in education, drawing on both national and international experiences.

The Municipal education councils in Portugal are advisory bodies that exist in all municipalities. Are made up of representatives from various national and local entities and organizations related to education, and their main objective is to support the definition and implementation of education policies at local level. They promote coordination between the different entities involved in education, in order to ensure integrated and participatory management of the education system at municipal level.

With the process of decentralization of powers from the State to the municipalities, municipal education councils have gained greater relevance. This process gives municipalities increased responsibilities in the management of school infrastructures, the hiring of non-teaching staff and the implementation of education support programs, reinforcing the role of the councils as spaces for dialogue and consultation.

Therefore, municipal education councils play a crucial role in ensuring that education policies reflect the specificities and needs of each municipality, promoting equity and quality in access to education.

Mod. G-17/1

Your expertise and leadership as the Deputy Mayor of Tampere would bring invaluable insight to our series of conferences, particularly in the session dedicated to the Finnish case. The activities scheduled for the 1st Semester of 2025 are the following:

February 3

- **Morning (10:00 AM - 12:30 PM):** Presentation by David Justino (former Minister of Education) on the organization of the Portuguese education system, current challenges, and the process of decentralization to municipalities.
- **Afternoon (2:00 PM - 4:00 PM):** Debate on the transfer of powers to municipalities with councilors from 3 Portuguese municipalities: Oeiras, Maia, and Odemira.

February 24

- **Special session on the Finnish case (15:00 AM - 17:30 PM):** Presentation by Matti Helimo (Deputy Mayor, City of Tampere) on the organization of the Finnish education system, the process of decentralization to municipalities, and the current powers of Finnish municipalities in education.

April 7

- **Special session on the Swedish case (15:00 AM - 17:30 PM):** Speaker (to be defined) discussing the Swedish education system and its decentralization process.

Your participation would provide an opportunity for Portuguese educators, policymakers, and local government representatives to learn from Finland's successful educational strategies and governance model.

We sincerely hope you will accept our invitation and share your expertise during this important event. Please let us know if the proposed date works for you or if adjustments are needed. We are happy to assist with any logistical arrangement (including travel and/or accommodation, if needed).

We look forward to your positive response and to welcoming you to Oeiras.

Sincerely yours,

City Councillor



Pedro Patacho