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# Early Childhood Education and Care Lays the Foundations for Learning and Wellbeing

Guest Editor:

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:

25 March 2025

## **Message from the Guest Editor**

Dear Colleagues,

Children's first years in life and the childhood they become a part of lay the foundations for children's learning, development, and wellbeing. Children grow up in an unequal world where experiences related to their family or other humans around them can provide children with strength or limited efforts to become engaged and interested in the world around them, despite the UN Convention's statement that all children have a right to quality education, care, and play. Often, Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) is overlooked, not regarded as an important aspect of children's lives. ECEC starts at birth, and family members are children's first teachers. However, most children across the globe also become participants of some kind of early education or care outside the home. This education is the first step to becoming a citizen, since it is a collective arena that provides children with many opportunities to socialize and come into contact with people of different values and behaviors.













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