SRCD — Society for Research in Child Development

ISSBD — International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development

Utrecht, the Netherlands
Aug. 17 - 19, 2026 | #SOGIE26

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Childhood and Adolescence:
A Global Forum on Development, Health, and Rights

Call for Submissions

Submission Site: Submission site will open early October 2025
Submission Deadline: Thursday, November 6, 2025, at 11:59 PM ET

Program Organizers

She/Her	She/Her	He/Him	He/Him
Laura Baams, Ph.D.	**Jessica N. Fish, Ph.D.**	**Salvatore Ioverno, Ph.D.**	**Stephen T. Russell, Ph.D.**
Utrecht University, the Netherlands	*University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA*	*Roma Tre University, Italy*	*Arizona State University, USA*

If accepted to the 2026 Global Forum, all presenters and participants are expected to participate in-person in the Netherlands (the forum is an in-person event with no options to participate virtually).

Check the Government of the Netherlands website for more details about travel requirements.
https://www.government.nl/topics/holidays-and-travels

ABOUT THIS GLOBAL FORUM

There is an urgent need for interdisciplinary, international, and community-engaged approaches to address the complex and growing challenges regarding gender and sexual diversity among children and adolescents around the world. As political, medical, and cultural debates intensify—with direct consequences for young people's lives, interdisciplinary developmental science must rise to meet the moment. This Global Forum will bring together researchers, practitioners, advocates, and policymakers to critically examine the current state of research and science, interrogate our assumptions, and co-create a future where interdisciplinary developmental science serves the needs of contemporary LGBTQ+ youth.

We invite submissions that address core developmental processes in the lives of LGBTQ+ children and adolescents, including but not limited to identity development, mental and physical health, schooling and education, child-focused policies and systems (e.g., child welfare, justice, immigration, health), family and peer relationships, and civic and political participation. We especially welcome work that:

- Engages intersectionality as foundational (e.g., race, culture, migration, class, disability);
- Innovates theories and methods to reflect the lived realities of LGBTQ+ youth;
- Communicates findings in ways that inform public understanding, policy, and practice;
- Challenges dominant theories, as well as narratives, and responds to the politicization and misuse of science;
- Build bridges across disciplines, sectors, and regions.

The Forum is designed to catalyze collaboration and action. In addition to traditional academic sessions (e.g., keynotes, peer-reviewed and invited symposia, posters), the program will include policy and advocacy panels, methodological workshops, and training in science communication and translational research.

Now more than ever, developmental science must be visible, actionable, and globally inclusive. The Forum is intentionally structured to reflect and amplify the voices of researchers and communities from historically underrepresented regions and marginalized groups. We aim to reimagine what inclusive and globally relevant interdisciplinary developmental science can be—grounded in solidarity, innovation, and social change.

We encourage proposals that push the field forward—conceptually, methodologically, and practically. Whether you are a seasoned researcher, a rising scholar, or an engaged practitioner or policymaker, we welcome your contributions to this vital global conversation.

Program time will also be allocated to cross-national working groups aimed at facilitating collaboration and producing concrete outputs focused on the core themes of (1) Health, (2) Family, and (3) School & Systems. The working groups will begin meeting during the **Year of Planning,** leading up to the Forum. They are intended to foster interdisciplinary exchange and lay the groundwork for long-term partnerships. A central goal is to seed cross-national research teams that will carry forward a **Year of Action** following the summit—with activities ranging from special journal issues and policy briefs to training materials, op-eds, and public engagement efforts.

We anticipate offering a limited number of scholarship awards for travel. Application information will be shared via the Forum website: https://www.srcd.org/event/sexual-orientation-and-gender-identity-childhood-and-adolescence-global-forum-development

You can support travel scholarships and forum planning by donating at: https://www.srcd.org/event/sexual-orientation-and-gender-identity-childhood-and-adolescence-global-forum-development-0

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. **Submission Limits:** There is a limit of **2 presenting roles for submitters**.

2. **Presenting Roles, defined:**
   a. Chair of a symposium
   b. Discussant of a symposium
   c. Presenter of a research paper
   d. Presenter of a poster
   e. Presenter of a policy, practitioner, or funder presentation
   f. Moderator of a working roundtable
   g. Panelist in a working roundtable

Additional Considerations:

1. Only presenting roles will be protected from schedule conflicts (see role definitions above).

2. There can be **up to two presenting authors** per Individual paper or poster.

   a. Non-presenting author roles *are not protected* from schedule conflicts.

3. **Do not submit** the same material in more than one format (e.g., as a poster, a symposium presentation, or a paper in two symposia).

4. Research-focused submissions should not have been previously presented elsewhere.

5. Individual papers that are highly rated but cannot be accepted for a Symposium will be considered for an individual poster presentation.

6. During the submission process, you will be asked to select a review panel for your presentation.

7. **Plan ahead and submit early!**
   - The Submission site will open in **early October 2025**.

- You may edit your submission at any time prior to the submission deadline, **Thursday, November 6, 2025, at 11:59 PM ET.**
- View and/or print your submission proof and review it carefully.
- **No changes can be made *after* the submission deadline, Thursday, November 6, 2025, at 11:59 PM ET.**

8. SRCD or ISSBD membership is not required for submission; however, we encourage you to take advantage of the benefits of [SRCD](#) and [ISSBD](#) membership.

9. All meeting attendees, including those in a presenting role, must register with the appropriate registration fee.

Questions regarding the submission process? Please contact the **SRCD Program Office** at programoffice@srcd.org.

SUBMISSION REVIEW PANELS

1. **Identity Development and Intersectionality**
   Focus on sexual orientation, gender identity and expression (SOGIE), racial, cultural, religious, and other identity processes, including how these intersect and unfold over time.

2. **Mental Health, Coping, and Wellbeing**
   Focus on emotional development, mental health disparities, resilience, coping strategies, stress and trauma (e.g., minority stress, political violence), resistance, joy, and thriving.

3. **Social Relationships, Family, and Community**
   Exploration of relationships with parents/caregivers, peers, educators, mentors, and community members, including family acceptance/rejection, chosen families, and supportive environments.

4. **Education, Schooling, and Institutional Contexts**
   Focus on learning environments, school climate, bullying victimization/perpetration, educational equity, teacher practices, school-based interventions, gender affirmation in schools, and interactions with other institutional systems (e.g., child welfare, justice, immigration, health).

5. **Civic Engagement, Rights, and Policy**
   Focus on political identity, advocacy, legal rights, media representation, social movements, and the influence of policies and laws on development and access to services.

SUBMISSION FORMATS

Submissions will be accepted in the following formats, and all will be peer-reviewed.

Individual Poster Presentation

Posters are individual, free-standing presentations. They are the appropriate format when material can be explained briefly, is suited for graphic or visual presentation, and/or the presenter would benefit from high levels of interaction and discussion. Posters should be printed in size A0 (84.1 x 118.9 cm) or size A1 (59.4 x 84.1 cm), in portrait format.

- **Individual posters will be displayed in 60-minutes sessions.**

If accepted, there will be no poster printing service at the conference. However, there are several options to print your poster in Utrecht. Please contact them directly for more information.

- http://www.kopijwinkel.nl
- https://www.multicopy.nl/Multicopy-Utrecht-Centrum/
- https://www.printerette.nl/Posters/Posters

Note: *These stores are closed on Sundays.*

Individual Research Paper Presentation

Individual papers are free-standing research presentations. Highly rated individual papers will be considered by panel chairs for presentation in a Paper Symposium composed of up to 4 Individual Paper Presentations that are thematically related. Individual papers that are highly rated but cannot be accepted for a Paper Symposium (either

because there are not 4 related papers on the topic or the maximum number of paper symposia has been reached) will be considered for an individual poster presentation. ***Presentations will average 15-20 minutes each.***

- **Total time allotted to a session: 90-minutes.**

Individual Policy, Practitioner, or Funder Submission

Are you working directly in the field as an advocate, practitioner, or in the policy arena? Do you have ideas about what practitioners and policymakers want and need from developmental science? Are you a funder who is looking to shape the next generation of research in the developmental sciences? These submissions will highlight the pressing issues that could benefit from and inform developmental sciences, as well as describe how their efforts aim to foster a stronger connection between science and practice. Further, Policy and Practitioner Submissions may express an interest in becoming a collaborative site for integrative research that may be developed during the Year of Action. Submissions accepted by panel chairs will be grouped with up to 4 presentations that are thematically related. ***Presentations will average 15-20 minutes each.***

- **Total time allotted to a session: 90-minutes.**

Paper Symposium

A cohesive cluster of presentations focused on a specific topic and emphasizing conceptual issues and an integration of findings with representation from multiple institutions and/or organizations. In the traditional format, the chair briefly presents the theme of the symposium, presenters speak for 15 minutes each, and a discussant provides an overview. At least 15 minutes MUST be set aside for audience discussion.

Requirements: 1 chair with an optional 2nd chair if there is no discussant, 3 presentations plus 1 discussant, or 4 presentations. We encourage you to combine presentations on research findings with contributions that are drawn from applied work, such as needs assessments in clinical or community settings, practice-based recommendations, policy evaluations, or other forms of knowledge translation. Submissions that bridge science, practice, and policy are especially welcome.

- **Total time allotted to a session: 90-minutes.**

Working Roundtable

These submissions are from those who are interested in developing new collaborations across sectors, policy and advocacy strategies, theoretical orientations, or methodologies submitters are asked to describe their most interesting research findings that they believe will be of most interest to those from other disciplinary backgrounds and the other methodological, theoretical, or disciplinary backgrounds with whom they would most like to collaborate. For these submissions, you will present your position or findings in an accessible way that allows for deep discussion and integration among others with common interests. You can submit as a team or as an individual submission. The organizers will construct roundtables based on commonalities among developmental topics and/or processes, but different sectoral, theoretical, or methodological orientations. ***Talks should average 15-20 minutes each.***

- **Total time allotted to a session: 90-minutes.**

REVIEW PROCESS

All submissions will be reviewed and evaluated by two experts from our international scientific review panel.

Submissions will be rated according to the following criteria:
a. Clarity of formulation/conceptualization
b. Rigor of methods (for research submissions)
c. Appropriateness of interpretations/application
d. Importance and urgency of topic
e. For multi-presenter formats, key considerations include…
   i. cohesion among presentations
   ii. relevance to the topic
   iii. representation across sectors.

ENTERING DATA INTO THE SUBMISSION WEBSITE

SRCD's submission management platform has changed. Please make sure that your SRCD profile is up to date. Please contact the SRCD Membership Team at membership@srcd.org if you are having issues logging into your profile.

The information you enter during the submission process will appear in the online program. **Changes cannot be made *after* the submission deadline, Thursday, November 6, 2025.**

1. **Please enter a *complete, formal* name** (*e.g., Samuel T. Jones; H. Harrison Smith-Barton)***,** **current email address,** and **affiliation for each person. Please do not enter author names in all upper-case letters or all lower-case letters.** This requirement serves to uniquely identify a person included in your submission and ensures that authors receive email communications regarding the decision status of the submission.

2. **Submission Titles:** Enter a title for the submission with no more than 15 words. Use mixed-case letters (upper-case for the first letter of all words with 4 or more letters and lower-case letters for the remainder of the words) and appropriate punctuation.

3. **One person must enter all information for an entire submission**.

4. **Integrative statements, abstracts, and descriptions** entered for submissions must be typed or copied and pasted into a text box on the submission portal.

   NOTE: Your integrative statement and/or abstract should be in final form as it will be viewable in the online program.

5. **File Uploads:** All graphics must be incorporated into one single PDF file. **The document should clearly identify the presentation it refers to and not contain any author information or it will be disqualified**. The file must be in Adobe PDF format. Upload this document at the end of the submission process.

6. **Group Authorship** (e.g., consortia, projects, programs) may be entered in the specified field during the "authors" step of the submitting process.

7. **Individual requests regarding scheduling** may be made at the time of submission by entering them in the "details" step. Due to the complexities of the SRCD program scheduling process, only justified requests will be addressed, so please include the *reason for your scheduling request*. SRCD will attempt to accommodate needs in the scheduling process; however, ***there is no guarantee that all requests can be met***.

Questions about the submission process? E-mail the **SRCD Program Office** at programoffice@srcd.org.

Event-Related Questions about the Global Forum? E-mail: GlobalForum@uu.nl

Submission Deadline: Thursday, November 6, 2025, 11:59 pm EST

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

INDIVIDUAL & POSTER PRESENTATIONS

What You Will Need to Submit:

1. A title for your submission with no more than 15 words. Use mixed-case letters and appropriate punctuation in your title.

2. One primary review panel and an optional secondary review panel.

3. **Enter a full name, affiliation, and email address for each author**. This information establishes a unique identity for each person, ensuring that submitters receive a decision status notification for the submission. **Identify the presenter of the submission.** Please notify SRCD at programoffice@srcd.org if an author has been entered with more than one email address so that duplicate accounts can be merged.

4. If you need to include a "group author" (consortium, program, etc.), enter it in the "Group Authors" field of the submitting process. **Do not enter individual authors in your submission in the Group Author field,** or they will not be seen in the program!

   NOTE: *Do not* **include research funding support anywhere in your submission!** The appropriate place to acknowledge research funding support is in your presentation, should the submission be accepted.

5. Enter an *abstract* with a maximum of 600 words. Your abstract must be typed, copied, and pasted into the submission website; no file uploads are allowed. The abstract for an accepted poster will be viewable in the program.

   a. **Single-space** your abstract.
   b. **Do not** include the title in the abstract.
   c. **Do not** include names or other identifying information in your abstract.
   d. Use standard reference citations (last name, year), but do **not** include a reference list.

6. Graphics are encouraged but *are optional*; they do **not** count toward the maximum word count for your abstract. The two graphics allowed may be:
   - 2 tables, *or*
   - 2 figures, *or*
   - 1 table plus 1 figure.

   File Uploads - All your graphics must be incorporated into one single file. **Do not include any author information in your graphic.** The file must be in Adobe PDF format. You will upload this document at the end of the submission process.

PAPER SYMPOSIUM

Please keep in mind that:

- Paper Symposia **must be organized and submitted** as a group of presentations.

- **A chair is required**; *a discussant is optional*.

Role Descriptions:
- **Chair (required**): 2 chairs are permitted if there is no discussant. A chair enters all information into the submission website for the **Paper Symposium.** The chair(s) organizes and directs the symposium session, introduces the presenters, and ensures that time limits are strictly observed. The chair(s) should be prepared to lead, stimulate, and coordinate the 30-minute open discussion with the audience. This role is protected against schedule conflicts.

- **Discussant (optional if only 1 Chair)**: The role of a discussant is to comment on the papers included in the symposium. This role is protected against schedule conflicts.

- **Presenting Author:** This author must be the person who presents the individual presentations within the symposium. This presenting role is protected against schedule conflicts.

- **Non-presenting Authors:** These roles *are not* protected against schedule conflicts.

Integrative Statement and Abstract:
- Prepare a 250-word **integrative statement** that summarizes the nature and significance of the proposed symposium topic. Integrative statements for **Paper Symposia** submissions accepted for presentation will be viewable in the online program.

- Prepare a 600-word **abstract** for each paper that describes the material to be presented (introduction, hypotheses, study population, methods, results). Abstracts will be viewable in the online program.

Number of Presentations Allowed:
- A Chair and at least 3 papers are required; 4 papers are maximum. A Discussant is optional and allowed only with 3 papers. There are 3 possible combinations:

- 1 chair + 3 or 4 papers
- 2 chairs + 3 or 4 papers
- Chair + Discussant + 3 papers

What Is Needed to Submit a Paper Symposium:

1. Enter a title for the submission with no more than 15 words. Use mixed-case letters and appropriate punctuation in your title.

2. Select a primary and secondary review panel.

3. **Enter a full name, affiliation, and email address for each author**. Do not enter author names in all upper-case letters or all lower-case letters. This information establishes a unique identity for each person, ensuring that submitters receive a decision status notification for the submission. **Identify the chair(s), discussant (optional), and the presenter of each paper.** Please notify SRCD at programoffice@srcd.org if an author has been entered with more than one email address so that duplicate accounts can be merged.

4. In the case of "group authorship" (consortium, program, etc.), use the "Group Authors" field of the submitting process. **Do not enter individual authors in the submission in the Group Author field,** or they will not be seen in the program!

   NOTE: Do not include research funding support anywhere in your submission! The appropriate place to acknowledge research funding support is in your presentation (should the submission be accepted).

5. Enter an *integrative statement* with a maximum of 250 words. Your integrative statement must be typed, copied, and pasted into the submission website.
   a. **Single-space** the integrative statement.
   b. **Do not** include the title in the integrative statement.
   c. **Do not** include names or other identifying information in the integrative statement.

6. Enter an *abstract* with a maximum of 600 words *for each presentation* in the symposium. Abstracts must be typed or copied and pasted into the submission website.
   a. **Single-space** the abstract.
   b. **Do not** include the title in the abstract.
   c. **Do not** include names or other identifying information in the abstract.
   d. Use standard reference citations (last name, year), but do not include a reference list.

7. Graphics are encouraged but are optional; they do not count toward the maximum word count for the abstract. The two graphics allowed per paper may be:
   - 2 tables, *or*
   - 2 figures, *or*
   - 1 table plus 1 figure.

File Uploads: A SINGLE document containing figures and/or tables for **all** the presentations in the symposium will be uploaded. Create a document that clearly identifies which presentation it refers to. *Do NOT include any author information on this document, or it will be disqualified.* The file must be in Adobe PDF format. **You will upload this document at the end of the submission process**.

WORKING ROUNDTABLE

Role Descriptions
- **Moderator (required**): The moderator organizes the roundtable and enters all information into the submission website. A moderator directs the discussion with and among panelists during the roundtable and makes sure that all participants have an equal opportunity to speak. Moderators are strongly encouraged to incorporate multiple disciplines, sectors, diversity, and international participation into their sessions. The moderator presents a list of significant questions to the panelists for comment and interactive discussion. These questions, which may address theoretical and/or methodological issues, should be compelling (e.g.,

cutting-edge, related to controversies in the field). ***This is a presenting role and is protected against schedule conflicts.***

- **Panelists (required):** The **3** or **4** panelists should be prepared to address and debate the questions/topics presented by the moderator and adhere to the timeline provided by the moderator. ***This is a presenting role and is protected against schedule conflicts.***

Integrative Statement and Description

- Prepare a 250-word **integrative statement** that summarizes the nature and significance of the proposed topic. Integrative statements for roundtables accepted for presentation will be available for viewing in the online program schedule.
- Prepare a 1,000-word **description** of the session, including the questions/topics to be discussed *and the name of the panelist who will address them*. Descriptions are for review purposes only.

What Is Needed to Submit a Working Roundtable:

1. Enter a title for your submission with no more than 15 words. Use mixed-case letters and appropriate punctuation in your title.

2. Select a primary and an optional secondary review panel.

3. **Enter a full name, affiliation, and email address for each presenter**. Do not enter author names in all upper-case letters or all lower-case letters. This information establishes a unique identity for each person, ensuring that submitters receive a decision status notification for the submission. **Identify the presenter of the submission.** Please notify SRCD at programoffice@srcd.org if an author has been entered with more than one email address so that duplicate accounts can be merged.

4. In the case of "group authorship" (consortium, program, etc.), use the "Group Authors" field of the submitting process. **Do not enter individual authors in the submission in the Group Author field,** or they will not be seen in the program!

   NOTE: Do not include research funding support anywhere in your submission! The appropriate place to acknowledge research funding support is in your presentation (should your submission be accepted).

5. Enter an *integrative statement* with a maximum of 250 words. Integrative statements must be typed or copied and pasted into the submission website.
   a. **Single-space** your integrative statement.
   b. **Do not** include the title in the integrative statement.
   c. ***Include the name of the Moderator.***

6. Enter a *description* with a maximum of 1,000 words. Your description must be typed or copied and pasted into the submission website.
   a. **Single-space** your description.
   b. **Do not** include the title in the description.
   c. ***Include names and roles of panelists* in the description.**
   d. Include example questions that will be addressed to roundtable participants.
   e. Use standard reference citations (last name, year), but do not include a reference list.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Join the conversation on **all social media platforms** using **#SOGIE26**.

Learn more about the #SOGIE26 by visiting the event page at https://www.srcd.org/event/sexual-orientation-and-gender-identity-childhood-and-adolescence-global-forum-development