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**Creativity, contemporaneity, criticality – Towards new core elements in Norwegian Art and Craft Education**

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In Norway the Directorate for Education and Training has invited to a public hearing regarding new proposals for the definition of core elements in the National curriculum for Arts and Crafts. The hearing is based on an outline made by the Directorate, based on a list of predefined competencies anchored in techniques and methods related to the crafts, while art – and especially contemporary art – is left aside.

In contrast, our research shows from various perspectives how the focus on sensuous experiences, participation and collaboration typical of contemporary art forms can contribute to the education of children and young people that are engaged, critical and aesthetically aware. Inspired by contemporary art we therefore propose an enhanced focus on the pupils' participation in explorative, playful and open-ended processes, which can be related to the societal and cultural contexts of contemporary societies.

In the presentation we will use findings from our research to discuss alternative proposals to core elements in Art and Craft Education related to experience, creativity, contemporaneity and criticality that challenge the proposal for core elements outlined by the Directorate