europass



Hester Hulpia

Nationality: Belgian **Date of birth:** 07/06/1979

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Work: Raas van Gaverestraat 67A, 9000 Gent (Belgium)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Project officer innovation projects & research

VBJK - Centre for Innovation in the Early Years [2012 – Current]

City: Ghent | **Country:** Belgium

As a senior researcher Hester is involved in several important national and international projects at VBJK. All projects are related to high quality in ECEC.

She is involved in research on **quality of ECEC**. Internationally, she is an expert for the Working Group of DG EAC for the European Commission. Also, she was involved in a study examining the quality of ECEC in Georgia, and a Study on the effective use of ECEC in preventing early school leaving. She also supported GIZ in aiming for inclusive preschools in Jordan. Currently, she is working on a NESET-study on the implementation of ECEC quality frameworks across the EU Member States. She also provides presentations on high quality ECEC (e.g. for Singaporean ECEC-leaders, in close collaboration with ISSA). In Flanders she was part of the MeMoQ-team, a project in which a pedagogical framework, a baseline study on the quality of ECEC (0-3), a self-evaluation and a monitoring instrument were developed.

Hester Hulpia is also involved in projects on **workforce, leadership and valuing divers staff** in ECEC (e.g. the VALUE project, a Erasmus+ project on interdisciplinary learning in ECEC, and the ILIAS-project, an ESF-project on Inclusive leadership in ECEC).

Hester Hulpia also took the lead in projects on **integrated working** in services for young children. Both national (e.g. publication on 'Huizen van het Kind' - integrated family centres in Flanders) and international (e.g. INTESYS project, a Erasmus+ project on Together supporting vulnerable children through Integrated early childhood services, and the NESET study on the role and place of ECEC in integrated working, benefitting vulnerable groups such as Roma).

Hester is also involved in projects on **diversity** in ECEC. For example, the Pro_M project, a project on multilinguism in ECEC. This is an FWO-project with University of Ghent, Leuven and Brussels, and next to VBJK, Agency Upbringing and Iedereen Leest are valorization partners. In this project a reflection tool to support ECEC-professionals was developed.

Internal coordinator

VBJK - Centre for Innovation in the Early Years [2021 – 31/08/2023]

City: Ghent | **Country:** Belgium

- Coordination of the VBJK-team
- Strategic planning of projects

Researcher

Ghent University - Department of Educational Sciences [2002 – 2012]

City: Ghent | **Country:** Belgium

- Doctor Assistant (2009-2012)
    - Research on leadership in secondary schools in Flanders
    - supporting & supervising PhD students and master students
    - lectures, workshops, presentations at national and international conferences
- PhD Student (2009-2004)
    - Title PhD: Distributed leadership and organizational outcomes in secondary schools (promotor prof. Dr. Geert Devos).
    - VOR/VFO-grant for best PhD-research in 2009 (at the Onderwijs Research Dagen in Twente).
    - The PhD and a selection of the articles published in SCI-journals can be found at http://ugent.academia.edu/HesterHulpia
- Researcher (2002-2004) - Empirical research on the use of performance indicators in a school improvement policy

Scientific staff - researcher

Ghent University - Department of Social Work and Social Pedagogy [2014 – 2017]

City: Ghent | **Country:** Belgium

Senior Researcher in the MeMoQ-project on Measuring and Monitoring Quality in ECEC in Flanders (Belgium):

- development of the Flemish pedagogical Framework for ECEC (0-3 years old);
- baseline study on the quality in Flemish ECEC services;
- development of a self-evaluation instrument for ECEC services
- development of an external inspection instrument

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Doctor in Educational Sciences

Ghent University [2002 – 2009]

City: Ghent | **Country:** Belgium | **Website:** https://www.ugent.be/pp/en

Master in Educational Sciences

Ghent University [1997 – 2002]

City: Ghent | **Country:** Belgium | **Website:** https://www.ugent.be/pp/en

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): Dutch

Other language(s):

English

LISTENING C2 **READING** C1 **WRITING** C2

SPOKEN PRODUCTION C2 **SPOKEN INTERACTION** C2

French

LISTENING B2 **READING** B2 **WRITING** B2

SPOKEN PRODUCTION B2 **SPOKEN INTERACTION** B2

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

DIGITAL SKILLS

Microsoft Office / Microsoft Excel / Social Media / Microsoft Word / Microsoft Powerpoint / Facebook / SPSS software satistiche

PUBLICATIONS

[2023]
Working with multilingual children and families in early childhood education and care (ECEC): guidelines for continuous professional development of ECEC professionals.

Bergeron-Morin, L., Peleman, B., & Hulpia, H. - NESET, Luxembourg: European Union.

[2023]
Supporting childcare professionals in approaching multilingualism: insights from a collaborative process of professional development.

Peleman, B., Hulpia, H. & Bergeron-Morin, L. - Early Years, 42

[2021]
Quality in home-based childcare providers: variations in process quality.

Vandenbroeck, M., Slot, P. & Hulpia, H. - European Early Childhood Education Research Journal.

[2021]
Governing quality Early Childhood Education and Care in a global crisis: first lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Van Laere, K., et aL. - NESET, Luxembourg: Publications European Union

[2019]
The role and place of ECEC in integrated working, benefitting vulnerable groups such as Roma.

Vandekerckhove, A. et al. - NESET, Luxembourg: Publications European Union

[2018]
Improving the quality of ECEC services in Georgia.

Peeters, J. & Hulpia, H. - UNICEF Georgia

[2014]
Study on the effective use of ECEC in preventing early school leaving. Case study report: Belgium (Flanders).

Hulpia, H., Peeters, J. & Van Landeghem, G.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

[2009] VOR/VFO grant
Best PhD-research 2009

PROJECTS

ILIAS - Inclusive Leadership ESF-project - https://vbjk.be/en/project/ilias-inclusive-leadership-that-promotes-collaboration

INTESYS - integrated working in ECEC Erasmus+ - https://vbjk.be/en/project/intesys-integrated-systems

VALUE - assistants in ECEC Erasmus+ - https://vbjk.be/en/project/value-professionalisation-and-collaboration-for-assisting-and-core-professionals-in-ecec