



5 Fevereiro 2025 | 15h00

Anfiteatro 5.3.27, Departamento de Educação e Psicologia,  
Universidade de Aveiro

## **Doing epistemic solidarity work in the 21st century.**

## **Reflections on communication, diversity and inclusion from a Third Position**

**Com Sangeeta Bagga-Gupta**

Professor-Chair in Education with a multidisciplinary background

School of Education and Communication

Jönköping University

Jönköping, Sweden

**Moderação:** Manuela Gonçalves (CIDTFF, DEP, UA)

**Link acesso:** <https://videoconf-colibri.zoom.us/my/helenaaraujoesa>

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**Sangeeta Bagga-Gupta**

Professor-Chair in *Education with a multidisciplinary background*  
School of Education and Communication  
Jönköping University  
Jönköping, Sweden

**Bio:**

Sangeeta Bagga-Gupta is a senior scholar of colour, has an explicit multidisciplinary and multi-field background. She has been full-professor since 2007 at the departments of Education, Gender, Rehabilitation, Communication, Language – at Örebro and Jönköping University's, Sweden. Bagga-Gupta has held visiting professor and expert consultant positions at universities and research associations across northern-southern territories. Currently, she is visiting professor (2024-27) at both the [SeDyL National Research Center](#) (CNRS-IRD-INALCO) research Centre, Paris, France, and [MANUU National University](#), Hyderabad, India.

Bagga-Gupta's multidisciplinary research deals with issues pertaining to communication, identity, culture and learning from n/ethnographically framed, multi-scalar, sociocultural and decolonial framings. She is the editor of the 2025 *Palgrave Handbook of Decolonizing the Educational and Language Sciences*. In addition to publishing extensively in different disciplinary and multidisciplinary areas, Bagga-Gupta is multilingual in oral, written and signed languages. [ju.se/en/personinfo.html?sign=BAGSAN](https://ju.se/en/personinfo.html?sign=BAGSAN) & [Orcid.org/0000-0002-1846-858X](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1846-858X)

**Conference title:** Doing epistemic solidarity work in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Reflections on communication, diversity and inclusion from a Third Position

**Moderator:** Manuela Gonçalves

**Conference content:**

In this conference, I will go beyond both the politics of recognition (à la Charles Taylor) and the politics of representation (à la Stuart Hall) and push for thinking that privileges *doing epistemic solidarity work* from southern decolonial stances. Taking the think-tank [DoIT](#) (Delaktighet och Inkluderings Tankesmedja, Participation and Inclusion Think-Tank) as an illustration, I will trouble entrenched understandings related to human (i) communication/languageing, (ii) diversity/identity, and (iii) inclusion/integration in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. I will do this by drawing attention to the banal, but potent power of dialogues and multilogues on the one hand, and of bringing together societal sectors that are invested in social justice and empowerment work in democratic societies.

Using illustrations from both DoIT and my long-term ethnographic engagement in multiple academic fields like Gender Studies, Deaf Studies, Ethnicity and Migration Studies, Media and Communication Studies, I will argue for the need to transgress the strong siloed work and dichotomies that persist in the domain of social justice work from the lens of *Academic Social Responsibility, ASR*. The conference will discuss the need for troubling the dichotomized ways in how social justice work gets organized (inclusion/integration versus segregation, general support versus special treatment, etc.), and how human identity is conceptualized in social equity work and in research. Implications from the thinking presented in this conference on doing epistemic solidarity work in democratically aligned societies will be presented in terms of a *Third Position* that decenters mainstream binaries, questions the *whoness*, *whyness*, *whatness* and *howness* of social justice work and supports the sustainable work of teachers, learners, social workers and researchers in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Some pre- and post-conference suggested readings: all OPEN ACCESS**

Bagga-Gupta, S. & Weckström, P. (April 2025). To relearn – A third position as a contribution to an alternative knowledge regime. In S. Bagga-Gupta Ed. *The Palgrave Handbook of Decolonizing the Educational and Language Sciences*. Chapter 20. London: Palgrave.

Bagga-Gupta, S. (2023). Epistemic and Existential, E2-Sustainability. On the need to *un-learn for re-learning* in contemporary spaces. *Frontiers in Communication*. Vol. 8.  
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fcomm.2023.1081115>

Bagga-Gupta, S. & Weckström, P. (2023). Participation as mix(t)able. On being human being in contemporary times. *Zeitschrift für Inklusion-online*. Special Issue: Participation processes in higher education projects in contexts of cultural education. 4-2023. [Anzeige von Participation as mix\(t\)able. On being human being in contemporary times | Zeitschrift für Inklusion \(inklusion-online.net\)](#)

Bagga Gupta, S. & Weckström, P. (Eds.) (2020). *On 3<sup>rd</sup> positions in democratic contexts. An education-for-all, culture-for-all and a society-for-all. Om 3:e positioner i demokratiska kontexter*. Research Report Nr 11. Jönköping University. ISBN-nr: 978-91-88339-22-5.  
<http://hj.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1424077/FULLTEXT01.pdf>