

Ronny Smet
Teacher educator
Karel de Grote University of
Applied Sciences and Arts (KdG)
Antwerp, Belgium
Ronny.smet@kdg.be

June 21, 2025

ATEE secretariat
to the attention of Mariagrazia Tagliabue
email secretariat@atee.education

Subject: application for the position of Vice-President of the ATEE

Personal statement

Dear members of the Administrative Council of ATEE
Dear members of the General Assembly of ATEE
Dear Mrs. Tagliabue

I hereby formally express my strong interest in becoming Vice-President of the Association for Teacher Education in Europe (ATEE). As a long-standing and active member of ATEE, with a passion for teacher education and continuous professional development, I believe that I could contribute meaningfully to the growth and enhancement of our educational community.

My background and experience as RDC-chair, RDC-coordinator and (recently) AC-member, has equipped me with a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities that the ATEE faces today.

I am motivated by the idea of using the insight and expertise I have built up over the years in my role as Vice-President of the ATEE. I want to make a positive impact on the future of teacher education, and I am eager to work alongside our incoming President, Prof. Agnieszka Szplit, whom I will fully support to the best of my abilities and loyally deputize for.

Dear ATEE-members, dear colleagues, I want to thank you for considering my application and I look forward to contribute to our important work as Vice-President of our esteemed association.

Dear Agnieszka, dear Michiel, thank you for asking me to step forward as a candidate, I consider it a great honour.

Dear colleagues of the Administrative Council, thank you for your kind letters of support.

Yours sincerely,

Ronny Smet

I hereby acknowledge that I have read and understood the Statutes and Internal Rules of the Association and that I will respect the Guidelines for the position of Vice-President.

Curriculum vitae

Ronny Smet
Teacher educator
Karel de Grote University of
Applied Sciences and Arts (KdG)
Antwerp, Belgium

Higher education

1984 - 1987

Educational Bachelor of Secondary Education

subjects: Dutch (mother tongue), English and history
Episcopal institute for higher education, Saint-Nicolas, Belgium

1991 - 1993

Bachelor of Linguistics and Literary Studies (Dutch-English)

University of Antwerp, Belgium

1993 - 1995

Master of Linguistics and Literary Studies (Dutch-English)

University of Antwerp, Belgium

Current position

Teacher educator / lecturer

Karel de Grote University of Applied Sciences and Arts , Antwerp, Belgium.

Educational Bachelor of Secondary Education

Main subjects: citizenship, language skills, communicative skills, expression
Supervisor and coach during internships

Overview of past positions

1986-1987	Sint-Lodewijk Institute, Beveren (secondary education)	Secretariat assistant
1987-2001	Technicum Rerum Novarum, Merksem (secondary education)	Teacher in higher secondary education. Subjects: Dutch, English, project work general subjects
1998-to date	Karel de Grote University of Applied Sciences and Arts	Teacher educator / lecturer From September 2009 to September 2016: part-time secondment as educational manager at Theater aan de Stroom, Antwerp

ATEE - profile

Member of ATEE since 2000

2000 – 2010 active member of the RDC Curricula in TE

2016 – 2018 chair of the RDC Curricula in TE

2018 – 2024 chair of the RDC Empowering TE

2016 – 2024 RDC coordinator

February 2025: AC-member

Other relevant work

- Educational brochures with lesson plans / teaching materials / didactics for cultural education for the following productions of *Theater aan de Stroom*:

Season 2009-2010 <i>The Mother of David S</i> , Yvonne Keuls
Season 2010-2011 <i>Bent</i> , Martin Sherman <i>Agnes of God</i> , John Pielmeier
Season 2011-2012 <i>Honor/Respect (Ehrensache)</i> , Lutz Hübner <i>Cardboard Boxes</i> , Tom Lanoye <i>Tartuffe</i> , Molière <i>Groenten uit Balen</i> , Walter van den Broeck <i>Portrait rights</i> , Marc Tijsmans
Season 2012-2013 <i>A view from the Bridge</i> , Arthur Miller <i>Antigone</i> , Jean Anouilh <i>The Assault</i> , Harry Mulisch, adapted for stage by Léon van der Sanden
Season 2013-2014 <i>The Swing</i> , Edna Mazya <i>TILT (Aussetzer)</i> , Lutz Hübner <i>Ars Amatoria</i> , Ovid <i>Holding Hands at Passchendaele</i> , David Lynch
Season 2014-2015 <i>The Dinner</i> , Herman Koch <i>Los</i> , Tom Naegels <i>King Lear</i> , William Shakespeare

- Various contributions/short articles in local educational journals (e.g. Vonk) and presentations during regional TE-conferences. (VELOV/VELON)

Recognition and awards

- *Youth & Civism Prize 2011* for the educational services of *Theater aan de Stroom*.
- The drama and theatre project '*Tales of the Left Bank*' was selected as a Good Practice Example at the Day for Cultural Education of the City of Antwerp, May 2011.
- *Peace Prize 2010-2011* in the category Higher Education, awarded in the Peace Centre of the city of Antwerp for the theatre project '*Our Soldiers. Letters to the Home Front*'.

Other experience

- Member of multiple regional committees for curriculum development in secondary education (region of Flanders).
- Advisor to educational publishing companies.
- Founder of PAVDA; an information and service center for teachers of general subjects in vocational secondary education, also facilitating action research projects for students in urban school contexts.
- Member of various consultation committees in secondary education and higher education.

Language skills

Dutch	Native language
English	Fluent oral and written skills
French	Fluent oral and written skills
German	Basic oral and written skills

Utrecht, 8 June 2025

Dear Members of the ATEE,

By writing this letter, I show my support for the candidature of Ronny Smet as Vice President of the Association of Teacher Education in Europe.

I have full confidence in the dedication and professional qualities of Ronny Smet. He is an experienced teacher educator and practitioner with a proven track record of activities in Belgium and beyond. He plays a crucial role in his university in Antwerp (KdG), but is also having impact on the development of the ATEE, as an AC member and by playing a leading role as RDC coordinator.

Ronny is a bridge builder, fully dedicated and reliable. With these qualities, he acts as a source of inspiration to his colleagues and members of the association.

I am convinced that Ronny, as Vice President of the ATEE, will make an important and positive contribution to the future of the ATEE.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MH', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Michiel Heijnen

Current President of the ATEE

Agnieszka Szplit
Vice-President of the ATEE
Incoming President of the ATEE

Kielce, 14th June 2025

Letter of support for Ronny Smet

Dear Members of the Association for Teacher Education in Europe,

I would like to support Ronny Smet as a candidate for the Vice-President of the Association for Teacher Education in Europe for years 2025-2028.

Ronny has been a long-standing member of the Association and played a great role in the development of the ATEE as the previous RDCs coordinator. Ronny has always shown great dedication and commitment to activities undertaken for the good of the Association. I think that Ronny's nomination will ensure the stability and continuity of the ATEE's policy and mission.

I have known Ronny Smet for many years as an active and enthusiastic ATEE member. He is a creative and active person and a good colleague that we can trust and rely on. Ronny is an excellent academic teacher and a practitioner with great expertise in teacher education.

I am sure that the ATEE will benefit from Ronny's enthusiasm, energy and hard work. I have full confidence that both Ronny's experience and his great involvement in teacher education as well as his spirit of cooperation will contribute meaningfully to the further development of the ATEE.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Agnieszka Szplit".

Current Vice-President

Incoming President of the ATEE

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter in support of my colleague, Ronny Smet, whom I had the pleasure of working with in the last few months.

In our collaboration within the context of the Administrative Council I appreciate Ronny as valued and dedicated colleague. Ronny has proven to be a loyal member of ATEE, who, based on a solid vision, is committed to the quality of teacher education and what that requires of teachers and teacher educators. I witnessed his sense of humor during the meetings as well.

I am confident that he will have impact on the development of our association and he will inspire our members and others involved in teacher education.

Sincerely,

Drs. Petra van Beveren

Programme Director Professional Development School,
HU University of Applied Sciences Utrecht

Onur Ergunay
Izmir Democracy University
Faculty of Education
Izmir / Turkiye

Date: June 19th, 2025

Association for Teacher Education in Europe
Administrative Council

LETTER OF SUPPORT

I am pleased to express my full support for Mr. Ronny Smet for the vice-presidency of the Association for Teacher Education in Europe.

He will be quite an appropriate candidate for the position with his organizational skills and long-standing service to the ATEE as a member and RDC coordinator, which is a concrete sign of his necessary dedication and personal qualities to contribute to the ATEE's progress in its future endeavors.

Kind regards,



Onur Ergunay
Assoc. Prof. of Curriculum and Instruction
Izmir Democracy University, Izmir / Turkiye

Member of Administrative Council
Association for Teacher Education in Europe

oergunay@gmail.com

Olena Shyyan
Prof. Dr.
AC ATEE member ,
Department of Educational Policy
Lviv In-service Teacher Training Institute,
Ukraine
olshyyan2@gmail.com

Association for Teacher Education in Europe: ATEE
Ms. Mariagrazia Tagliabue, Head of Office at ATEE
secretariat@atee.education
email: secretariat@atee.education

Dear Ms. Tagliabue,

I am delighted to write a letter in support of Ronny Smet for the position of Vice President of ATEE.

I have known Ronny for many years and admire his full dedication and involvement in the life and development of ATEE as a member of our association. His experience in the field of education and previous work as an RDC coordinator and member of the ATEE Administrative Council make him highly qualified for this position.

I would also like to note such personal qualities of Ronny as the ability to cooperate in a team, to support colleagues, and to create environment with a positive climate among members, which will certainly be beneficial to the productive and successful activities of ATEE AC in the forthcoming years .

Sincerely,



Prof., Dr. Olena Shyyan,
member of ATEE AC




Dr. Jaap van Lakerveld
Former director of
PLATO, Educational Research Centre
Leiden University
The Netherlands

Leiden, 23-06-2025,

Dear colleagues,

This letter, I, Jaap van Lakerveld write to indicate that I fully support the candidacy of Ronny Smet for the vice presidency of the ATEE. I know and appreciate how much he has meant for the ATEE so far. I trust he will be prepared and devoted to serve the ATEE with the same devotion and commitment in the position as vice president and eventually as president.

Yours,


Jaap van Lakerveld

June 29, 2025

**Letter of Support for the Candidacy of Ronny Smet
for Vice President of the ATEE**

I am writing this letter to express my full support for the candidacy of Ronny Smet for the position of Vice President of the European Association of Teacher Education - ATEE.

I have known Ronny for several years and had the pleasure of working alongside him during his tenure as Chair of the Research and Development Communities chairs.

Ronny is a highly professional individual who demonstrates an exceptional ability to promote important initiatives and inspire both action and critical thinking among colleagues. He consistently leads with integrity, collaboration, and a good sense of humor.

Throughout the years, I have personally encouraged Ronny on several occasions to join the ATEE AC, recognizing his deep commitment to maintaining the high quality and professional standards of the Association's work.

I was therefore very pleased when he joined the AC a few months ago, and I am confident that in his new role, he will make a significant contribution to shaping the direction and activities of ATEE.

In my view, Ronn is the right person for this leadership role. I wholeheartedly wish him great success in his new position and in advancing teacher education across Europe.

Sincerely,

Leah Shagrir

ATEE AC member