

Message from the IDoESE Co-Chairs at ESEIW 2026

Welcome to the International Doctoral Symposium on Empirical Software Engineering – IDoESE 2026, part of the Empirical Software Engineering International Week (ESEIW) 2026.

Empirical research is the backbone of most sciences and is of growing importance in software engineering. The Empirical Software Engineering community has significantly advanced the state of the art in this area. Researchers now apply a variety of empirical techniques, but choosing the correct methods and applying them to answer interesting research questions is still an art.

The objective of the doctoral symposium was to provide early- and mid-stage PhD students with a forum to discuss their work, ask questions of senior researchers, and receive constructive feedback on their PhD topics and research plans. Beyond providing feedback on their current research, IDoESE has a strong formative purpose: to help students develop the critical thinking, methodological rigor, and research skills needed to become high-quality researchers in Empirical Software Engineering. Submissions had to address a software engineering topic, such as software process, requirements, design, coding practice, verification methods, software security engineering, software metrics, human factors in software development, and empirical research methods for software engineering.

This year, we received 7 submissions for the submission deadline on 3rd July 2026, all of which we ultimately accepted to be discussed at the Symposium. Notifications were sent out on 3rd August 2026. Each paper was reviewed by three experts from the Empirical Software Engineering community. Submitted work had to describe the student's dissertation work and had to address a software engineering topic that uses empirical research methods.

We are delighted to present the IDoESE 2026 proceedings, and we look forward to seeing you at the Symposium at ESEIW 2026 in Munich, Germany!

Organising Committee:

Claudia Ayala, **IDoESE Co-Chair**
Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Spain

Grischa Liebel, **IDoESE Co-Chair**
Reykjavik University, Iceland

Program Committee:

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Maya Daneva, *University of Twente, Netherlands*
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