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Critically Drawing on EMI Systematic Reviews: A Call for More Responsible Research

With the rapid expansion of EMI research, there is an inherent need for more critical reflection on basing this research on systematic reviews, such as the oft-cited one by Macaro et al. (2018) and other secondary research. I argue that there is cause for concern in the EMI research that cites systematic reviews as sources of research agenda or methodological advice without explicit criticality. EMI research should identify specifically how and why the calls made in these systematic reviews were made and construct their research accordingly. I conclude with suggestions for future EMI research, particularly that researchers take a holistic view of what EMI research is in terms of methodology, researcher identity, and which questions are important.