



## PARIS CONFERENCE 2017

# Social Work Education in Europe: Challenging Boundaries, Promoting a Sustainable Future

Paris, France

Université Paris Descartes

26th - 29th June 2017

- pre-conferences on Monday 26 June 2017 -



under the patronage  
of the French National  
Commission for UNESCO



### CALL FOR ABSTRACT [\(more information\)](#)

The Scientific Committee warmly invites you to give your contribution to the 2<sup>nd</sup> EUROPEAN SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION CONFERENCE, by submitting abstracts in French or in English within the following conference themes and formats.

In general we wish to receive inspiring and innovative contributions related to experiences, theoretical reflections and research, on the following themes:

1. Prospects, methodology, research and innovatory practice in social work education
2. Development of curriculum and course contents in social work
3. Ethical issues: teaching ethics and being ethical teachers
4. Structural and organizational conditions and professional status

***NB: All participants and contributors to the conference must to register. When submitting their abstract contributors will pre-register pending confirmation of acceptance.***

## PRESENTATION OF THE CONFERENCE

As a human rights profession and academic discipline, social work is directed at promoting social change and development, social cohesion and the empowerment of people, by combining scientific and indigenous knowledge with principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility and respect for diversities (IASSW, IFSW, 2014). The changing context of practice challenges social work to developing new forms and methods of intervention which will be effective in enhancing individual and collective well-being. Teachers are confronted with the need to prepare future social workers to address these challenges in a meaningful and effective manner without compromising the fundamental values of the profession. However, the current situation of social work education is bounded by a number of internal and external limits and constraints.

The 2017 EASSW and UNAFORIS Paris conference aims to provide a forum for the discussion of these issues while devising and formulating new pedagogies aimed at addressing their specific implications. The conference aims at creating a forum for the sharing of experiences and knowledge between different generations of social work educators and researchers, as well as with social work professionals, students and service users.

## FOUR TYPES OF PRESENTATIONS

### 1) ORAL PAPER PRESENTATION ([more information](#))



You can propose an abstract for an oral presentation. Oral presentations will be presented during **parallel sessions**, articulated with the main themes of the conference. In the abstract you are asked to indicate the themes of the conference your paper refers to. Oral paper abstracts should be a *maximum of 300 words*.

### 2) POSTER PRESENTATION ([more information](#))



Individual presentation can also be made through a poster presentation (panel, kakemono, Rollup). Audio-visual presentations are included under the heading of poster presentations. They will be shown in dedicated spaced for the whole duration of the conference. In the abstract you are asked to indicate the themes of the conference your “poster” refers to. Poster abstracts should be a *maximum of 300 words*.

### 3) WORKSHOP ([more information](#))



**Workshops** are proposed and conducted by a group of people of at least 3 or 4 persons. They are intended to be thoroughly interactive, providing a way to boost considerable participation and discussion from those attending. They will deal with recent developments in subjects relevant to the conference theme, may have an explicit agenda of training participants on a given topic, or of generating a discussion and sharing ideas around key contemporary issues. A workshop can also be used as a basis for creating a group for future collaboration. Abstracts for workshop sessions should be no more than **600 words** in length and include a description of the content and how it will be covered (pedagogical methods, audio-visual presentation, etc.). Preference will be given by the scientific committee to workshops that will enhance active participation and involvement of the participants.

### 4) SYMPOSIUM ([more information](#))



**Symposia** are a group of at least **four** coordinated presentations, on a specific topic. They are designed to present the most advanced and debated issues on a given topic. If applying for a symposium, please submit an **overall abstract of maximum 500 words for the symposium session** that describes the symposium theme and its importance and **300 words for each symposium paper with the name of the presenter**. Preference will be given by the scientific committee to symposia that demonstrate cohesiveness across presentations. Symposia will be accepted or rejected in total (when accepted, they are self-organized in coordination with the steering committee), i.e., abstracts will not normally be accepted independently.

**SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT  
NOW**

## PRESENTATION OF THE THEMES OF THE CONFERENCE

### 1) Prospects, methodology, research and innovatory practice in social work education

This topic will focus on social work pedagogies, e.g. teaching methods, techniques and skills most suitable for responding to challenges of tomorrow, including structural and organizational issues that lead to the adoption of new improved methods of social work education and training. Possible themes may include:

- ➔ Effective methods of teaching and learning, and particularly the use of new technologies included open and online education
- ➔ Involving service users, students and practitioners in the process of teaching and learning
- ➔ Connecting practice, theory and research in social work education.

### 2) Development of curriculum and course contents in social work

The second topic is focused on the body of knowledge, skills and values of social work courses related to curriculum development. These refer especially to guidance given by the Melbourne definition about empowerment, participation, working with communities, the concept of resilience, global citizenship, secularism, etc.

Contributions aimed at the following themes are welcomed:

- a. What content should be considered essential when defining the core competences of social workers at all academic levels including bachelor and master and in relation to a variety of professional profiles?
- b. Exchanging and comparing the content of social work education, exploring whether there is a shared and universal body of social work knowledge in Europe and what indigenous knowledge is related to the national and local context.

### 3) Ethical issues: teaching ethics and being ethical teachers

The third topic is focused on ethical issues, considered at two levels:

- a. The ethical content of social work. Here as elsewhere, both experience and research based presentations are welcome. They could respond to questions about the enhancement and the ethical development of social workers in the future, their ability to detect the ethical aspects of situations, to develop themselves as good practitioners, able to constantly and critically reflect upon the agenda of their professional action and that of their agency. A special focus will be given to open and welcoming relationships with people with differences, whatever their cultural or personal differences may be. Important themes include questions about political aspects, health, relationship to work, relations between inhabitants of the same country, between continents, how people are welcomed, what can be renewed and what partnerships are possible with countries of origin.
- b. Secondly: the ethical standards in teaching. Presentations could discuss the issue of which ethical commitments must be made by social work educators, or aspired to, and how they are translated into action.

### 4) Structural and organizational conditions and professional status

The fourth topic is dedicated to structural and organizational issues as well as the status of professional social work educators.

In this topic, we hope to receive contributions on:

- a. How to develop educational organizations as learning communities and on continuing education for social work teachers
- b. Conditions and situations of social work teachers in Europe (wages and salaries, types of contracts, conditions linked to being or having been a social work practitioner, the process obtaining academic recognition ; forms of advocacy and defence of interests of social work educators (relations with professional bodies)
- c. Reflections and experiences related to structural constraints and the conditions essential for developing the quality of teaching
- d. The impact of education in a rapidly changing labour market of social work in Europe: what are the work opportunities for graduates? How are the market and demands of entrepreneurship taken into account

## DEADLINES

- 🌐 **6<sup>th</sup> July 2016** : First call for Abstracts
- 🌐 **15<sup>th</sup> October 2016** : Deadline for reception of abstracts
- 🌐 **20<sup>th</sup> November 2016** : Notification of reception and conformity
- 🌐 **15<sup>th</sup> November 2016 and the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2017** : Abstract reviewing process by the scientific committee and contact with authors of submissions needing revision or not accepted
- 🌐 **1st February 2017** Abstract acceptance: (and validation of the registration of the contributors by payment of the fees)

To submit your abstract, visit the platform  
**PARIS CONFERENCE 2017**

<http://evenements.unaforis.eu/en>

**PARIS 2017**

### EASSW-UNAFORIS 2017 European Conference

Social Work Education in Europe:  
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JUNE 27, 28 AND 29, 2017

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EASSW - European Association of Schools of Social Work

**UNAFORIS**  
Union Nationale des Acteurs de l'Formation et de Recherche en Intervention Sociale

**KEY DATES**  
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**ABSTRACTS**  
Deadline for reception of abstracts: 15th October 2016  
Submit your abstract >

**REGISTRATION**  
Registration is now opened  
Register >

THE 2017 CONFERENCE IN PARIS IS ORGANIZED IN JUNE 27, 28 AND 29, 2017 BY EASSW AND UNAFORIS AT THE UNIVERSITY RENÉ DESCARTES IN PARTNERSHIP AND UNDER THE HIGH PATRONAGE OF UNESCO. PRE-CONFERENCES WILL BE HELD IN JUNE 26, 2017.

In the recent years European societies have faced dramatic challenges. The financial and economic crisis and its' political implications have led many European countries to implement severe austerity policies. In many countries, these measures have led to dismantling of the welfare state creating a new political and societal context for social work and for social work education. These changes affect not only welfare policy, but also create challenges encompassing many areas (economic, political, socio-cultural, ecological).

Contact for help: [eassw2017@unaforis.eu](mailto:eassw2017@unaforis.eu)