

Workshop: What is Transnational Social Work Research? Designs, Methods and Methodologies in Transition

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Are you doing or planning research across different nation-states? Or are you dealing with a target group, (e.g. migrants, refugees,...) who exhibits transnational practices (e.g. mobilities, identities, networks) in their day-to-day worlds? Or are you focussing on the organisations of social work in social services or practice research and are encountering their challenges with the increasing flows of people, social relationships and organisations that transcend national borders?

Then this workshop could be of interest for you!

The workshop is organized by the newly established special interest group “Transnational Social Work” (TRANSOW). It aims to invite current members and interested participants to network on the topic of a transnational approach to social work research.

The interactive workshop will be based on theoretical inputs on what is Transnational Social Work research as well as on short empirical project presentations of TRANSOW members and others from Norway, Ireland, Israel und Belgium, which will reflect their designs, methods and methodological approaches. We also invite participants to share information about their ongoing research or ideas for new studies. What research designs and methods are suitable for research in transnational social work settings? What transitions and adaptations are necessary and what special challenges in transnational contexts can occur? What theoretical challenges are implied?

This workshop provides an open space to jointly engage in the discussion about the theoretical and empirical implications of Transnational Social Work research. It will provide an insight into the wide field of transnational research in social work as well as an insight on how empirical research across national contexts can be conceptualized and realized.

The workshop will also provide a forum for the exchange of ideas for future collaboration like the planning of conferences or publications projects.

We will bring together researchers from the field of Transnational Social Work in order to develop the circle and activities of the special interest group “TRANSOW” in this emerging research area further.

Presentations:

1. Meetings on the Margins: Irregular Migrants and ‘Regular’ Social Workers
Turid Misje, Centre of Diaconia and Professional Practice, VID Specialized University, Norway
2. Child Rearing Practices: Cross-Cultural Perspectives of African Asylum Seeking Families and Child Protection Social Workers in Ireland
Dr. Colletta Dalikeni, Dundalk Institute of Technology, Ireland
3. Contextualizing the Relationship between Eritrean Refugees and Social Workers: The Case of Israel and Germany
Lior Birger, Doctoral Program "Human Rights under Pressure - Ethics, Law, and Politics" (HR-UP), The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel
4. The Organization of Social Work in Addressing Victims of Sexual Trafficking: The Case of Denmark
Dr. Mette Rømer, Aalborg University, Denmark
5. Transnationality as a Key Topic for Social Work: Emerging Practices in Belgium
Dr. Mieke Schrooten, Odisee University College, Belgium

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