



## **SOUTHEAST EUROPE ACADEMIC WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP NETWORK**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> International summer school**

#### **“The role of social work in policy practice in 21<sup>st</sup> century”**

*2-5 September, 2024*

*Sofia, Bulgaria*

*Dear academic community of social work educators, researchers and students,*

*We live in furious times of neoliberalism, new public management, new and old wars and ecological disasters. Educators, practitioners and the entire system of social services need extensive support from governments and their social policies to be effective. The discipline and profession of social work can only thrive and stand up for its professional and scientific principles and ethics if governments and interagency support systems are funded and universal, accessible to all people. Social work researchers are also crucial for any society that wants to understand social problems, people's needs and rights, as well as new inequalities and current societal challenges.*

*The third international summer school organized by the Southeast Europe academic women's leadership network /SEEAWLN/ will address these old and new challenges and therefore invites researchers, educators and social work students to participate in days of collaborative exploration of the future of social work and policy practice today.*

#### ***Subthemes of the summer school:***

1. Current challenges in social work education, research, and practice
  - impact on social policy
  - social workers as change agents
  - best practices and promotion of the profession
2. Ecological awareness in social work curricula, social services, and activism

***Chairs of the summer school:***

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rossitsa Simeonova, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, Co-Chair

Prof. Dr. Darja Zaviršek, University of Ljubljana, Co-Chair

Prof. Dr. Barbara W. Shank, Honorary Co-Chair

***Host organizer:*** Bulgarian Association of Social Work Education (BASWE)

***Local host and venue:*** Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, Faculty of Education, 15 Tzar Osvoboditel Blvd, Sofia, Bulgaria

***Presenters:*** Professors from SEEAWLN and US universities

***Participants:*** PhD/MA social work students from SEE and US

**Program overview**

*Official opening* (official greetings, cultural performance)

*Opening panel: Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training: Education Policy.* Prof. Barbara W. Shank, Prof. Anamaria Campanini, IASSW. Moderator: Dr. Julia Watkins

*Presentations* of SEEAWLN senior members and professors from US universities (format: 30 min. + 15 min. discussion)

*Panel “Working with media and local authorities”* – journalists and social work practitioners discuss good and bad practices on the topic from SEE countries (90 min). Moderator: Prof. Dr. Darja Zaviršek

*Panel “Opportunities and challenges of career in social work academia”* - discussion with junior members of the SEEAWLN. Moderator: Prof. Dr. Barbara W. Shank

*Workshop for students “Photo voice of Sofia from social work perspective”*

*Other assignments for students:* providing feedback to the presenters in pairs.

*Visits at social work organizations in Sofia: “Animus Association” Foundation, Bulgarian Helzinki Committee*

*Cultural and academic visits* (Sofia tour, visit to Rilla Monastery, visit to American University in Blagoevgrad, presentation of the president of AUBG )

**Special appreciation to Dennis and Julia Watkins Foundation for their generous financial support of the summer school!**

### **List of presenters and presentation topics**

Prof. Dr. Barbara W. Shank, Prof. Dr. Annamaria Campanini, IASSW

*Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training: Education Policy*

Prof. Dr. Annamaria Campanini, IASSW

*Social Work Engagement in Policy Practice: Insights from Italian Research*

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jane McPherson, University of Georgia, USA

*How can we protect and promote social work ethics in this “furious” moment?*

Prof. Ann Petrilu, Prof. Dr. Sarah Bexell, University of Denver, USA

*Ecological Justice: Psychological Ramifications & Curricula Considerations*

Prof. Dr. Kim Strom, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

*Title to be confirmed*

Prof. Dr. Darja Zaviršek, University of Ljubljana

*Title to be confirmed*

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vjollca Krasniqi, University of Prishtina, Kosovo

*Human Rights and Social Work in Southeast Europe (workshop)*

Prof. Dr. Sanela Bašić, University of Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina

*Energy Poverty – A New Task for Social Work Policy Practice?*

Prof. Dr. Sanela Šadić, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anida Dudić Sijamija, University of Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina

*Understanding and perception of family values among youth in modern Bosnian society*

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Elona Dhëmbo, Artenida Duraku, University of Tirana, Albania

*Integrating Interdisciplinarity in Environmental Education for Sustainable Development*

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Marsela Dauti & Assoc. Prof. Dr. Erika Bejko

*Influencing social policies: Social workers assess the effectiveness of their strategies*

Prof. Dr. Gordana Berc, University of Zagreb, Croatia

*Third dimension of the academic community – example from University of Zagreb*

Prof. Dr. Suzana Bornarova, University SS Cyril and Methodius, , Republic of North Macedonia

*The Contribution from Social Work Educators and Practitioners in the Reforms of the Social*

*Protection System – Macedonian experiences*

Prof. Fr. Theano Kallinikaki, Democritus University of Thrace, Greece

*Tracing the social work impact in policy practice for children*

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Oksana Boiko, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nadiia Kabachenko, National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Ukraine

*The role of social work academics in the social policy in Ukraine/or Social policy and social work in promoting social changes*

Dr. Kaltrina Kusari, University of Calgary, Canada

*Social work with migrant populations: A postcolonial transnational feminist lens*