SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION: THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL

SPECIAL EDITION PROPOSAL

THE GLOBAL STANDARDS FOR SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION AND TRAINING: IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS, SUCCESSES AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Social Work Education: The International Journal invites submissions for a special edition examining the implementation progress, successes and future directions arising from the Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training (2020).

The Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training (Global Standards) serves as an adaptable international framework designed to strengthen pedagogical practices, professional benchmarks, and institutional structures in social work education worldwide. Since 2020, the Global Standards have been implemented across diverse geopolitical and cultural contexts. This momentum was amplified by a global engagement with the launch of the Global Standards E-learning platform in 2023. As the profession navigates a complex landscape - addressing post-pandemic adaptations and responding to urgent challenges such as environmental justice, digital pedagogy, and decolonisation of curricula, the Global Standards must dynamically evolve to capture these shifting realities.

This special issue seeks to examine these emerging developments, offering critical insights that will steer the future direction and responsiveness of the global framework. By synthesising theoretical insights, empirical research, and case studies across diverse institutional and educational landscapes, this edition will critically examine the dynamics of Global Standards' implementation, highlighting the innovations, challenges, and adaptations required to align local systems with global aspirations. Ultimately, drawing from success stories and lessons learned, this special edition aims to identify strategies to enhance the adoption of the Global Standards, and foster dialogue on the future of social work education.

Potential Topics:

- o Pedagogical innovations aligned with the Global Standards.
- o Benchmarking and accreditation processes in diverse regions.
- o E-learning platforms and digital equity in standardised education.
- o Decolonising curricula while adhering to global frameworks.
- o Ethical dilemmas in transnational practice education.
- o Environmental justice integration into social work curricula.
- o Contextual factors for implementing Global Standards.

Key Dates:

Call for Abstracts	December 2025 – January 2026
Abstract Submission	30 January 2026
Authors Notified	March 2026
Submission of Full Manuscript	31 August 2026
Reviews and Revised Manuscript Submissions	November 2026 – February 2027
Final Manuscript Submission	March 2027
Target Publication Date	October 2027

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Submission Guidelines:

1. Interested authors should submit a 200-word abstract, a list of authors and affiliations, and a short biography for each author (no more than 100 words). This information should be submitted to Prof. Wing Hong Chui at wing-hong.chui@polyu.edu.hk by **30 January 2026**. The guest editors will review all submitted abstracts and invite potential authors to submit their manuscripts to the special issue for publication consideration.

2. Authors should submit their manuscripts to the guest editor via the Submission Site of the Journal for peer review indicating that the submission is for the Special Issue. The submission deadline is **31 August 2026**.

3. All submitted manuscripts should reflect research and scholarship that has been conducted in an ethical manner and will undergo double-blind peer review. The formatting, referencing and word count should carefully follow the guidelines stipulated by Social Work Education: The International Journal:
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