Working Together for a Better ICSW

Professor Antonio López Peláez, Executive Director of ICSW and Professor of Social Work and Social Services at the National Distance Education University (UNED) (Spain)

Dear ICSW members, friends, and interested readers,
Welcome to the August 2023 issue of our newsletter.

Since 2020, we are trying to make the Newsletter a loudspeaker to present initiatives, challenges and good practices carried out by ICSW members. In this August 2023 issue, I would like to thank colleagues from the Latin American region for the articles they have sent us for this issue of the ICSW Newsletter. It is important to give a voice to all ICSW members, and from all points of view. The different models of social welfare, the challenges we face, and the good practices in the field of social welfare, encourage us in our projects to contribute to the improvement of our complex and superdiverse societies. Thank you very much for your articles.

Over the last few months we have launched a very important initiative for ICSW: a conference on social protection in Africa, which will allow us to jointly elaborate, from the bottom up, a declaration on social protection in Africa, which we hope will contribute decisively to the preparation and development of the next World Summit for Social Development in the year 2025, when we will celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen (1995).

For the past 100 years, ICSW globally and the different ICSW regions in Africa have worked tirelessly to promote social welfare in Africa. *The ICSW International Seminar on Social Policy and Social Protection in Africa* (28th and 29th September 2023,Windhoek, Namibia) addresses the main challenges facing social policies in the African Region, and the key role of knowledge-based organizations such as ICSW. The special focus is on the role of social policy experts, social workers, and humanitarian aid professionals in the different contexts of the African continent. Special attention is paid to the challenges faced by African societies after Covid-19, and the most successful strategies that we can implement in the immediate future, giving citizens a voice and presenting good practices of social inclusion in different areas, from child protection to food security, healthcare and so on. Under the global framework of the SDGs, the Global Agenda, and the thematic priorities addressed by the UN Secretary General's Report "Our Common Agenda", this seminar presents diagnoses, proposals, and good practices that are carried out in Africa and that can serve to redesign the social

policies of the 21st century. The aim is to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs by 2030 and the social dimension of sustainable development beyond with the focus on African Regional priorities.

I would like to thank the city of Windhoek for their support in financing this seminar. And I would especially like to thank the commitment and dedication of Petronella Masabene, the president of ICSW East and Southern Africa, in the organization of this event that will take place in September 2023, and of which we will send you all the information to be able to participate physically and virtually.

Take care and stay healthy!

Social policies in Latin America and the post-pandemic challenges

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Social policies in Latin American countries need to be understood within the set of characteristics that lay the foundations of our continent. One premise is to understand Latin America as a complex and differentiated whole, with national specificities, i.e., to understand that we have unity and identities, albeit with diversity and peculiarities. The social reproduction of inequalities mixes particularities, such as racial, regional and cultural aspects, with economic determinations of structural significance.

These determinations reproduce historical trends that were aggravated during the last three years of the pandemic, such as an increase in poverty and indigence, the concentration of wealth, environmental destruction and unemployment.

The report entitled 'Social Panorama 2022', published by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), indicates that 201 million people (32.1% of the total population of the region) live in poverty, of which 82 million (13.1%) live in extreme poverty as compared to 2021, due to the combined effects of economic growth, labor market dynamics and inflation. These statistics show that there will be 15 million more people living in poverty than before the pandemic, and the number of people in extreme poverty will be 12 million higher than in 2019.

As in previous years, ECLAC indicates that the incidence of poverty runs higher among certain population groups in the region: more than 45% of children and teenagers live in poverty, and the poverty rate for women aged 20 to 59 is higher than that for men in all countries in the region. Likewise, the poverty rate is considerably higher amongst the Indigenous and Afro-descendant populations.

Latin America was hit by the longest education blackout in the international realm -educational institutions remained closed an average of 70 weeks,

as compared to 41 weeks in the rest of the world – thus deepening the pre-existing inequalities in terms of access, inclusion and educational quality. During this period, inequality in the access to connectivity, equipment and digital skills was one of the key limitations for educational continuity. In 2021, in eight out of twelve countries in the region, over 60% of the poor under the age of 18 had no connectivity at home.

According to data from Report No. 26 of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the International Labor Organization (ILO), the crisis generated by the pandemic had the most significant impact on female employment, with the participation rate of women suffering a setback equivalent to more than 18 years. The slow recovery in the activities that concentrate female employment besides the heavier burden laid on the women who care for the sick, the children and the elderly help explain this marked difference in the dynamics of their overall participation rate.

In this scenario, it becomes necessary to count on intersectoral efforts with social policies that link the educational offers with sanitary, labor and social protection and also promote mechanisms to guarantee the social welfare of the population.

Given this context, society as a whole is striving to expand programs of assistance and income transfer, which represent the main trends in social protection. On the other hand, the social movements have gained momentum reaching achievements in the field of human rights, especially the feminist, ecological and Indigenous peoples' struggles, pointing to a horizon of political change, which is already materializing in several countries, with more democratic and social characteristics.

Human Rights in Latin America, as seen from the perspective of aging.

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The main challenges posed by modern society are directly related to our survival. Certainly, the demands generated by the pandemic have led us to rethink our daily tasks. This post-pandemic time is one of creation and renewal, and the collective will show us the strategies to confront this scenario that challenges us so very deeply.

Together we are stronger to build a more effective and wide-ranging social protection network!

Universality and other aspects

One of the key premises in the field of human rights is that which states 'all rights for all people.' It implies understanding that beyond the idea of universality, there is the need to recognize every person as a subject of rights. This entitlement does not refer only to a type of appointment or role, instead, it involves some relevant transformations

in the relationship of the individual vis-à-vis the societies, mainly, the States that represent them. The change works both ways because just as the societies must regard themselves as subjects of unique and different rights, the States are obliged to guarantee the recognition of differences on equal terms, for all people without exception, and the overall fruition of all rights. This is a fundamental cultural transformation that must be accompanied by an equitable redistribution of resources, as only this will improve living conditions, especially for the people in those groups known as vulnerable.

In practical terms, this context is not easy. Our capitalist systems do not hold the welfare of people as one of their main objectives, even less so in the case of vulnerable groups. They do not think about survival in decent conditions, but rather maintain the 'culture of privilege and inequality' (Bárcena, ECLAC, 2020) based on political and economic power. The latter, in turn, has been nurtured by corruption, among other determining factors. Undeniably, the main problem has been, and continues to be, the lack of leadership on the part of the States as they have become subsidiary to the markets.

This being the case, the following question arises: how can rights be guaranteed in systems in which the guidelines of what is known as 'the market' prevail and are geared towards economic profit rather than the people's welfare?

In what we have seen so far, "the struggles for recognition take place in a world of exceeding material inequalities as regards: income and property, access to paid work, education, health care and leisure time, but also, and more obviously, as regards calorie intake and exposure to environmental toxicity...this material inequality is on the rise in most countries around the world..." (Fraser/n.d.)[1]

In the case of Latin America, the situation is quite clear. In fact, this continent has been specifically characterized by inequality in all senses, and unfortunately, this is still the case. Recent projections on poverty and extreme poverty echo this[2].

In any case, if there is inequality, there can certainly be no justice. In this regard, Fraser states that, presently, justice requires the dimensions of 'redistribution and recognition,' and that the relationship between the two needs to be analyzed. Additionally, it is necessary to conceptualize cultural recognition and social equality for both to combine rather than confront each other, as is the case with economic inequality and lack of cultural respect that are interwoven and mutually supportive. According to the same author, this means that in the political context of the present century, the claims referring to the recognition of differences encourage the struggles of groups mobilized under different banners (nationality, gender, race, sexuality).

By that same logic, one should consider that beyond the identity of a group here and now, this recognition should be addressed across the board, notably as regards the relationship between aging and old age. This is related not only to the elderly as a specific population group[3], which certainly has its rights[4]. All groups include people who are

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[1] *¿De la redistribución al reconocimiento? Dilemas de la Justicia en la era postsocialista*. Article based on a lecture presented at the University of Michigan in 1995. Revised and expanded, it was included as the first chapter of the book published on this subject in 2006. Morata Ed.

[2] The report 'Social Panorama of Latina America and the Caribbean 2022' by ECLAC indicates that 201 million people in the region live in poverty (32.1% of the total population), and of these 82 million (13.1%) live in extreme poverty. (UN. ECLAC, Santiago, May 2023)

[3] Here we also refer to '*intersectionality*.' For that reason, we speak of active old 'ages' *(vejeces)*

[4] This discussion is presently very relevant. The Interamerican Convention

aging, in a different, unique and irreversible manner in a world of inequalities made worse by specific interests, and these inequalities become even more evident as age increases. This reflection must be critical and without any cover-up to avoid emphasizing the idea that only by thinking of a happy world, leveled by the market, will there be a structural and fundamental change. This reflection must also lead to the development of a more inclusive conceptualization, with effective alternatives.

It is essential that we achieve a fundamental transformation because the violation of rights is still quite clear. Without going any further, there is the problem of social security. Retirement has become ever more difficult, and those who reach it receive increasingly lower amounts. There is also the area of health, in which, far from people enjoying universal access to quality services at all levels, from prevention to specialized rehabilitation, they basically depend on their capacity to purchase services, procedures and medication that are increasingly more expensive.

Ideals versus realities

Undoubtedly, both guaranteed health care as well as economic security should be part of our daily life. This should also be true as regards access to water, energy and, overall, the possibility to live in cities and communities that are not only friendly but also sustainable, as indicated by the United Nations in the SDGs for the year 2030. By the way, we are already approaching the year of reference and the goals are still far from becoming a reality.

ECLAC has identified the 20th century as that of population growth and the 21st century as one of population aging in Latin America. Based on this definition, different policies have been developed. One cannot deny that during this time great progress has been made in the area

of human rights, both in overall rights – especially civil and political rights, ESCRs – as well as the more specific ones for different population and racial groups, LGBTQI+, and even for nature and animals.

However, in the different countries in the region, paradoxically, people have lost some acquired rights. These are the same rights about which it was claimed that once recognized, they could not be eliminated or transformed, not only because of their legitimacy stated in national rules and laws, but also as a result of the commitments made by the different States in their international treaties and agreements. Such rights have been lost under the excuse of fiscal crises[5], although, at the same time, there have been large concentrations of private capital, thanks to the support of the States themselves.

Of course, one cannot disregard the reality of the crisis generated by the pandemic. According to the experts, Latin America and the Caribbean were precisely the areas most affected by the pandemic, although this should not serve as an excuse. Perhaps there was a positive side to the pandemic, if one may put it this way, which was that of having uncovered the reality of everything the governments were hiding in relation to health, education and employment, amongst other areas for which they are entirely responsible[6]. Their

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on the Protection of Human Rights of the Elderly was only approved in 2015, and the UN is still working to make it international.

[5] The Colombian case is a particularly good and recent example. While it ratified the Interamerican Convention on the Protection of Human Rights of the Elderly (on September 27, 2022) with wide

diffusion of the fact, the document also registers a series of conditions for its compliance. See OAS website.

[6] The 2022/23 report by Amnesty International "*The status of Human Rights around the World*" published this year states in relation to the region: "Three years after the outbreak of COVID-19, the region of

interrelated reinforcement would have laid the foundation for more complete responses.

Thus, it is now more urgent and unavoidable than ever to reflect on ways to make all rights effective for all people, by implementing new public policies that include the interrelation of these various approaches (differential, gender, etc.) with the different present and future scenarios, though always with aging as an approach across the board. It may seem obvious, but experience indicates that it is necessary to clarify the following. The concept of aging must be understood as a process between time of conception and death, including all stages of life and not only old age, although many decisions are still made this way, sometimes for the sake of convenience.

It is also necessary to recognize active old age, or active old 'ages' (*vejeces*), bearing in mind that this is the time when it becomes more evident that each person is unique and different, even as part of a group regardless of which it may be: LGBTIQ+, indigenous people, people of color, migrants or any other, including heterosexuals. Above all, one must understand that as people age they continue to be the same person (with the changes inherent to the passage of time, which are also unique and different), with the same rights (that do not necessarily diminish with age), yet at the mercy of an era that changes at an increasing pace under the impositions of the 'market' and 'technological development' that create new needs and constraints.

It is worth noting also that these two key protagonists – to name them somehow – are making two negative ideas of old age become real, although they are NOT by any means characteristic of this stage of life. Instead, they tend to become a reality within the specific conditions imposed on today´s youth. This has to do with illness and disability regarded as normal or natural states. The excessive use of medicines and procedures (especially aesthetic ones)[7] and the new ways of working from home that make people be 'too static' in front of the computer or cell phone, in increasingly smaller living quarters, are quickly making this a reality. As if it were not enough, there is the conviction that the best diet is one which includes supplements (produced in chemical laboratories) and that the best way to live is alone or accompanied by a pet. The latter, by the way, has led to the rise of a specific market niche.

This does not mean that we should disregard the problems related to illness and the need for care, depending on the circumstances. On the contrary. This is perhaps one of the most urgent facts that currently demand immediate responses, although it may be difficult to address, since developing national care systems is something the different States reject so as to avoid fiscal costs[8].

To be seriously considered

Several final questions would remain for the elderly

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the Americas still suffered the devastating consequences of the pandemic. The authorities could not guarantee access to the basic rights of food, water and health for

millions of people, and the health care systems were still significantly underfunded …

Inflation aggravated economic difficulties and, according to the International Monetary Fund, this was especially notable in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua and Venezuela. Millions of people in the region did not have the basic right to food, health and water. In Brazil, over half the population

lacked safe and sufficient access to food, a situation affecting people of color and marginalized communities in a disproportionate manner. Page.35, taken from: https://www.amnesty.org/es/.

[7] Among other serious problems, we could mention, for example, the ASIS Syndrome (Autoimmune Syndrome Induced by Adjuvants), i.e., the autoimmune or inflammatory reaction attributed to substances foreign to the body, such as implants.

[8] This topic is also related to the footnote on page 5. Please consider it carefully.

men and women of the near future, among which the following might be worthwhile mentioning: What happens to people´s rights as they grow older? What will the lives of today´s young people be like, and where will they spend their old age when the capital no longer finds them useful and the market signals that it no longer needs them?

It is difficult to find an answer considering the twists and turns of politics in the countries of the region. As was mentioned before, the crisis of neoliberalism does not imply that the model has disappeared. On the contrary, it is being reinvented and strengthened. This demands an urgent transformation of the State apparatus if we actually intend to transform the economic, political and governance crises caused by this same model.

It is quite disturbing to think that what some identify as 'necropolitics' will become the rule. This basically implies the management of death, i.e., the notion that old, sick and disabled people should die soon, and no resources will be allocated to their care, as they no longer contribute anything to the capital. An example of this discussion appeared during the pandemic[9].

Will we go back to hospices in the near future? Hopefully not!

There is a need to continue working so that the new forms of social organization will strive towards an approach on aging including the concept that all people, regardless of the group, race, skin color, gender, migrant condition or other, have the chance to age well, even if the existing social and economic conditions change.

This will occur should the States in the region abide by Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and comply with the obligations agreed upon in the treaties and conventions, aimed at achieving the overall well-being of the population.

It would also be necessary to include in the analysis of the relationship the recognition of difference and redistribution addressed across the board, as well as the issue of ageism, which combines stereotypes (ways of thinking), prejudices (feelings) and discrimination (actions) based on age. This is undoubtedly a violation of the right to equality.

Likewise, it would also be convenient to do away with the narrative of eternal life and youth that is so heavily promoted by the health market. People do not need an eternal life, or to be twenty years of age forever. People need to live well and, above all, with dignity.

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[9] On this topic, please see: Estévez, A. *Biopolitica y necropolitica: ¿constitutivos u opuestos? Espiral, Estudios sobre Estado y Sociedad*. Vol.XXV N0.73 Sept/Dec. 2018 México.

Almeida, S L. *Necropolítica e Neoliberalismo. Caderno CRH*, Vol. 34, 2021 *Universidade Federal da Bahia*. Brazil.

The loss of Mexican territory and the origin of Mexican migration to the United States.

Alex Munguía Salazar

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With the triumph of Mexico´s independence in 1821, after 11 years of civil and imperial war against Spain, the prevailing situation in the Mexican provinces of the north as well as in other large regions of the country was one of anarchy and social disarray. This situation was by no means optimal to confront the ambitious North American nation, whose governments had historically proven unscrupulous in terms of achieving the country´s expansionism. This was exemplified by their two fundamentalist visions of 'Manifest Destiny', coined in 1846 as a term stating the belief that the United States of America was a nation destined to expand from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast, as well as in the 'Monroe Doctrine', summarized in the phrase 'America for the Americans', which established that any intervention by European states in America would be considered an act of aggression and would require U.S. intervention.

In 1822, Mexico officially occupied the largest territory in its history, namely 22 provinces were included as part of the empire, just over 5 million square kilometers. Considering the present territory of Texas, California, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, Oklahoma and part of Kansas, over three million square kilometers (3,000,000 km2) were occupied, and thus amputated from the Mexican territory at the hands of the Americans.

The 19th century was exceedingly difficult for Mexico in terms of maintaining its territory. The first project for the political division of an independent and federally organized country came into being in 1824, setting the term 'states' versus 'provinces'. The Mexican constitution of that same year established that the country would be organized into 19 federal states and four territories. However, the internal struggles between centralists and federalists debilitated the government in power and led to constant changes in the laws of each territory.

These structural changes were compounded in 1835 as a result of an uprising in the province of Texas, led by the Anglo-Saxon settlers who had been authorized to settle in the Mexican territory to avoid starvation and under the express condition not to practice slavery. However, although some previous attempts at uprising had been suppressed, the Mexican army was defeated a few years later.

In 1845, the United States annexed Texas to its territory and attempted to expand its borders to the Rio Bravo. In 1846, the US declared war on Mexico for protesting the fact. This resulted in Mexico´s defeat and the signing of the Guadalupe Hidalgo Treaty in 1848, by which Mexico accepted

the loss of its territory and the border at the Rio Bravo, thus losing over three million square kilometers of national territory. Hence, the North American border which had historically been on the Atlantic coast, now extended all the way to the Pacific coast, and the Mexican border was now set at the Rio Bravo.

There is a direct relationship between the process of economic expansion and immigration to the United States. This is exemplified by the massive Irish emigration during the 1830's and 1840's, the German emigration at the end of the 1840's and the emigration from southern and eastern Europe, which accounted for 71.9% of the total emigration to the United States by 1910.

This relationship between the economy and migration was reflected in the expansion and development of capitalism in the United States, which occurred parallel to its consolidation as a nation with the colonization, immigration and expansion of its territory. Between 1815 and 1870, approximately 46 million people emigrated to the United States, which enabled the country´s colonization and industrialization. Between 1881 and 1900, there were 8.9 million immigrants, a figure which peaked to 1,208,000 people in a single year, in 1907. However, this period of unlimited immigration of Europeans, which continued on the rise during the first two decades of the 20th century, ended in 1921 with the first Immigration Quota Act.

These migratory flows were related not only to the attraction exerted by the economic expansion of the United States, but also to the situation prevailing during the same periods in the countries of origin of the migrants, such as wars and economic crises. One of the hallmarks of all the migratory stages was the discrimination and social marginalization suffered by the migrants.

For example, the Anglo-Saxon inhabitants in most cases assigned them the lowest paying jobs, although at one point, also the Irish workers were discriminated against. Despite this widespread discrimination and regardless of the place of origin, xenophobia was mostly directed against the Latino, Black and Asian populations, associating the new immigration with the notion of being 'evil' and 'inferior.' The allegedly 'objective' justification for this irrational conception lied on the fact that the new workers were displacing the locals from their jobs by accepting lower wages. The unions themselves demanded that immigration be limited, thus reinforcing a 'mechanism of ethnic and racial discrimination on which the structures of power are maintained.'

These restrictive and discriminatory immigration practices were even more severe against Asian workers. By 1886, Chinese immigrants were responsible for 90% of agricultural work in California, and the figures continued growing to the extent that, between 1850 and 1882, they had reached about 200,000 people, rising to 1,026,000 in 1905.

In the case of Mexico, and since its origins, the flow of migrant workers to the United States was also preceded by the steady development of capitalism in the latter country. Thus, by the end of the 19th century, Mexican workers played a crucial role in the construction and maintenance of railroads, agricultural tasks and mining in the southwestern United States.

In the railroad sector, Mexican workers represented 70% of the workforce, and they were 90% of the so-called supernumeraries in the main lines. They also received the lowest wages as their increasing numbers gained relevance vis-à-vis the fall of Chinese and Asian immigration in general,

since the demand for unskilled labor increased. The settling of Mexicans in the United States was also partly explained by their historical geographic background, as this land had been part of the Mexican territory.

From the outset, the Mexican labor force has remained for the most part in the lower echelons of unskilled labor in the U.S. employment structure. Between 1850 and 1889, Mexican workers showed no interest in migrating to the United States. Yet, as of 1900, conditions changed in Mexico and the motivation to migrate north increased, since land in Mexico was no longer communal but had instead become private. By 1910, 97% of Mexican families in the countryside did not own any land.

The Porfirian industrial policy focused on extraction and exportation, which prevented better labor conditions and denied the possibility of improvement. The poor distribution of wealth and the economic model during the period known as the 'Porfiriato' were the factors leading to emigration amongst the excluded and oppressed majority. This climaxed during the first decade of the 20th century with the demarcation of communal lands, the drop in agricultural wages, the rise in food prices, the change in production systems and the rare chances of getting urban jobs. Operating together, these factors generated large masses of landless peasants with little economic means, and, as a result, emigration to the United States continued despite the lowest of wages and the absolute worst labor conditions.

More Activity at ICSW - Save the Date!

Joint World Conference on Social Work Education and Social Development 2024 will be hosted in **Panama City, Panama**, from **April 4 to 7**. The SWSD2024 will be jointly hosted by International Association of Schools of Social Work, International Federation of Social Workers and International Council on Social Welfare.

SWSD 2024 will be a **hybrid conference** with both online sessions and face-to-face sessions in Panama. If you wish to register for either online pass or in-person pass, please visit the below link for register online.
Registration – SWSD 2024 – Panama

The Early-Bird price for registration will be valid until December 31st, 2023.

The theme of SWSD 2024 is "**Respecting Diversity through Joint Social Action**." And there are 17 sub-themes you can participate in for your presentation. The types of presentation can be 'oral paper presentation,' 'symposium(in-person only),' 'workshop(in-person only), 'poster presentation' and 'creative performing arts.'

17 sub-themes are as follows:
1) Democracy, Human Rights, Peace-building and Eco-social Justice
2) Ethics in Social Work and Social Development
3) Social Movements, Social Activism and Advocacy
4) Poverty and social inequalities
5) Inclusive social policies and legislation
6) Climate Change, Social Work and Social Development
7) Postcolonial/Decolonial/Indigenous/Emanci patory approaches
8) Ethno-cultural, religious and national diversities
9) Gender and Diversity
10) Diversity and Psychosocial Responses in Disaster Situations
11) Post Pandemic Social Work and Social Development
12) Digital Technology/Artificial Intelligence in Social Work and Social Development
13) Social Media: Constraints and Opportunities to Diversities
14) Social Work, Social Policy and the Sustainable Development Goals
15) Innovation, Social Entrepreneurship and People's Economy
16) Social Service Workers' Working Conditions
17) Social Work/Social Development in Designated Fields

If you are interested in participating in presentation, please visit Summary Guide – SWSD 2024 – Panama and download 'Abstracts Presentation Guidelines' to check important information for abstract submission.

The **deadline for abstract submission** is **August 31st, 2023**. Please make sure to submit your abstract on time!

For any inquiries about the conference, you may contact the conference secretariat at info@swsd2024.org.pa

More Activity at ICSW - Save the Date!

ICSW Seminar on Social Policy and Social Protection in Africa

Date: September 28-29, 2023

Venue: Hilton Hotel, Windhoek, Namibia

For the past 100 years, ICSW globally and the different ICSW regions in Africa have worked tirelessly to promote social welfare in Africa. This international seminar addresses the main challenges facing social policies in the African Region, and the key role of knowledge-based organizations such as ICSW. The special focus is on the **role of social policy experts, social workers and humanitarian aid professionals in the different contexts of the African continent**. Special attention is paid to the challenges faced by African societies after covid-19, and the most successful strategies that we can implement in the

immediate future, giving citizens a voice and presenting good practices of social inclusion in different areas, from child protection to food security, healthcare and so on. **Under the global framework of the SDGs, the Global Agenda, and the thematic priorities addressed by the UN Secretary General's Report "Our Common Agenda", this seminar presents diagnoses, proposals, and good practices that are carried out in Africa and that can serve to redesign the social policies of the 21st century.** The aim is to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs by 2030 and the social dimension of sustainable development beyond with the focus on African Regional priorities.

More Activity
- Call for Abstracts!

The International Conference on Social Work and Social Research

Date: November 24-25, 2023

Venue: Azerbaijan University and virtual

Call for Abstracts deadline: August 30, 2023

For details, please visit https://csd.wustl.edu/icswsr-2023/

Submissions are invited for abstracts of papers to be presented at the International Conference on Social Work and Social Research, which will be held in Baku, Azerbaijan, and virtually on November 24-25, 2023. Organized by Azerbaijan University in partnership with the Center for

Social Development at Washington University's Brown School (USA), Sakarya University (Türkiye), and the Social Research Center (Azerbaijan), this gathering will serve as a global forum on current issues in social work and social policy. The conference chairs welcome submissions on a broad range of relevant topics, including financial capability and asset building. Papers may be presented in person or virtually. For submission instructions and details, visit: https://csd.wustl.edu/icswsr-2023/

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Contributions to the newsletter are welcome!