

ICSW EUROPE NEWSLETTER

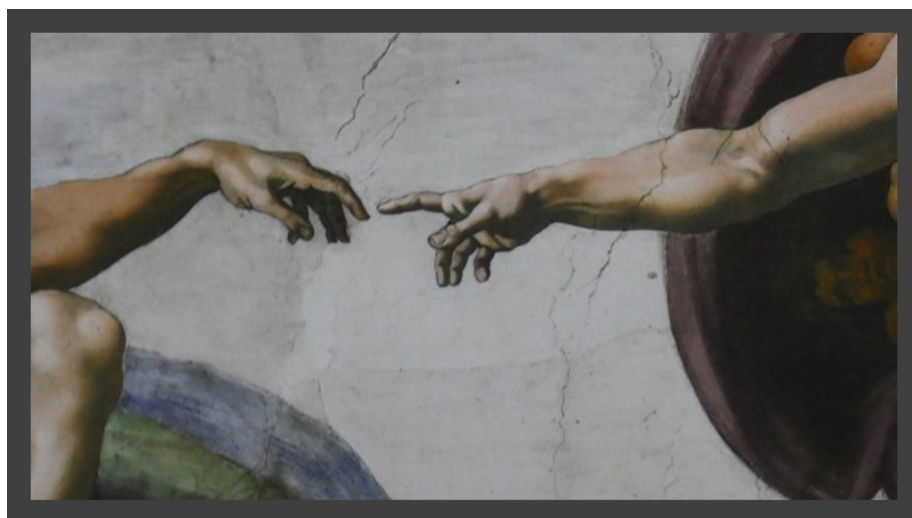
Summer 2020

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“Connecting with each other”

Photo: A detail from the copy of the painting by Michelangelo on the ceiling of the Metropolitan Museum of Art New York, USA, by Ronald Wiman

A Message from the President

“For two weeks now, you have been asking me: ‘How are you?’ But you never stop and listen!”. So said a fellow student from a Central Asian country to our American teacher at the *English as a Foreign Language* - course at the University of Kansas where I attended this course as one of 50 young students from 25 countries. It was in early 1970s. We were sponsored to attend this course to upgrade our English – and to learn American culture to ‘survive’ in the American University environments wherever we had got a scholarship.

Communication across cultures is not always that easy but it is learnable. Civil society organisations are good at connecting people across frontiers. Since 1970s international travel and cooperation has intensified and widened drastically. Multicultural literacy is an essential skill also in today's Europe. Cultural and social diversity in the Region is rich while there are also many shared values and visions of Europe. One of these is the “European Social Model”. It was summarized in the Green Paper and the White Paper on European Social Policy in 1993 and 1994 of the Commission of European Communities. While developed further since then the essence has remained. It is anchored on commonly endorsed European values such as: democracy, rule of law, individual rights and freedoms, (social) market economy, equal opportunities, right to social protection, solidarity. While this very concept is ‘EU language’, “EUnese”, its vision is shared also by the Council of Europe (CoE). Actually, the legal social rights provisions of the CoE are stronger than those in the EU. The European Pillar on Social Rights (2017) is a good step forward provided that there is strong follow-up action. Such action has been systematically done by the Social Platform (SP).

ICSW Europe is a member of Social Platform. SP is in the process of concretizing its strategy “Europe for All, with All”. At the Steering Group meeting of the Social Platform in September it was concluded, *inter alia*, that the European Social Model has been and

will be a critical success factor enabling Europe to cope and successfully manage the current pandemic. This is a strong argument we all can and should use to defend the balance between social and economic values and goals.

The past six months have certainly proven to all of us something about ‘basic needs’: while money is necessary for living, it is not enough for well-being. We have been experiencing serious deprivation of our social and cultural needs. Those who have been vulnerable and marginalized before, have suffered most from the closing of many essential institutions including cuts in, and sometimes closure of, personal societal services. Older people have been more alone than ever. Also think about youth who must start their studies as distance learners, with little chances for intensive social life with peers and for integration with their student communities. Social distancing and youth do not match well.

This year maintaining – and creating – social relationships has been difficult. Those who have a job and/or are involved in civil society organizations are better off. But still also they have challenges: communication through the web is possible but very much less nuanced than face-to-face. Understanding is difficult – and misunderstanding is easy.

In the common crisis there temptations to selfish and national solutions have emerged. That was obvious in European region as well. Slowly we have become wiser. European social model is a model of solidarity based on mutual, joint interest. The crisis must not dim the vision of more inclusive and greener Europe. That vision of Europe for All can only be achieved together.

And globally, we are in the same boat – the Spaceship Earth. International cooperation is more important now than ever. It is also more challenging now than ever: transferring messages right and convincingly through the web is not easy – but we all have certainly learned much lately. Also, about the value of human relationships.

How are you?

I mean it: the **ICSW Europe newsletter** is intended to serve you, and all of us, to communicate important information, views and policy messages between

ICSW members. **You are invited to send inputs to the editor for the next Newsletter by 10th of December 2020.** The editing team invites examples of good social policy practices and policy analyses/considerations and also short notes including suggestions concerning the activities of ICSW Europe. Let us all know how you are doing in your organizations and countries.

Next time we meet we will say “Nice to see you”. And no doubt we will mean it.

P.S. The General Assembly of ICSW will be held virtually on 8th November 2020. **ICSW Europe General Assembly will be organized virtually during the first half of December 2020.** The agendas and other documents will be sent in due time.

(Ronald Wiman, ICSW Europe President)

References

The European Green Paper on Social Policy 1993:

http://aei.pitt.edu/1229/1/social_policy_options_gp_COM_93_551.pdf

The European White Paper on Social Policy 1994:

http://aei.pitt.edu/1118/1/social_policy_white_paper_COM_94_333_A.pdf

The Council of Europe page on European Social Charter:

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/european-social-charter>

The European Pillar of Social Rights:

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/priorities/deeper-and-fairer-economic-and-monetary-union/european-pillar-social-rights/european-pillar-social-rights-20-principles_en

Listen to Kick-off The Child Guarantee – Video address by European Commissioner Schmit (2020):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vu3yte8saYU&feature=youtu.be>

ICSW Europe Members



Das Forum des Sozialen
Deutscher Verein für öffentliche und private Fürsorge e. V.

ICSW Germany – Opinion of the German Association regarding the European Commission consultation on reinforcing social Europe

In its Communication “A strong social Europe for just transitions” of 14th January 2020, the new European Commission set out how it intends to respond in the area of social policy to the economic change resulting from the move to a climate-neutral way of working by 2050, to the digitisation of work processes and to demographic change, notably due to population ageing and movement to cities: *“The European Pillar of Social Rights is the European answer to these fundamental ambitions. It is our social strategy to make sure that the transitions of climate-neutrality, digitalisation and demographic change are socially fair and just.”*

In its answer to the Commission's accompanying consultation, the German Association for Public and Private Welfare (Deutscher Verein für öffentliche und private Fürsorge e.V. – ICSW Germany) welcomes the announcement by the European Commission, in view of environmental, digital and demographic change, to pursue a strong social Europe to enable just transitions to the society of the future. The German Association is calling for the setting of social goals in a European overall strategy from 2021 and for practically-oriented EU structural funding to strengthen social cohesion. To achieve upward social convergence at a high level, it supports the further implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights at EU level and in the member states. In doing so, national, regional and local interests and the interests of civil society should be broadly incorporated in the European process of shaping policy.

The full document can be read [here](#).

(source: Deutscher Verein für öffentliche und private Fürsorge e.V.; <<https://www.deutscher-verein.de/en/publications-and-opinions-2171.html>>)

"Together for Europe's recovery" – the program of the German EU Council Presidency

At the beginning of the year, most EU experts were probably still in agreement that the Brexit and the trade agreement to be concluded between the EU and Great Britain would decisively determine the program for the German EU Council Presidency. The corona pandemic has not only pushed this issue into the background – the program for the German EU Council Presidency published on 30th June 2020 set significantly different priorities.

The guiding principles of Germany's Council Presidency are as follows:

- overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic permanently, as well as the economic recovery
- a stronger and more innovative Europe
- a fair Europe
- a sustainable Europe
- a Europe of security and common values
- a strong Europe in the world

The program includes various social policy projects, which are already mentioned in the first chapter entitled "Europe's response to the Corona pandemic". Here it says: *"We now want to systematically implement priorities of the European Pillar of Social Rights that are relevant to crisis management. These includes the development of an EU framework for national minimum income protection systems, an EU framework for minimum wages and strengthening the role played by social partners"*. According to the program, the fight against unemployment and youth unemployment in the EU – on the basis of a European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) with the capacity to act – is also on the agenda and the German Presidency will work on it together with the EU Commission.

For a more detailed classification the program refers to the chapter "A fair Europe", which focuses on strengthening of the social dimension and social cohesion. The implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights (ESSR) is in the foreground.

The German Association for Public and Private welfare particularly welcomes the fact that the program explicitly mentions the development of a framework for national basic security systems. Together with the Federal Association of Non-Statutory Welfare Workers, it held an online event on this subject shortly before the start of the Council Presidency, with EU Commissioner *Nicolas Schmit* among others, which can be accessed [at the following link](#) (only in German).

Overall, important social policy aspects have been identified in the program of the German EU Council Presidency.

By the way, one result of the last German Council Presidency in 2007 was the Treaty of Lisbon, which was concluded by the Portuguese Council Presidency in the second half of 2007. This has brought the European Union a big step further forward. For this it is to be hoped that many good initiatives, Council conclusions and impulses will also be launched in 2020, especially with the goal of a more social European Union.

The program of the German EU Council Presidency is translated in the different EU-languages and can be found [here](#).

(Monika Büning, German Association for Public and private Welfare; ICSW Europe Board member)

How to ensure the poor don't pay for Covid-19



On 14th July The European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN) held an online conference under the title "How to ensure the poor don't pay for Covid19?" Ensuring that short-term responses feed into an effective long-term rights-based EU strategy to fight poverty.



The conference came at the moment of producing the results of months of detailed study including exchanges with EAPN's members in 25 countries and 3 European Organisation members, tracking the impact of the crisis on people experiencing poverty and the efficacy of the measures being taken.

Sonja Leemkuil, EAPN Inclusion Strategies Group member of EAPN Netherlands and a person with direct experience of poverty participated in the study, and kicked off the conference with these words: *"Due to the Corona measures, we had to close Our DREAM from March 15 to June 1... Around me I hear people say 'now others can feel what we feel, what it is and how it feels not to go out, not to be able to participate in anything and to have to stay at home all day long and live in uncertainty, day in, day out... We are experiencing this feeling for years because we cannot participate in anything, because we have no money for it'. You cannot change the Covid 19 virus, but... the Poverty virus can be changed! by making different political choices and by different policies, based on trust in the people in poverty, by removing the fear and stress from people and by treating each other equally and with respect, which returns people's resilience, allows children to develop equally and improves people's well-being."* See her full speech [here](#).

The [results](#) of the full study were then [presented](#) by *Graciela Malgesini*, author of the study and the report and Co-Chair of the EAPN Inclusion Strategies Group/ EAPN Spain. See the 20-minute recording of her presentation [here](#).

EU & UN responses were then invited: *"All people have the right to a life in dignity at all stages, this is underlined in the Pillar of Social Rights. Schemes need to set the right amount of Minimum Income; they should be made accessible and enable active inclusion"*, said *Nicolas Schmit*, EU Commissioner for Jobs & Social Rights.

"There is a gap between rights proclaimed on paper and the ability for people to take up those rights. People may have rights they never claim. Hence the participation of PEP is important in designing social protection schemes. If they are not able to assess and design them, there will be cracks in the system and people will fall in those cracks." said *Olivier De Schutter*, UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights.

Questions from participants on an EU antipoverty strategy, minimum income as an investment, energy poverty and homelessness were answered.

The discussion continued on to cover strategic ways forward and the participants heard from *Herbert Düll*, of the German Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs who updated on the planned activities of the German EU Council Presidency of the EU in the first half of 2020 on minimum income. They intend to get ["Council Conclusions on Minimum Income Protection to Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion in the COVID-19 and beyond"](#) adopted in October. The ETUC's Deputy General Secretary *Esther Lynch* said *"The EU must guarantee a threshold below which no Minimum Income will go."* *Jana Hainsworth*, General Secretary of Eurochild pointed out that investing in children is not only for the children's sake but for society as a whole. And final panelist *Cindy Franssen*, MEP/EPP and Co-chair of EP Poverty Intergroup highlighted issues that the Intergroup is working on such as the necessity to have an overarching Europe antipoverty strategy, fight child poverty, support food banks and work on adequate income.

Further questions from participants on better support for families and coherency between economic policy and short-term investment priorities were addressed. *Katarina Ivanković-Knežević*, Director for Social Affairs in the European Commission spoke towards the end of the conference and made this comment: *"Member States have to go from seeing social actions as social spending to seeing them as social investment and investment in the future. We need coordinated efforts and actions! We have the instruments & should be ambitious!"*

[SEE THE WEBPOST FOR ALL PRESENTATIONS](#)

(source: EAPN; available at: <<https://www.eapn.eu/eapns-annual-policy-conference-how-to-ensure-the-poor-dont-pay-for-covid-19-from-short-term-response-to-an-effective-rights-based-integrated-antipoverty-strategy-14-july-2020/>>)



AvenirSocial

A research project “Social Work Professionalization in Moldova: Research, Assessment Instrumentation, and Advocacy on Behalf of the Elderly” is the project the purpose of which is to develop a comprehensive perspective on state of wellness (SOW) of the elderly in Moldova. A sample represents senior citizens of age 65 and above. The project is being developed and conducted in collaboration and with support from the Swiss Association of Social Workers. The plan is to **conduct a multi-national comparative study**.

For more details and prospective cooperation, contact please **Vadim Moldovan** (Project Casa Mare, Moldova): projectcasamare@gmail.com.

ICSW North East Asia Regional Webinar on COVID-19: Welfare Challenges and Response

The **webinar**, “ICSW North East Asia Regional Webinar on COVID-19: Welfare Challenges and Response” was organized by ICSW North East Asia Regional Secretariat on 29 July 2020. The Webinar aimed to facilitate the regional welfare sector to exchange valuable experience and new initiatives in response to the pandemic. The event was moderated by ICSW North East Asia Regional President, Mr. *Chua Hoi-Wai*.

Six speakers from Hong Kong, Japan, Korea and Taiwan were invited to share their insights and experiences in the context of the pandemic. The Webinar attracted over 100 participants from all over the world and provided an effective platform to explore successful factors to prepare for the risk of the COVID-19 in global, regional and local level in the near future as well.

The presentations can be found [here](#).

(source: ICSW; available at: <<https://icsw.org/index.php/regions/north-east-asia>>)

Social Platform decided because of the pandemic to cancel its 3rd Flagship Conference, “Building Social Europe”, planned on 17th September 2020, in Berlin – [read full statement](#). It is planned to be organised in Spring 2021.

The ICSW Europe President participated in the virtual Steering Committee meeting of Social Platform on 22nd September 2020. Social Platform is in the process of finalizing and concretising its Strategy 2021-24 “Europe FOR All, WITH All” to be discussed and adopted at its General Assembly on 10th November – <https://www.socialplatform.org/who-we-are/>.

The Social Platform has been working systematically to strengthen the social dimension in the EU strategies. One of the action lines has been the promotion of the implementation of European Pillar on Social Rights. Still before the current pandemic, progress seemed to be on track: <https://www.socialplatform.org/what-we-do/european-pillar-of-social-rights/>.

Now there is a great concern that the State of the Union addressed by *Ursula von der Leyen* (https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH_20_1655) did not contain much social policy. Response to the crisis has wiped out social policy from the agenda.

Read the comment by *Piotr Sadowski*, the President of Social Platform: <https://www.socialplatform.org/news/keeping-social-on-the-agenda/>

(*Ronald Wiman, ICSW Europe President*)

Eurochild urges EU leaders to take action against growing child poverty in EU recovery plan and budget



Make child poverty history

Eurochild is a pan-European network that advocates for children's rights and well-being to be at the heart of policymaking. A public statement has been launched on **13 July** to demand EU leaders to act against child poverty. *H.E. Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca*, President of Eurochild and Former President of Malta has made a video address to the leaders supporting the demands of the network. Read the statement and access the video address on the Eurochild [website](#). #EndChildPoverty

The EU is forecasted to see a deep recession and increased poverty levels owing to COVID-19. Children are disproportionately affected by poverty. They must be front and centre of the decisions EU leaders take [in the week 29th 2020] on the EU recovery plan and long-term budget.

Almost 200 organisations and individuals working with and for children across Europe under the pan-European umbrella network of Eurochild called on EU leaders to ensure the EU Recovery Plan and a new long-term EU budget, discussed at the Summit on **17-18 July**, help to address child poverty. Eurochild, urges EU leaders to agree that at least 5% of the **European Social Fund Plus** resources in the long-term budget should be targeted at reducing child poverty in all EU Member States.

In a strongly worded [public statement](#) released on July 13th, Eurochild raises the alarm on child poverty ahead of the Special European Council taking place in Brussels on 17-18 July.

In a complementary video address, *H.E. Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca*, President of Eurochild and former President of Malta urges EU leaders put children front and centre in their negotiations: *"Don't just think of bailing out businesses, invest in our public good. Invest in our children."*

In the EU, more than one in four children are at risk of poverty and children are more likely to be at risk of poverty than the general population (Eurostat, 2018). Children already disadvantaged before the crisis by poverty, migration status or difficult home environments have suffered most during the lockdown imposed to contain the COVID-19 pandemic. **Moreover child poverty is likely to worsen owing to the economic fallout of the crisis.** Reports suggest that household poverty is expected to increase by 15% worldwide by the end of 2020 (UNICEF and Save the Children, May 2020).

Eurochild members, which total almost 200 organisations and individuals across 35 countries, are echoing the call to make child poverty history across all EU national capitals ahead of the meeting of EU leaders.

The **European Social Fund Plus** is an EU financial instrument dedicated to improving social cohesion and economic well-being for the period 2021-2027. It works by investing in people for instance, by improving job prospects, education, reducing inequalities and more.

(text and photo: Eurochild; available at: <https://www.eurochild.org/news/news-details/article/make-child-poverty-history/?no_cache=1&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=PR_Make_child_poverty_history&utm_medium=email>)

AGE Platform Europe



Elder abuse has been on the rise during the COVID-19 pandemic – it is high time to take it seriously!



15 JUNE #ElderAbuse #WEAAD



Abuse, violence and neglect of older people affect 25% of older people with high care needs every year in Europe, according to the World Health Organization. On **[June 15th] – World Elder Abuse Awareness Day** we remind that elder abuse is still a widely overlooked form of human rights' violation that have been made even more visible during the COVID-19 crisis.

Elder abuse is deeply rooted in our societies' prejudices, stereotypes and discriminatory practices towards older people. It is implicit in the negative and demeaning views about older persons that are [widespread in media](#). Many practices in the current COVID-19 pandemic can also be labelled as abusive: refusal to hospitalise older people and their de-prioritisation in access to care are some of the most blatant [breaches of the human rights of older people](#).

“The language we have heard and the practices we have observed during this crisis are tragic and explicit reminders that ageism is structural in our societies”, declared Anne-Sophie Parent, Secretary-General of AGE Platform Europe. “Ending elder abuse requires nothing less than ending ageism as a structural factor of discrimination and stereotyping”.

For older people, COVID-19-related challenges have added a layer to the long-lasting phenomenon of elder abuse. As reports on increasing numbers of elder abuse cases begin to emerge, some countries report an [increase of up to 37%](#). Lockdown measures aggravate the isolation in which abuse takes place and makes it even more difficult for older people to seek support.

“Older victims of abuse and other types of offences have always experienced greater challenges in accessing support services and to be heard by law enforcement bodies”, said Ms. Parent. “Today we urgently need public policies to address elder abuse and provide specific support to victims and survivors”.

The EU should support member states in their efforts to tackle elder abuse. Since 2012, EU's Victims' Rights Directive has obliged member states to improve the support and protection available to victims. The upcoming [EU Strategy on Victims' Rights 2020-2024](#) needs to address the specific needs and challenges of older victims, including victims of elder abuse.

“Today still, despite yearly awareness campaigns on elder abuse, older people are not systematically mentioned in Commission's work as one of the groups who face situations of vulnerability. This needs to change with the upcoming Strategy. The European Commission has expressed its aim to assess the needs of specific groups of victims, so it must ensure that older people's needs will be adequately taken on board”, concluded Ms Parent.

(source: AGE Platform; available at: <https://www.age-platform.eu/press-releases/elder-abuse-has-been-rise-during-covid-19-pandemic-it-high-time-take-it-seriously>)

Useful links:

[2020 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day](#)
[COVID-19 and the human rights of older persons](#) –

AGE report:
[AGE webpage on COVID-19](#)

Older people's organisations call for the urgent implementation of the EU Council conclusions to strengthen the rights of older people



Adequate budgets and qualified human resources are required

The European umbrella organisation of older people's organisations – AGE Platform Europe, and the German National Association of Senior Citizens' Organisations – BAGSO, call on the German Presidency and all other European governments to urgently implement the Council conclusions on *"Human rights, participation and well-being of older persons in the era of digitalisation"* put forward by the German Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2020.

For the first time in 10 years, older people are in the centre of such a EU-Council decision.

In a joint civil society statement, AGE Platform Europe and BAGSO call for concrete measures for the timely implementation of the Conclusions. This must include the allocation of adequate budgets and qualified human resources at both national and EU levels. AGE and BAGSO applaud the 5-year action plan foreseen to enhance the autonomy of older persons and promote their active participation in shaping a Europe for all generations.

The Council conclusions and related civil society statement follow a two-day international conference on ["The Rights of Older People in Times of Digitalisation"](#), organised by the German Presidency of the Council of the European Union, AGE Platform Europe, and BAGSO. The conference was attended by high-level officials from the European Commission and several EU Member States as well as representatives of European older people's organisations.

[Read the full civil society statement here.](#)

[Link to this press release on AGE website](#)

(source: AGE Platform Europe; available at <https://www.age-platform.eu/>)

Council of Europe



The next session of the Conference of INGOs is scheduled for **14-16 October 2020**. The holding of the session in **Strasbourg** will depend on the health context and the regulations that will be in force.

During this session, we will adopt several important documents for the Conference of INGOs, including the Declaration on the Place and Role of Civil Society in Safeguarding Human Rights and Democracy in the Pandemic and Post-pandemic World, and the new rules of Procedure of the Conference of INGOs.

Two ICSW Europe representatives – *Gérard Schaefer* – takes part, and *Nino Shatberashvili* – may take part in the autumn session.

Thanks to [INGOs'] contributions, the video entitled ["COVID-19: INGOs under lockdown get involved and prepare for the future"](#) was produced during confinement. It presents, in a palpable way, the contribution of NGOs to the management of the crisis, your presence on the ground and the reinforced vigilance ensure respect of fundamental rights. However, the impact of the pandemic on the NGO sector itself has already been observed. The Conference of INGOs must remain vigilant and supportive in this situation, which risks weakening the capacities of NGOs. We can only emerge from this crisis by showing solidarity with each other.

[The short Online Session](#) held in June was a great success. It showed that the civil society sector is a sector of the future and as such, it must be considered by policy makers. The Conference of INGOs can only contribute to this by strengthening the voice of civil society and articulating civil society concerns and actions with Council of Europe instruments.

(Anna Rurka, President of the Conference of INGOs, Council of Europe)

Council of Europe: The COVID-19 pandemic and children

Following a thematic exchange of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child on 26 June 2020 and member states' responses to a survey, the Council of Europe has identified a number of key challenges and trends, as well as some promising practices, which are summarised in this document. Eurochild contributed to the document based on critical input from its membership.



The document is available [here](https://rm.coe.int/final-covid19-factsheet-pandemic-and-children-web/16809f8031?utm_source=email&utm_campaign=eNB_September&utm_medium=email).

(source – text and photo: Council of Europe; available at <https://rm.coe.int/final-covid19-factsheet-pandemic-and-children-web/16809f8031?utm_source=email&utm_campaign=eNB_September&utm_medium=email>)

ICISSS 2020: 14. International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Science Studies



October 22-23, 2020 in Bali, Indonesia

ICISSS 2020: 14. International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Science Studies aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of **Interdisciplinary Social Science Studies**. It also provides a premier interdisciplinary platform for researchers, practitioners and educators to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in the fields of Interdisciplinary Social Science Studies.

Information about the conference [here](https://www.iciss2020.org/).

Conferences/Expert Meetings



**The SWESD2020 Organising Committee,
together with its main partners,
announces the cancellation of the SWESD2020 Conference**
For full announcement please visit Covid19 webpage

[All about the Conference here](#)

Useful Links

Opinion of the Deutscher Verein für öffentliche und private Fürsorge e.V. regarding the European Commission consultation on reinforcing social Europe:

https://www.deutscher-verein.de/en/uploads/dateien-stab-internationales/dv-06-20_opinion-consultation-reinforcing-social-europe.pdf

The program of the German EU Council Presidency:

<https://www.eu2020.de/eu2020-en/programm>

EAPN webpost for all presentations of an online conference: "How to ensure the poor don't pay for Covid-19":

<https://www.eapn.eu/eapns-annual-policy-conference-how-to-ensure-the-poor-dont-pay-for-covid-19-from-short-term-response-to-an-effective-rights-based-integrated-antipoverty-strategy-14-july-2020/>

ICSW North East Asia Regional Webinar on COVID-19: Welfare Challenges and Response:

<https://icsw.org/index.php/regions/north-east-asia>

AGE webpage on COVID-19:

<https://www.age-platform.eu/coronavirus-covid-19>

United Nations: The Impact of COVID-19 on older persons:

https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/un_policy_brief_on_covid-19_and_older_persons_1_may_2020.pdf

Eurochild statement to EU leaders:

https://www.eurochild.org/news/news-details/article/make-child-poverty-history?no_cache=1&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=PR_Make_child_poverty_history&utm_medium=email

Council of Europe: The COVID-19 pandemic and children:

https://rm.coe.int/final-covid19-factsheet-pandemic-and-children-web/16809f8031?utm_source=email&utm_campaign=eNB_September&utm_medium=email

Colophon

ICSW Europe registered office is located at the municipality of Utrecht (The Netherlands).

The name of the Association is: International Council on Social Welfare Europe, abbreviated to: ICSW Europe.

The Newsletter of ICSW European Region is published quarterly. Material may be freely reproduced or cited provided the source is acknowledged. Contributions on social welfare from all sectors of the international community are welcome.

Contributions and comments can be sent to:

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