



The European Social Work Research Association

ESWRA was founded in 2014 to create a hub for social work research development, collaboration and exchange across Europe. Its foundation arose from overwhelming levels of engagement in the European Social Work Research Conference. ESWRA's vision is to take forward the development, practice and utilization of social work research to enhance knowledge about individual and social problems, and to promote just and equitable societies.



Goals of the association

BENEFITS

To promote social work research which will have beneficial consequences for practitioners, service users, educators, researchers, graduate students, and those responsible for service development and delivery.

HIGH STANDARD OF RESEARCH

To foster and maintain the development of high levels of social work research and knowledge production across the European community.

RESEARCH CAPACITY AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

To enhance both capacity and learning opportunities within and across Europe.

RESEARCH METHODS FOR SOCIAL WORK

To provide an environment for the application of research methods and approaches by those from a wide range of disciplines within and beyond the social sciences, in forms which have relevance for social work practice and research.

NETWORKS AND COLLABORATION

To build and work with networks of social work researchers within Europe and actively foster links between European and wider international research networks.

ESWRA is going from strength to strength. Its membership has grown significantly over the last few years. The Association now has over 600 members, drawn from more than 35 European countries and several non-European countries.

ESWRA MEMBERS BENEFIT FROM:

- Networking with other researchers
- Membership of Special Interest Groups
- Online access to the European Journal of Social Work
- Regular member news
- Dedicated web-based resources

The European Conference for Social Work Research

The European Conference for Social Work Research (ECSWR) is the biggest annual social work research event in Europe. The conference is the primary space for members of the European social work research community to gather and get to know each other, to share high quality research and expertise, and to build collaborative relationships and networks

The University of Edinburgh, UK, hosted the 8th ECSWR in 2018 and warmly welcomed 650 delegates. There was a lively SIG Program, well attended by 210 delegates. The conference programme included 4 keynotes, and impressive array of over 260 oral papers, symposia, workshops and posters.

This year the 9th ECSWR is hosted by a consortium of universities: KU Leuven, Ghent University and the University of Antwerp. We are looking forward to an exciting and stimulating conference with a dynamic SIG Program.

The 10th ECSWR in 2020 will take place in Bucharest, Romania, hosted by the University of Bucharest. The conference theme will be 'Social Work Research: Contributing to Innovations in Practice, Policy and Social Development'.



This is Totem by the Belgium artist Jan Fabre. The statue is next to the Leuven University library and represents the collective memory of humankind.

Recent Developments

Three working groups set up in 2017, have now been formally constituted as the Communications Committee, the Resources Development Committee and the SIG Development Committee. Comprised of Board and ESWRA members, the committees are working with the Board to realise ESWRA's long term strategy and to enhance ESWRA's offering to its membership.

Communications Committee



Chair: Emilio Jose Gomez Ciriano

Emilio Jose Gomez Ciriano, Chair, leads on developing ESWRA's Communications Strategy, to be launched in 2019. Working with the members of the Committee, Emilio is directly responsible for External Communications whilst Elena Cabiati is directly responsible for Internal Communications. In consultation with the Board, the Communications Committee works actively to promote ESWRA initiatives and profile, to provide information to ESWRA members and SIGS, to strengthen relationships between members and with external organisations, including through social networks and media, and to represent ESWRA at EU level.

SIG Development Committee



Chair: Karen Winter

Karen Winter Chairs the SIG Development Committee. ESWRA has 21 active Special Interest Groups. These groups, led by SIG convenors, enable ESWRA members to network and collaborate on specific issues. The Special Interest Groups meet at least once a year at the European Conference for Social Work Research and regularly share information and discussions online. The SIG Development Committee has drafted a Handbook containing guidelines for SIG convenors, developed a twice-yearly SIG newsletter and developed a timetable for SIG conference events that allows for all SIG members to come together and to network with each other.

Resources Development Committee



Chair: Jon Symonds

The Resources Development Committee has grown in membership and activity this year, working to support social work research across Europe. The Committee is made up of Board members and ESWRA members and this year, launched two initiatives. First, we produced a collection of recorded conference talks from ECSWR 2018 which were posted to the ESWRA website to reach a wider audience. This collection will grow in future conferences. In addition, the Committee launched the members' database of researcher expertise to facilitate connections and collaborations. A plan of future activities is being developed to embed these activities in 2019.

ESWRA Publications

Series Co-editor: Ian Shaw

ESWRA launched a new book series 'Research in Social Work' published by Policy Press. The series forms a collection showcasing some of the best social work research in Europe. Books published as part of the series will examine current, progressive and innovative research applications of familiar ideas and models in social work research.

The first title in this series 'Research and the social work picture', by Ian Shaw published 2018. There are four contracted titles which are expected to be published in the next 18 months and a further 3 titles in development.

ESWRA finances January – December 2018

ESWRA INCOME 2018

Membership Fees	€54.700
Conference Fees	€208.650
Total income	€263.350

ESWRA has consolidated its financial position due to the success of the annual European Conference for Social Work Research and the rise in membership fees under the new model. The financial report for the year 2018 shows a surplus of 32,505 €. The surplus is added to ESWRA's reserves which are used to support ESWRA activities such as; European Conference for Social Work Research, Special Interest Groups, IT and the day to day administration of the Association. ESWRA anticipates another successful year in 2019.

ESWRA EXPENDITURE 2018

Conference	€173.650
Journal	€3.800
Office	€21.800
Board	€14.500
Website	€4.450
Accountancy	€4.200
SIG support	€1.700
Other expenses	€6.750
Added to reserves	€32.500
Total expenditure	€263.350

ESWRA Board and Officers

ESWRA is run by a Board elected by its members.

There are 15 members of the Board. Current ESWRA Officers are:

CHAIR

Elaine Sharland
University of Sussex,
United Kingdom



VICE CHAIR

Sofia Dedotsi
University of Newcastle,
United Kingdom



CHAIR ELECT

Judith Metz
Amsterdam University of
Applied Sciences,
Netherlands



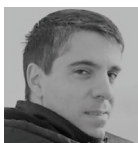
TREASURER

Jean-Pierre Wilken
Research Centre of Social Innovation,
Utrecht University of Applied Sciences,
Netherlands



SECRETARY

Alessandro Sicora
University of Calabria,
Italy



COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Emilio Jose Gomez Ciriano
University of Castilla-La Mancha,
Spain



Find out more and become an ESWRA member at www.eswra.org



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European Social Work Research Association – ESWRA

ESWRA is registered as an association in the Netherlands – 68923538

ESWRA is registered with the European Transparency Register – 809247929272-91