



# Annual Report 2021



## Message from the ESWRA Chair

ESWRA Chair: [Alessandro SICORA](#)

ESWRA had continued working 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 also in 2021, another year heavily influenced by the effects of the Covid pandemic.

The 10<sup>th</sup> European Conference for Social Work Research took place in an online format in May 2021, since it was not possible to make in Bucharest in 2020, as previously planned. The success of this conference is clearly shown by its numbers: 500 Persons attending, and 287 abstracts and posters presented.

*European Social Work Research*, ESWRA journal in partnership with Policy Press, is ready to start its activity since the composition of the Editorial Team, the Editorial Board and the International Advisory Board was defined and the agreement with the publishing company has been signed. This is an important milestone in the process of creating a new arena for scientific debate for the benefit of the wider community of the social work scholars, researchers, and practitioners.

Thank you to all those who made the 10<sup>th</sup> European Conference for Social Work Research, the journal *European Social Work Research* and all other activities (SIGs, etc.) promoted by ESWRA possible. In our uncertain times creating connections and bridges between people is even more important than before. ESWRA is committed to do its part.

## The European Conference for Social Work Research

ESWRA Vice Chair: [Jon Symonds](#)

The conference continues to be the largest annual social work research event in Europe and is a key event in the calendar of the Association. Despite the disruption of Covid in 2020, the conference was hosted online in 2021 by colleagues at the University of Bucharest. 550 delegates took part in the main conference with 235 registered for SIG events. In feedback from the conference, delegates valued the opportunity for the ESWRA community to come together and the quality of the keynote speakers. Despite the challenges of not being able to meet in person, the conference was successful in bringing together the community to share its research in the discipline. Perhaps not surprisingly, most delegates expressed a keen desire to be able to meet again in person in the future.

On the basis of feedback from members, planning for the annual conference continues to prioritise the benefits of the event being in person although the uncertainties of Covid present challenges to this. The Association has become

more experienced in planning for contingencies in the different modes of delivering a conference and has explored different options of delivering the conference online and in person, or in combination. As a result, it is well positioned both to navigate similar challenges to the conference, as well as to enhance the experience of people engaging with the conference in the future.

Looking ahead, the 12<sup>th</sup> ECSWR 2023 will be hosted by Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan, Italy and the 13<sup>th</sup> ECSWR 2024 will be hosted by Vilnius University, Vilnius, Lithuania.

## **Members services & Research Resources committee**

**Chair: Liz Frost**

In response to interest from SIGS, ESWRA's commitment to inclusivity, and the digital possibilities developed in the context of Covid-19, the Members services & Research Resources committee together with the SIG development committee facilitated two pilot seminars with a view, if successful, to developing an ESWRA Seminar series. The first seminar was led by the Arts-based Research in Social Work SIG, the second was led by the European Network on Gerontological Social Work (ENGSW) SIG. They were both very well attended and well received. As a result, we are looking forward to delivering more seminars later this year.

The success of the pilot seminars is also the realisation of ESWRA's aim to not only connect European researchers once a year through a conference, but to introduce regular, accessible, and available smaller events for the membership to attend.

Members services & Research Resources committee continues to develop and enhance the depth and breadth of the resources ESWRA offers its members.

## **SIG Development Committee**

**Chair: Maria Ines Martinez Herrero**

In April 2021 Ines Martinez took on the role of chair of the SIG committee and engaged with a round of meetings with SIG convenors to seek perspectives on SIGS support needs from ESWRA. 10 meetings took place and key feedback was for ESWRA to support: dissemination and visibility of research (website, events, social networks), between conferences events and contact, help develop ESWRA membership "as a community", more time for SIGs at ECSWR, more varied conference streams topics. The ESWRA proposal to develop SIGs-led online seminars was discussed and well received.

SIG changes: One SIG finished their activity (social work with children and families), and two new SIGs were approved "Social Work with Young People Experiencing Extrafamilial Risk and Harm", "Social work and the more than human". The process

of reviewing the proposals raised discussions in the SIGs committee about that lead to reviewing the wording of SIGs guidance documents to emphasise SIGs': research focus, inclusivity and accessibility, balanced scope (specialised on a topic but broad enough to attract interest, manageable number of SIGs ESWRA can host).

ESWRA online seminar series pilot was organised ESWRA, chairs of the Members services & Research Resources committee together with the SIG development committee, ESWRA has facilitated the first 2 seminars, led by the Arts based research and E. network on Gerontological research. The seminars were well attended and very well evaluated by participants;

At ECSWR 2022 we are looking forward to a lively SIG program, 18 SIGs are holding an event. A SIGS convenors' meeting is also scheduled during the conference.

## **Prizes and Sponsorship committee**

**Chair: Elena Cabiati**

Every year ESWRA seeks nominations for two Annual Awards for Outstanding Publications: the ESWRA Award for an Outstanding Publication in European Social Work Research and the ESWRA Award for an Outstanding Publication in European Social Work Research based on a Doctoral Thesis.

The Prizes and Sponsorship Committee continues to promote the ESWRA publication awards in the scientific community with the aim to enhance the development of high-quality research and to disseminate it across Europe. Year by year, the Committee is supporting and monitoring the nominations for the ESWRA awards, giving attention to the source of nominations and the quality of papers.

The review process is based on overall research quality, including appropriate rigor, transparency, and validity, and at least one of the following: explores a demonstrably new area of research/demonstrates methodological innovation/makes a significant conceptual or theoretical contribution to its field/Has a (potential) impact for policymakers, practitioners and other research users

## **ESWRA Publishing**

**ESWRA Book Series: 'Research in Social Work'**

The ESWRA book series published by Policy Press showcased some of the best social work research in Europe. Books Published a part of the series examine current, progressive and innovative research applications of familiar ideas and models in social work

## ESWRA Journal

ESWRA and Policy Press are delighted to announce the establishment of the Journal *European Social Work Research* a combination of several years' work, more information will be available at ECSWR 2022.

## ESWRA finances

Treasurer: Koen Hermans -

After a difficult financial year because of Covid19 and the consequent the cancellation of ECSWR 2020 Bucharest, ESWRA was able to recover an important part of the 2020 loss thanks to a successful online conference in 2021 and as our loyal members renew their yearly membership, the financial stability of ESWRA is also assured.

### ESWRA Profit and loss account for the financial year 2021

	€2021	€2020
Member contribution	1,231.00	2,122.00
Conference and Events	80,492.00	0
<b>Total net Proceeds</b>	<b>81,723.00</b>	<b>2,122.00</b>
Conference event costs	1,430.00	1,0
SIG funding	-	-
European Journal of Social work	10,818.00	
<b>Gross Turnover</b>	<b>69,475.00</b>	<b>-2,902</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Board charges	184.00	1,741.00
Administration costs	37,052.00	36,290.00
<b>Operating result</b>	<b>32,239.00</b>	<b>-41,192.00</b>
Financial costs	280.00	296.00
<b>Result</b>	<b>31,959.00</b>	<b>-41,488.00</b>



## ACCOUNT AUDIT CERTIFICATE

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## ESWRA Board 2021

ESWRA is run by a Board elected by its members. There are 15 members of the Board. Current ESWRA Officers and members are:

**Chair:** Alessandro Sicora, University of Calabria, Italy

**Vice Chair:** Jon Symonds University of Bristol, UK

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

**Treasurer:** Koen Hermans KU Leuven Belgium

<b>Marcin Boryczko</b>	Chair, Nomination and Election Committee, Gdańsk University, Poland
<b>Inge Bryderup</b>	Chair, ESWRA Journal Development Group, Aalborg university, Denmark
<b>Elena Cabiati</b>	Chair, The Prizes and Sponsorship Committee, Catholic University of Milan, Italy
<b>Liz Frost</b>	Chair, Member Services and Research Resources Committee, University of the West of England, UK
<b>Ephrat Huss</b>	Chair, Country Representation Committee, University of the Negev. Israel
<b>Florin Lazar</b>	Chair, External Relations Committee, University of Bucharest, Romania
<b>María Inés Martínez-Herrero</b>	Chair, Special Interest Group Development Committee International University of La Rioja (UNIR), Spain
<b>Judith Metz</b>	Academie Mens en Maatschappij, The Netherlands
<b>Ozan Selçuk</b>	Co-chair, PhD & Early Career SIG, Recep Tayyip Erdogan University, Turkey
<b>Florian Spensberger</b>	ESWRA Doctoral, Co-chair, PhD & Early Career SIG Ludwig-Maximilians Universität München, Germany
<b>Karen Winter</b>	Queens University, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

For more information about ESWRA please email ESWRA's Executive Administrator,  
Claire Prater at [info@eswra.org](mailto:info@eswra.org)



**Find out more and become an ESWRA**



**member at [www.eswra.org](http://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**