

## Projects and Teaching Formats of Social Work in the context of Postcolonial Perspectives

Social Work curricula in many areas have a Eurocentric orientation, which obscures historical-colonial structures of inequality and power imbalances between and within regions. This leads to the development of dynamics between social groups and diverse identities and, connected to this, social inclusion and exclusion processes, which are often not sufficiently taken into account or reflected in the research, teaching and practice of Social Work. The postcolonial situation continues to profoundly influence knowledge production within the profession as well as the transfer of knowledge within teaching and practice in the Global South and North. Since postcolonial theories and practice approaches focus on global power relations and social inequalities, different forms of racism, discrimination and stigmatization processes, they are of particular importance for International Social Work.

On November 12, 2021, the Expert Groups „**International Social Work**“ and „**Flight, Migration, Racism and Anti-Semitism Criticism**“ of the German Association of Social Work (DGSA) will hold a joint symposium - if possible in attendance at the University of Applied Sciences Würzburg-Schweinfurt (FHWS). Within the framework of the event, focused projects and teaching formats in the context of postcolonial Social Work will be presented, tried out in workshops, discussed and jointly developed further. The conference will therefore focus on the following questions:

- How can postcolonial perspectives be anchored in the teaching and practice of Social Work? Which formats are particularly suitable for this?
- What creative possibilities are there for communicating aspects of postcolonial Social Work to students in a reflective and participatory way? What challenges can be identified?

These are the questions we want to address during the conference. The aim is to learn from existing approaches, to take up new ideas, to develop them further and to network. The conference is interdisciplinary and open for actors from science and practice who want to bring in different postcolonial perspectives relevant for Social Work (e.g. sociology, ethnology, economics, political science, theology, literature and history, etc...). The goal is to set out together in order to strengthen postcolonial perspectives and decolonial approaches within Social Work theory and practice.

We welcome submissions of interactive contributions in workshop formats (90 minutes) as well as topic-specific short papers with discussion rounds (45 minutes) on relevant questions. The abstract to be submitted should include the following information:

Title and subtitle and abstract of the paper of approximately 150-200 words and be submitted by **01.04.2021** via the email address **mrm-abroad.fas@fhws.de**.

**Young researchers in particular are encouraged to actively participate.**

The event will be held in German and English.

The organising committee:

Franziska Neureither, Tanja Kleibl, Ronald Lutz, Anna-Lisa Klages, Petra Dankova, und Robel Afeworki Abay