The expert committee “Politics of Social Work” of the German Association of Social Work (DGSA) in collaboration with the Institute of Social Work and Social Spaces (IFSAR) at the Eastern Switzerland University of Applied Sciences invites all interested students, scholars and social workers to participate in an international policy practice workshop. This workshop will be a good opportunity to get in touch with politically interested and engaged social workers from different countries, discuss various professional options to bring about change in social policy, and to learn from outstanding researchers in the field of political social work.

The meeting will last about two hours and consists of the following program: (1) Professors John Gal (The Hebrew University, Jerusalem) and Idit Weiss-Gal (Tel Aviv University) will give an introduction to the concept of policy practice and offer insights into their extensive research work in Israel and all over the world. Following this, (2) Miriam Burzlaff (Alice Salomon Hochschule, Berlin) will present the results of her completed doctoral project, which focused on policy practice in curricula at German universities. This presentation is complemented by (3) the findings of a survey among social work students in Germany about their political attitudes and activities that will be presented by Professor Dieter Kulke (Hochschule für angewandte Wissenschaften Würzburg-Schweinfurt). (4) Lastly, Professor Jason Ostrander (Sacred Heart University, Fairfield CT) will discuss a current project called the Congressional Policy Practice Project, which provides master and bachelor students of social work the opportunity to engage in policy practice at the federal level. After each presentation, there will be time for questions and discussion.

As there are still severe travelling restrictions due to Covid-19, the meeting will be held online only. Please send an e-mail to tobias.kindler@ost.ch in order to get your Zoom access code. We are looking forward to your participation.

Tobias Kindler / Institute of Social Work and Social Spaces (IFSAR)
Andrea Dischler & Jens Wurtzbacher / Spokespersons of the expert committee “Politics of Social Work” (DGSA)