

***Call for Papers***

# **STUDENT LED NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2023-2024**

**The Evolving Landscape : Envisioning the Future of  
Professional Social Work in India**

**29TH & 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023**

Venue: Extension Centre, College of Social  
Work (Autonomous), St. Pius Campus,  
Goregaon, Mumbai



**ORGANISED BY**

**COLLEGE OF SOCIAL  
WORK(AUTONOMOUS)  
NIRMALA NIKETAN**

## **SUB THEMES**

- A) Diversity and Inclusivity in Social Work
- B) Citizen Rights, Politics and Social Action
- C) Ecology and Wellbeing
- D) Social Work Education

**REGISTRATION LINK:**

**[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/CB5TIUY2ZD4QQARC6](https://forms.gle/CB5TIUY2ZD4QQARC6)**

# CONCEPT NOTE

## THE EVOLVING LANDSCAPE : ENVISIONING THE FUTURE OF PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK

The International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) released a global definition of Social Work in 2014, which states that “social work profession promotes social change, problem-solving in human relationships and the empowerment and liberation of people to enhance well-being. Utilizing theories of human behavior and social systems, social work intervenes at the points where people interact with their environments. Principles of human rights and social justice are fundamental to social work.” This definition places a focus on the fundamental ideas and purposes of professional Social Work. It draws attention to the profession's role in bringing about constructive change, dealing with social issues, and empowering people and communities. Social workers intervene and provide assistance for people in a variety of situations by building on their knowledge of social processes and human behavior. Social work practice is seen to be built on the core ideas of social justice and human rights.

Many nations around the world recognize social work as a profession, while the particular recognition and requirements can change. Social work is recognized and practiced in many nations, including the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, Germany, Sweden, Brazil, South Africa, and many others. Social work in India can be traced back to the pre-independence era when philanthropic efforts were made by individuals and organizations to address social issues. After India gained independence in 1947, social work gained more recognition and prominence. The government established institutions and programs aimed at addressing social welfare and development issues. Social work education in India is offered at various levels, including diploma, undergraduate (Bachelor of Social Work), postgraduate (Master of Social Work), and doctoral programs. Several universities and colleges offer social work courses across the country. The profession of social work in India is supported by professional associations such as the National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI) and the Indian Council of Social Welfare (ICSW). Social workers in India work in a wide range of areas, including child welfare, education, healthcare, community development, women empowerment, rural development, disaster management, and advocacy for marginalized communities. Social work in India faces various challenges, including limited resources, bureaucratic hurdles, inadequate policy frameworks, and social inequalities. There is a need for increased government support, policy reforms, and improved working conditions for social workers.

The future of social work in India is likely to be influenced by ongoing social and economic changes. There is a growing recognition of the importance of social work in addressing social issues and promoting social justice. Our collective efforts can help shape a future where social workers play a pivotal role in creating a more just, equitable, and compassionate society. The increasing number of elderly people in India can indeed have an impact on the younger generation, potentially creating additional pressures and challenges for them in various ways such as financial burden can indirectly affect the younger generation by limiting their access to resources and opportunities. As people are living longer, they may choose to work for longer periods, reducing the availability of job openings for younger individuals. This increased competition for jobs can add pressure on the youth to secure stable employment and establish their careers. Additionally, the responsibility of providing care often falls on the younger generation, especially their adult children or family members.

Balancing caregiving responsibilities with other commitments such as education, career, or personal life can create additional stress for the youth. The changing demographics can lead to shifting social dynamics within families and communities. Younger individuals may need to take on greater responsibilities in managing family affairs, making important decisions, and ensuring the well-being of older relatives. This can disrupt their personal lives, limit their independence, and add emotional and psychological pressure. In Indian culture, there is a strong emphasis on respecting and supporting elders. The increasing number of elderly people can heighten societal expectations for the youth to fulfill these traditional values. Meeting these expectations can create psychological pressure and conflicting priorities for young individuals who are trying to navigate their own personal aspirations and ambitions. It is important for society to address these challenges by implementing policies that support both the elderly and the younger generation.

As we look ahead to the future, it is crucial to explore the evolving landscape of professional social work and how it will continue to shape society. This national conference aims to delve into the potential advancements, challenges, and opportunities that lie ahead for the future of professional social work. The purpose of this conference is to explore the strategies required to successfully negotiate the changing environment and to imagine the future of professional social work. Together, we can design a future in which social workers are essential to building a society that is more just, fair, and caring. By envisioning the future of professional social work, we can explore innovative ways to enhance the impact of our work and create lasting positive change. Throughout this conference, we will encourage open dialogue, collaboration, and the sharing of diverse perspectives. By doing so, we can gain insights from one another's experiences and expertise, fostering a rich learning environment.

## Guidelines for Paper Submissions

- First step is writing an abstract of 250 - 300 words which should explain the topic of your presentation, and describe why the material, research, practice, or policy is important to the context.
- Decide which of the four sub themes of the conference your abstract relates (Refer the first page of this poster for the subthemes).
- Submit your abstract to **[cswnnstudentsconference@gmail.com](mailto:cswnnstudentsconference@gmail.com)** on or before the deadline, i.e 25th August 2023. If your abstract is accepted, you will be asked to submit a full paper and a brief biographical statement for the book of published abstracts.
- Remember to fill the registration form too by clicking **<https://forms.gle/Cb5t1uY2zd4QqaRC6>**
- You can pay the conference fees (excluding Accommodation) of Rs 500. This will cover food expenses and conference kits. Accommodation sites can be facilitated for those interested in booking lodging through us.

# Key Deadlines

- Last date for submission of abstract: 25th August 2023
- Selection decision regarding abstract: 31st August 2023
- Full paper submission: 18th September 2023
- Submission of PPT of the paper presentation: 25th September 2023

## Patron

**Dr Lidwin Dias**

*Principal, College of Social Work (autonomous), Nirmala Niketan, Mumbai*

## Faculty Advisors

- Dr. Ronald Yesudas
- Dr. Vaijayanta Anand
- Mr. Albin Thomas

## Student Conveners

- Ms. Josephine Sarodas
- Ms. Treesa Roshni JC

## Organizing Committee

### MSW II

Ms. Josephine Sarodas, Ms Jhimli Chatterjee , Ms Josna Adriel , Ms Nilam Shedge, Ms Mahima Gangoda, Fr Antony Jose, Mr Malhar Powar, Fr Sundar Magimai, Ms Dhruvi Singh

### BSW III

Ms. Treesa Roshni JC, Ms. Aishwarya Patel, Mr Elee Kajar, Ms Nirali Domadiya, Ms Ritika Gaikwad, Mr Soham Joshi, Mr Subrata KS, Ms Venissa Sambrea

## Contact Us

**For questions or additional information please contact**

**Ms. Josephine Sarodas (8108185885)/ Ms. Treesa Roshni JC (7994671408)**  
**or email us at [cswnnstudentsconference@gmail.com](mailto:cswnnstudentsconference@gmail.com)**