

# THE NORDIC BALTIC DOCTORAL NETWORK IN SOCIAL WORK (NBSW)

11TH SUMMER SCHOOL 26<sup>TH</sup> -30<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2019 RIGA, LATVIA

## MEASURING OUTCOMES OF SOCIAL WORK

to be hosted by the University of Latvia, Faculty of Social Science

The Nordic-Baltic Doctoral Network in Social Work (NBSW) is a joint network of the doctoral schools, universities and other institutions in social work in seven countries. The network provides research training for PhD students in social work in Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, but also for PhD students in social work from countries outside the network.

We invite PhD students from the network countries and beyond to participate in the summer school of the Nordic-Baltic Doctoral Network in Social Work (NBSW). This summer school aims to bring together PhD candidates in social work from Nordic and Baltic countries and from countries outside the network for five days of intensive lectures and thorough discussions on measuring outcomes of social work and social work research. Submission of a paper (optionally short or long) connected with the theme of the summer school is a prerequisite for participation.

In many social work situations, measuring success is difficult. The social work practice and research could apply different approaches, theoretical perspectives and views of various actors involved in social practice. The evidence-based approach is a part of social work and social work research. The individual social work practice, organizational work and structural changes could be supported by measuring outcomes of social work and social work research.



- How to measure social work and social work research in different ways?
- How an individual view/social groups/society can be measured in social work research?
- How measuring outcomes of social work can facilitate development of social work practice?
- How the practitioner, researcher and service user could work together in order to identify what works, for whom and under what conditions?
- What are the critical aspects of evidence-based approach?

These are the main topics that will be addressed and discussed during the summer school.

In addition, during the summer school special attention will be paid on how important it is in social work to have knowledge about information gathering techniques, data processing, data analysis etc. The ethical principles such as avoiding harming the research participants, preserving privacy, anonymity, and confidentiality will also be discussed.

The summer school will each day contain a mixture of keynote presentations related to the perspectives of the overall topic and workshops where the PhD students present and discuss their papers under the guidance of experienced researchers or keynote speakers.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS AND THEMES OF PRESENTATION

1. **Baiba Bela**, Associate Professor (University of Latvia, Faculty of Social Science, LATVIA)  
“Research on Poverty: Numbers and Narratives”
2. **Līga Rasnača**, Associate Professor (University of Latvia, Faculty of Social Science, LATVIA)  
“Measuring Outcomes in Social Work: Research Experience in Latvia”
3. **Zsolt Bugarszki**, Associate Professor (Tallinn University, ESTONIA)  
“Measuring Social Innovation – New Metrics in the Welfare System”
4. **Mikko Mäntysaari**, Professor (emeritus) (University of Jyväskylä, FINLAND)  
“From the Shadow of the Guillotine – Saved by the Evidence”

## TIME

Start Monday August 26, 2019 at 15:00

End Friday August 30, 2019 at 15:00

## PLACE

Latvia, University of Latvia:

<https://www.lu.lv/>

Faculty of Social Science (ULFSS):

<https://ulfss.lu.lv/>

Information about travel and accommodation will be provided in **May 2019**

## ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Endija Rezgale – Straidoma (University of Latvia)

Līga Rasnača (University of Latvia)

Merike Sisask (Tallinn University)

## CONTACTS

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## PRELIMINARY PAPER INSTRUCTIONS

The summer school stands for the course which provides 4 ECTS credits with a short paper (1000-2000 words) submission and presentation and 7.5 ECTS credits with a long paper (6000-7000 words) submission and presentation. Both options include 4 working days during the summer school. University of Latvia will issue a course certificate, which has to be approved and recognised by sending university.

Participants are expected to read articles relevant to the theme before the summer school. Literature list for reading will be sent out latest in 31st May 2019. Papers and presentations must connect the participant's doctoral research project with the theme of the summer school. The paper should start with a short description of the focus of participant's doctoral research project and continue with a discussion connected to the theme of the summer school. The presented papers must be developed to a certain level and made relevant to the theme and make extensive use of the literature of the course. Paper presentations include a short oral presentation followed by a group discussion based on the paper, including feedback from senior lecturers/researchers. In order to get the course certificate, participants must be prepared to improve the paper according to the feedback given in seminars and resubmit it after the summer school. The paper should be sent to Endija Rezgale – Straidoma ([endija.rezgale-straidoma@lu.lv](mailto:endija.rezgale-straidoma@lu.lv)) before 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Papers should be written in English.

Each day of the summer school is a mixture of keynote presentations related to particular perspectives of the overall theme and workshops where the participants present and discuss their papers under the guidance of keynote speakers and experienced researchers. A field visit will be organised.

## DEADLINES

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|----------------|---|
| <b>May 25</b>  | Application deadline<br>( <a href="mailto:endija.rezgale-straidoma@lu.lv">endija.rezgale-straidoma@lu.lv</a> )      |
| <b>May 31</b>  | Decision about participation will be announced  |
| <b>May 31</b>  | Literature list for reading, practical information for participants   |
| <b>July 15</b> | Paper submission deadline<br>( <a href="mailto:endija.rezgale-straidoma@lu.lv">endija.rezgale-straidoma@lu.lv</a> ) |

**LOOKING FORWARD  
TO MEETING YOU!**

