



### **SIG Solidarities and Social Work**

#### **Workshop on 'Concepts and Practices of Solidarity and Social Work'**

**Time:** Wednesday, 15 April 2026, 9:30-15:30 (BST) / 10:30-16:30 (CEST)

**Place:** Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen, Scotland;  
Track 10; N107 Sir Ian Wood Building -RGU

#### **8:30 Arriving and registration**

9:30 - 9:45 Welcome and Introduction (Thomas Geisen)

9:45 -11:00 Theories and Concepts of Solidarity (M: Roland Becker-Lenz)

- Thomas Geisen (University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland FHNW): 'Living Together with Differences. Practices of Solidarity in Social Work'
- Jibril Gabriel Solomon (Bridgewater State University): 'Practices and Concepts of Solidarity and Social Work'

#### **11:00-11:30 Coffee Break**

11:30-12:30 Theoretical Analyses with Implications for Practice and Policy (M: Thomas Geisen)

- Poppy Masinga (South African College of Applied Psychology ) & Pat Cox (MIDEX Research Centre): 'Looking Back and Moving Forwards: Learning to Practise Solidarity through Decolonising Thinking and Actions.'
- Femke Kaulingfreks (University of Amsterdam): 'Reclaiming Solidarity: A Critical Pedagogical Alternative to Neutrality in Times of Polarisation'

#### **12:30-13:30 Lunch break (provided)**

13:30–15:00 Empirical Solidarity Research (with implications for policy and practice) (M: Petro Mozolewskyi)

- Daniela Giamb Bruno (School of Social Work at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso): 'The Place of Grassroots Solidarity Initiatives in Times of Crisis in Chile: an Analysis from a Welfare-Regime Perspective'
- Nuzha Alassad Alhuzail (Sapir Academic College): 'Beyond Broken Bridges: Solidarity as a Healing Force in Israeli Society'
- Rebekka Ehret (Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts): 'Joking and laughter as mechanisms for expressing solidarity. A case study of gender-based violence in Sierra Leone and implications for social work interventions.'

**15:00–15:30 SIG Perspectives and Closing** (M: Thomas Geisen)

- Discussion of the SIG perspectives and closing of the Workshop

**Informal part:** Joining for dinner - We will make a reservation at a nearby restaurant. Please let us know if you join us for dinner: [mariabernadetta.jastrzebska@fhnw.ch](mailto:mariabernadetta.jastrzebska@fhnw.ch)