



Solidarity Research Network (SRN) Newsletter

Dear colleagues and partners,

We have established the Solidarity Research Network (SRN) in October 2024 as a transdisciplinary, international research platform. The aim of the platform is to address issues of solidarity in social transformation processes. [More info](#)

The SRN aims to develop international research collaborations that engage in applied research on current issues of solidarity. To this end, the SRN focuses on:

- the development of **research projects** on solidarity-related topics;
- the initiation of **international and interdisciplinary collaborations** with partners in research and practice to promote **knowledge transfer**;
- the organization of **networking events**.

Establishing partnerships and carrying out SRN activities requires efficient communication between SRN members. We also want to attract further partners. To make communication within the dynamically growing SRN effective and efficient and to make information from the SRN mutually accessible, we have created this newsletter.

In this, first newsletter issue, we share updates on our ongoing and upcoming activities, and opportunities for collaboration.

Warmest regards,

[The SRN Team](#)

✦ Highlights & News from the Network

🌐 Stand with Dr. Poppy Masinga for Global Peace, Equality & Sustainability

Many of you will know [Dr. Poppy Masinga](#) from the University of Johannesburg, who has been working tirelessly to gather support for a global petition addressed to the **G20 leaders meeting in Johannesburg on November 22–23**.

The petition — endorsed by **IFSW, IASSW, and ICSW** — calls for **urgent action towards global peace, equality, and sustainability**. Its message is universal and positive, and **your signature can make a difference**.

🔗 Sign here: [Act Now for Global Peace, Equality and Sustainability](#)

Please note: **It's free to sign**. Change.org may ask for a donation to support their platform, but this is **completely optional**.

Let's show our collective support and help spread this important message ahead of the G20 Summit.

💛 Strengthening Academic Solidarity with Partner Universities in the Ukraine

As part of the Solidarity Research Network (SRN), the School of Social Work FHNW continues to expand its **international partnerships** with four Ukrainian Universities: the **National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy**, **Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv**, **Ivano-Frankivsk National Technical University of Oil and Gas**, and the **National University of Water and Environmental Engineering**.

This collaboration promotes **research and knowledge exchange** through conferences, guest lectures, workshops, and round tables, supporting the joint development of scientific projects and publications. The partnership also includes **coordinated teaching initiatives**, such as a shared modules within the SRN framework, and the continuous exchange of best practices in solidarity research and higher education.

By fostering transparent communication, joint curriculum development, and shared research agendas, the initiative strengthens academic cooperation between **Switzerland and Ukraine**, advancing both scholarly collaboration and the broader mission of international solidarity.

🌱 Recap: 1st International Solidarity Research Conference

23–24 October 2025 | University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland, School of Social Work FHNW, Olten (Switzerland) & Online

The inaugural **International Solidarity Research Conference (ISRC)** brought together scholars and practitioners from across disciplines to examine "*Relational Solidarity and Interdisciplinary Perspectives*" from many countries, including Kenya, South Africa, Canada, the USA, Ukraine, Romania, the United Kingdom, Germany, Switzerland and Israel. Organized by the [Solidarity Research Network \(SRN\)](#), the event fostered dialogue on how solidarity is enacted, negotiated, and challenged in multiple contexts, especially in contexts of war, crisis and conflict.

Keynote contributions by [Sally Scholz](#), [Daniel Muia](#), [Sui Ting Kong](#) and [Harald Bauder](#) offered critical insights into the ethical, cultural, and political dimensions of solidarity — from the distribution of risk and indigenous community practices to feminist perspectives and urban migrant inclusion.

Parallel **workshop sessions** showcased current empirical and theoretical work addressing solidarity in education, migration, social movements, and everyday life. Discussions emphasized the **relational and situated nature of solidarity**, its ambivalent role in sustaining or contesting inequality, and the need for **reflexive, practice-oriented research** that bridges academia and social engagement.

The conference concluded with a poster session and networking social event, strengthening the international research community around solidarity studies and paving the way for future collaborative projects within the SRN.

[More info](#)





Upcoming events

Seminar online

Solidarity and Social Work ESWRA
Special Interest Group (SIG)
Title: Relocated Solidarity: rethinking
social workers' roles in supporting
politically displaced migrants.

[More info](#)

11.Feb.2026

14:00 GMT / 15:00 CET
Zoom

Workshop hybrid

2nd Workshop of our EASWR Special
Interest Group (SIG) on 'Concepts and
Practices of Solidarity and Social Work'
at the 15th European Social Work
Research Association Conference
(ECSWR) at the Robert Gordon
University in Aberdeen, Scotland

[More info](#)

15.Apr.2026

**Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen,
Scotland and Zoom**

Calls & Opportunities in the Network

- Call for Proposals for the 2nd Workshop of the EASWR Special Interest Group (SIG) on "Concepts and Practices of Solidarity and Social Work" at the 15th European Social Work Research Association Conference (ECSWR), from 15th to 17th April 2026 in Aberdeen, Scotland [Call for Papers](#)
- Call for Papers for the 26th International Migration Conference (IMC) on "Mapping Participation" from 10th to 12th June 2026 at the Technical University of Applied Sciences Saar htw in Saarbrücken, Germany. The conference offers a special focus on "Migration and Solidarity" [Call for Papers](#)
- Call for Papers for the World Community Development Conference (WCDC) on "Community Development in a Chaotic World: Challenge, Change and Collective Action" from 30th June to 2nd July 2026 at the the University of Glasgow, Scotland [Call for Papers](#)

Publications in the Network

 [Urban Migrant Inclusion and Refugee Protection - Volume 1](#)

 [Urban Migrant Inclusion and Refugee Protection - Volume 2](#)

Network & Partners

Thank you to our [network partners](#) and collaborators for their support and active engagement!

Join us!: Send your **photo**, **link to your profile**, **e-mail address** and a **short statement on why solidarity research is important to you** to mariabernadetta.jastrzebska@fhnw.ch

 **Stay connected**

Follow us and get the latest updates:

www.solidarity-research.ch/

www.solidarity-research.ch/activities/

For general inquiries or to subscribe/unsubscribe, contact:

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