

4TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE FOR SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH

Bozen/Bolzano 15 - 16 - 17 April 2014

Form

1) Your name(s):

Dr George Palattiyil and Dr Dina Sidhva (Co-Conveners of the HIV, Human Rights and Development Network)

2) Title of the SIG:

Human Rights, Health and Migration

3) Brief description of scope and aims of the group:

This SIG will focus on the role of the Social Work profession, in Europe, in addressing migrant health needs with a special focus on their human rights.

The SIG will touch upon migration in the context of Europe; e.g. social integration policies of some selected countries; determinants of migrant health, such as: linguistic, social and cultural determinants and social, environmental and biological determinants.

Further it will explore how to develop a migrant-sensitive social work workforce in Europe.

Finally, it will look at the role of social work in the protection and advancement of human rights of migrants; e.g. de-stigmatization and inclusion.

4) Any further relevant information you would wish to include:

The HIV, Human Rights and Development Network was launched in the Scottish Parliament on 9 May 2013, as a platform to take forward some of the key issues arising from a recent research "They Call Me You are AIDS: A Report on HIV, Human Rights and Asylum Seekers in Scotland" by the co-conveners Dr George Palattiyil and Dr Dina Sidhva, that looked at the human rights experiences of HIV positive asylum seekers in Scotland.

Since its launch, the Network has been growing steadily with over 250 members at the moment with considerable interest from Members of Scottish Parliament, policy makers, practitioners, academics/researchers, human rights activists, people living with HIV including asylum seekers and other migrants, faith based organisations etc. The Network is co-chaired by Jim Eadie MSP and Kezia Dugdale MSP and has received cross party support. It has also begun to generate interest outside the UK and we hope that in due course the Network will become global.

In November 2013, the Network held a major seminar at the Scottish Parliament to mark World AIDS Day, Human Rights Day and International Migration Day. The event gave us a unique

4TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE FOR SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH

Bozen/Bolzano 15 - 16 - 17 April 2014

opportunity to reflect on and celebrate, three important days that reflect the vision of the Network.