



Handbook of International Social Work: Human Rights, Development, and the Global Profession

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Global knowledge is increasingly essential for all aspects of social work. Today's professionals respond to concerns including permeable borders, the upheavals of war, displaced workers, natural disasters, international adoption, and human trafficking. Everywhere, social workers work with service users and colleagues from diverse cultures and countries. Globally relevant concepts such as human rights, development, and inclusion offer new perspectives to enhance policy and practice and facilitate the international exchange of ideas.

This handbook is the first major reference text to provide a solid foundation of knowledge for students and researchers alike. The extensive collection of 73 chapters confirms the integral and necessary nature of international social work knowledge to all areas of practice, policy, and research. Chapters systematically map the key issues, organizations, competencies, training and research needs, and ethical guidelines central to international social work practice today, emphasizing the linkages among social work, development, and human rights practice. In-depth country case studies and policy examples encourage readers to understand how their practice in social work touches on international issues, regardless of whether the work is done at home or abroad.

Representing all regions of the world, a wide range of contributors that are leaders in their fields have put together an exhaustive collection that represents the state-of-play of international social work today.

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Editorial Review

Review

"This handbook is the most comprehensive volume of the theory and practice of international social work. Case examples of international social work are highlighted. This handbook will serve as an excellent text for courses in international social work and international social development and as a reference for courses in human behavior and the social environment, social policy and additional methods courses in community building, community organization, social planning, and social development." -- Frederick L. Ahearn, DSW, Ordinary Professor and Co-Director, Center for International Social Development, Catholic University of America

"The handbook is an innovative collection of contemporary narratives and research concerning international social work. It is startling in its range and will be an essential ingredient for the social work curriculum. This content welcomes interdisciplinarity and is equally valuable to undergraduate and graduate study. The emphasis that social work is a human rights profession is of profound, significant importance. This is a 'must-have' resource for practitioners and all professionals interested in international issues of social work." -
- Lea Sugman Bohinc, PhD, Senior Lecturer of Social Work, Faculty of Social Work, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

"The profession of social work is a complex one-made even more complex when viewed from a global perspective. This handbook simplifies this view by presenting specific examples of new approaches to global problems and increased awareness of old ones. At the same time it magnifies the nature of international social work by assembling a comprehensive and inclusive volume that presents almost encyclopedic knowledge of theories, concepts, history, methods, problems, laws, and careers. Any scholar or practitioner who wants to appreciate the scope of global social work will want this book as a part of their library." -- Jean K. Quam, PhD, Dean, College of Education and Human Development, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

"This is a monumental masterpiece that is destined to become a classic text for students, scholars and practitioners interested in international social work across the globe. It is comprehensive, analytical, and thought-provoking, and is able to capture the dynamic interplay between global issues and local practice in a most powerful and captivating manner. Written by distinguished authors from diverse national and cultural backgrounds, the *Handbook* has not only enriched our understanding of global issues confronting the international social work community, but has also rekindled our sense of responsibility for social change and development through global action and international collaboration." -- Angelina Yuen, PhD, Professor and Vice President, Hong Kong Polytechnic University; and President, International Association of Schools of Social Work

About the Author

Lynne M. Healy, PhD, is Professor and Director of the Center for International Social Work Studies at the University of Connecticut School of Social Work.

Rosemary J. Link, PhD, is Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at Simpson College, Iowa.

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