

SUPSI

International Course

Participation: Beyond Good Intentions Inspirations, Approaches and Actions

18-20 April 2024

SUPSI-DEASS, Sala Polivalente Stabile Piazzetta,
Via Violino 11, Manno



HSLU Lucerne University
of Applied Sciences
and Arts

 **OST**
Ostschweizer
Fachhochschule

n|w University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland
School of Social Work

Hes·SO

**zh
aw** Soziale
Arbeit


Bern University
of Applied Sciences


HAUTE ÉCOLE DE TRAVAIL SOCIAL Fribourg
HOCHSCHULE FÜR SOZIALE ARBEIT Fribourg

Participation: Beyond Good Intentions – Inspirations, Approaches and Actions

About this course

The active and meaningful participation of minority groups, including those from diverse backgrounds and/or with disabilities, is a key concern in the quest for a more inclusive society. This international course aims to explore the theoretical, methodological and professional aspects of participation beyond good intentions. Keynote speakers will explore the theoretical underpinnings of participation, analyzing key concepts such as empowerment, social justice and recognition. They will also explore and showcase innovative methods and tools that promote genuine and equitable participation by people from diverse backgrounds.

In workshops, experts will share their experiences, successes and challenges, focusing on collaborative strategies and inclusive approaches that promote the co-creation of solutions. The impact of participation on social transformation and the political, economic and cultural implications of this approach will be considered together. Participants will be encouraged to co-develop new ideas. In essence, this international conference provides a dynamic platform for exploring the complex dimensions of participation, with particular attention to audiences from diverse backgrounds. It motivates future professionals to examine their practices, cultivate new skills and promote innovative approaches to cultivating a more inclusive and equitable society. Beyond theory and methodology, the central focus of the conference raises a fundamental question about the kind of society we want to live in.

The target groups are

Students enrolled in a Social Work program at one of the Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences and students at their international partner universities. All lectures and workshops will be held in English (an intermediate level is therefore required).

Program

18 April 2024

- 5.45-8.00 p.m. Documentary film "To Whom It May Concern" and discussion with Collettivo Viole Spinate at Cinema Iride in Lugano
- 8.00-8.30 p.m. Aperitif

19 April 2024

- 8.30 – 9.00 a.m. Welcome & Introduction
- 9.00 – 10.00 a.m. Panel on Participation: Beyond Good Intentions – Inspirations, Approaches and Actions
Theories and models of participation: analysis of participatory practice
Alessandro Tolomelli, Professor at University of Bologna, Department of Education Studies
Political participation of children and teenagers in Switzerland
Michele Pizzera, Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Dep. Social Work
- 10.00 – 10.20 a.m. Break
- 10.20 – 11.00 a.m. **Access to higher education for refugees: Challenges and issues of participation from an inclusion perspective**
Marie Christine Ukelo M'bolo-Merga, Responsable relations internationales HETS Fribourg
- 11.00 – 12.00 a.m. Conference: experts with the public
- 12.00 – 1.15 p.m. Lunch break
- 1.15 – 3.30 p.m. Workshops*
- 3.30 – 4.00 p.m. Break
- 4.00 – 4.30 p.m. Workshop summary
- 4.30 – 4.45 p.m. Observer's conclusions
- 4.45 – 5.00 p.m. Closing

*Parallel sessions, participants will choose two workshops

20 April 2024

- 9.15-10.10 a.m. Welcome & Introduction
- 10.10-10.30 a.m. World Café
- 10.25 – 10.45 a.m. Café Break
- 10.30-10.45 a.m. Summary World Café - Voices from the tables
- 10.45-11.45 a.m. Forum theatre
- 11.45 – 12.00 a.m. Closing of International Course

Parallel workshops sessions:

Organisers	Title
Alessandro Tolomelli , University of Bologna Leonardo Da Vinci, Francesca Maci and Fabio Lenzo , SUPSI Dipartimento economia aziendale, sanità e sociale	Participation of Children and Youth living in minority educational institutions: <i>il Progetto VIVAVOCE</i> .
Marit Cremer , University of Applied Sciences Potsdam, Germany Rebekka Ehret , University of Applied Sciences Lucerne, Switzerland	Critical reflection on the tension between complicity/paternalism and possibilities of empowerment: Social workers' scope for participation within administrative structures
Moritz Reisberger , MCI Innsbruck, Austria Michele Pizzera , Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland	Participatory Research
Andreas Schauder , University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland Agapi Kandylaki , University of Thrace, Komotini, Greece	Creating positive encounters between School Social Work and conditions of vulnerability through art work, play and fairy tales.
Marie Christine Ukelo M'bolo-Merga , University of Applied Sciences Fribourg University partner TBD Ian M Cook , Phd, Researcher in Hungary	How do European universities enable and/or discourage the participation of students with experiences of displacement (such as refugees or asylum seekers)? What could be the scope of social work in this context?
Shkumbin Gashi , BFH Departement Gesundheit, Switzerland Prof. Dr. Eveline Amman-Dula , BFH Departement Soziale Arbeit, Switzerland Dr. Clara Bombach , BFH Departement Soziale Arbeit, Switzerland University Prishtina, Kosovo	Participatory Action Research
Prof. (FH) Dr. Doris Böhler , University of Applied Sciences Vorarlberg, Austria Axel Pohl , OST Eastern Switzerland University of Applied Sciences	Participation of Marginalized Youth: Options for Social Work

Course registration

Detailed Information on the registration process, program and the online link will be sent to the partner universities and participants prior to the course.

Deadline for registration: tbd

Registration fee

The international course is free of charge.

Organisation & contact

The international course is a joint project of all seven Swiss University of Applied Sciences with Social Work programmes.

Contact for further questions:

Valentina Brugnoli, SUPSI

valentina.brugnoli@supsi.ch

Marie Christine Ukelo M'bolo-Merga,

HETS Fribourg

marie-christine.ukelo@hefr.ch