



Social Work International Conference

Riding the Shock Wave:

Social Work challenges during and after COVID-19

November 3rd - 4th 2022

University of Bucharest

Social Work International Conference (SWIC) 2022

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Call for Abstracts

Organizers: *Department of Social Work, Faculty of Sociology and Social Work, University of Bucharest* in collaboration with the *Romanian Association of Schools of Social Work (ASSWR)*

Conference dates: November 3rd – 4th, 2022

Conference venue: **Online** (final decision)

Conference languages: English

Conference website: www.swicub.com

The Social Work Department of the University of Bucharest is pleased to invite submissions for presentations at the 6th edition of the [Social Work International Conference \(SWIC\)](#) to be held between **November 3rd and 4th, 2022**.

When the science fiction of the 1970s meets the real world and begins to be confused with it only half a century later, we start to wonder what kind of world we built, what we could do better and how we respond to the challenges that emerge on the horizon. In the 1970s, Alvin Toffler in his iconic book *Future Shock* drew attention to the fact that we face certain psychological states of individuals and entire societies, more precisely "too much change in too short a period of time". The title of the SWIC 6th edition is a mixture between the title of two SF novels: *The Shockwave Rider* (1975) by John Brunner and *The 5th Wave* (2013) by Rick Yancey. Both main heroes of the two novels have to face brutal world changes, adapt to the new social arrangements and, at the same time, resist inherent mechanisms of oppression. This is exactly what the COVID-19 crisis caused – a myriad of changes in response to the shock. We can look at these changes from two diametrically opposed perspectives: the disorganization and chaos created - the breakdown of the system in the terms of R.K. Merton, on the one hand, and the potential for development through crisis – the search for answers, resources, solutions, adaptation and resilience, on the other hand.

In this context, as other socio-economic turbulences caused by situations and events also with global impact emerge, such as the recent escalation of the Russia-Ukraine war, social work has had to activate crisis intervention mechanisms and re-think its strategies for assisting the most disadvantaged populations. Social work, through its resilience and capacity for innovation can contribute not only to



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diminishing the psycho-socio-economic consequences of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic and other widespread phenomena, but also to shaping a better and more equitable world.

We invite researchers and practitioners from the field of social work as well as other connected social science fields to join us in reflecting on the dynamic and adaptative character of social interventions, looking past the “shock wave”. What have been the lessons learned for social work from the recent challenges with world-wide effects? What innovative approaches to practice, research and/or social work education took effect or became necessary as a consequence of facing these challenges? What needs to be done in order to better leverage the innovative possibilities of social work for improved social protection strategies?

We welcome scientifically sound and original contributions from researchers, educators, practitioners, and students from social science in the areas listed below. Submissions can be empirical, theoretical or practice based. We accept submissions from both experienced researchers/practitioners and students.

Focus areas

The streams of the conference are divided based on the 3 main areas:

1. Answers to the COVID-19 Shock and future challenges for Social Work education
2. Answers to the COVID-19 Shock and future challenges for Social Work research
3. Answers to the COVID-19 Shock and future challenges for Social Work practice

Key dates

Submission of abstracts: ~~August 10th, 2022~~ **September 18th, 2022**

Informing participants: October 1th, 2022

Registration deadline: October 23rd, 2022

PowerPoint presentation submission deadline: October 30th, 2022

Conference dates: November 3rd – 4th, 2022

Full-Text submission: March 1st, 2023

Publication of papers

All submissions to SWIC 2022 must be in English (abstracts and/or full-texts). They will be evaluated through a peer-review process. Selected full-text papers will be published in a special number of the [The Social Work Review](#).



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Online Conference Participation

Due to the high number of requests for online participation, the SWIC 2022 Organizing Committee has decided to hold the SWIC 2022 conference in an **online format**. Instructions about the conference platform and how to access it will be sent to the registered participants before the start of the conference.

Presentation types include *individual* or *co-authored papers*, *poster presentations*, and *workshops*. The abstracts will be evaluated based on their relevance to the conference theme, methodological strength, relevance to social work and actuality of the topic.

Abstract submission

The deadline for the submission of abstracts to the SWIC 2022 conference has been extended until **September 18th, 2022**.

To apply please fill out the [Abstract Submission Form](#).

Abstract submissions should include the following:

Title of the presentation

Name and affiliation of the author(s)

3-5 keywords

The abstract body (300 words or less, maximum 3000 characters) should follow as much as possible the below structure:

- Background/Context
- Research objective
- Methodology
- Main results and/or implications for social work education, practice and/or research
- General conclusion

All submissions are made through the [Abstract Submission Form](#), by ~~August 10th, 2022~~ **September 18th, 2022**. Please address any enquiries about the conference to swicub@sas.unibuc.ro.

*The SWIC 2022 Organizing Committee looks forward to
receiving your abstract!*