

# THE NORDIC BALTIC DOCTORAL NETWORK IN SOCIAL WORK (NBSW) Summer school 14th – 18th August 2017

## *User Involvement and Ethics in Social Work Research*

to be hosted by Vilnius University and Vytautas Magnus  
University, Lithuania  
in collaboration with Umeå University, Sweden

**The Nordic-Baltic Doctoral Network in Social Work** is a joint network of the doctoral schools, universities and other institutions in social work in seven countries. The network provides research training for PhD students in Social Work in Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

**Theme:** We are inviting Ph.D. students to participate in the summer school of Nordic-Baltic Doctoral Network in Social Work. This Summer School aims to bring together PhD candidates in social work from Nordic and Baltic countries for five days of intensive lectures and discussions of different perspectives on user involvement and ethics in social work research. We recognise the value of knowledge that can be gained from "lived experience" of social problems and specifically service user or client experience of contact with social work and the helping professions, for the development of relevant and effective support systems and services. Researchers are challenged by this awareness to adapt and develop ethical research practices which would be sensitive to and inclusive of a user perspective and the users themselves.

Various levels of influence in the research process will be discussed, from methods that seek to explore a user perspective, to those that include users in the collection and dissemination of data and results, and to the challenge and ethical issues of involving users in the identification and development of the actual questions to be researched. Experiences with user panels, with action research methods and with supporting users in the development of research

## PLACE

Vilnius University

<http://www.vu.lt/en>

Faculty of Philosophy

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## CONTACTS

**Social Work Department**

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**E-mail for applications:**

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**E-mail for papers:**

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skills and a career in research will all be problematized and discussed during the Summer School. Special attention will be paid to tensions that may arise when attempting to balance experiential and scientific knowledge and ethical questions that may present themselves when working directly with users and a focus on user influence.

**Keynote Speakers:** prof. dr. Urban Markström and assoc. prof. dr. David Rosenberg from Umeå University, Sweden; prof. dr. Laimutė Žalimienė and dr. Donata Petružytė from Vilnius University, Lithuania; assoc. prof. dr. Rasa Naujanienė and assoc. prof. dr. Dalija Snieškienė from Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania; dr. Veronica Lövgren, Umeå University and Umeå Center for Disability Research, Sweden.

**How to participate?** The summer school is open for doctoral students in social work. The summer school is free of charge. PhD students will cover expenses for the travelling, accommodation and meals themselves.

**Deadline for applications is the 14th of April. Please send the application to Julija Orlovskaja, [julija.orlovskaja@fsf.vu.lt](mailto:julija.orlovskaja@fsf.vu.lt) (see application form).**

**Accommodation and travelling:** The summer school accommodation takes place in Vilnius. More information about accommodation is given May 2017. You can fly to Kaunas and take bus or order the transfer connection. *Vilnius airport will be closed for reconstructions.*

**Extent:** Students who present a short paper receive 4.0 ECTS, while students who present an accepted full paper receive the maximum of 7.5 ECTS, both will include five working days. The organisers of summer school will issue a certificate of participation which has to be approved and recognised by sending university.

**Paper instructions:** To be able to obtain 4.0 ECTS for participation in the summer school, the PhD-students should send a short paper of minimum 1000 and maximum 2000 words. To obtain 7.5 ECTS the long paper has to be at minimum 6000 and maximum 7000 words. The paper should take a starting point in a short description of the focus in student's research (doctoral project) continuing to a discussion connected to the theme of the summer school. The presented papers must be developed to a certain level and made relevant to the theme and make extensive use of the literature of the course. In order to get the course certificate, the students must be prepared to improve their papers, and sent in after the



summer school, according to the feedback given in seminars. Paper presentations include both a short oral presentation and a discussion based on the text. **The paper should be sent to: Laimutė Žalimienė laima.zalimiene@fsf.vu.lt before 24th of June. Papers should be written in English.**

**Content:** The summer school will each day contain a mixture of keynote presentations related to particular perspectives of the overall topic and workshops where the PhD students present and discuss their work under the guidance of experienced researchers or keynote speakers. The key note presentations of the summer school will approach the topic from various settings and open perspectives of user involvement and research ethics in social work and also in the Nordic and Baltic societies. A field visit will be offered.

**Time:** The programme will start at 1.00 pm on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> of August. The final session on Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> of August, will end at 12.30 pm.

**Readings:** Participants are expected to read articles relevant to the topic before the summer school. Reading list will be sent out to students latest the 1<sup>st</sup> of May.

**Program committee:** Summer school is organized by NBSW, Vilnius University by Laimutė Žalimienė and Jolita Buzaitytė-Kašalynienė, Vytautas Magnus University by Rasa Naujanienė and Umeå University by Hildur Kalman.

**Deadlines:**

April 14<sup>th</sup>: Application to: [julija.orlovskaja@fsf.vu.lt](mailto:julija.orlovskaja@fsf.vu.lt). Please use our application form.

May 1<sup>st</sup>: The organizers will tell whether you have been selected for summer school.

May 1<sup>st</sup>: Reading list will be send to participants.

June 24<sup>th</sup>: Sending paper to organizers: [laima.zalimiene@fsf.vu.lt](mailto:laima.zalimiene@fsf.vu.lt).

**More information:** NBSW coordinator Lars Uggerhøj [lug@socsci.aau.dk](mailto:lug@socsci.aau.dk), Summer school information professor Laimutė Žalimienė [laima.zalimiene@fsf.vu.lt](mailto:laima.zalimiene@fsf.vu.lt) .

***Looking forward to meeting you***

