

CALL FOR PAPERS

“Transnational Histories of Social Work and Social Welfare”

Deadline for submission of proposals

October 1, 2015

Guest editors Sofiya An, Adrienne Chambon, and Stefan Köngeter invite interested authors to submit proposals for original contributions on the topic of **“Transnational Histories of Social Work and Social Welfare”** for a special issue of the journal *Transnational Social Review – A Social Work Journal* (TSR) to be published in fall 2016.

Research Interest

Social work and social welfare emerged as institutions of modern nation-states, circumscribed by nation-state borders and inscribed in specific local and regional contexts; as such they have been examined traditionally as stable institutions confined to nation-state borders. While social work has constantly been searching for its domain and identity (Dominelli 2007), the continuous transformation of the global context creates new challenges for social work on a national and global scale.

While these transnational developments have multiple and profound effects on social work, they have been only tangentially addressed by social science and historical research. By contrast, the studies of early histories of social work in the West and of recent histories of social work in post-Soviet states point to the cross-fertilization of ideas underlying the formation of national welfare institutions. Further, such diverse transformations problematize the simplistic notions of modernization and of progress (Webb 2007) as applied to social welfare (An/Chambon 2015; Johnstone 2015).

In this journal issue, we wish to give voice to a growing body of research that examines social work and social welfare history as a shifting configuration of transnational fields shaped by the flows of ideas, people, and resources across nation-state borders (Chambon/Johnstone/Köngeter 2014; Köngeter 2012; Rowbotham 2010). Beyond illuminating the past, transnational historiographies offer points of reference that have immediate relevance to the contemporary

debate about the place and role of social work in the increasingly complex and interconnected world of today.

Importantly, the collapse of state socialism in the 1990s, interpreted as a proof of the singularity of modernization and development, facilitated the dismantling of socialist welfare systems and the rise of social work (Beblavy 2008). Second, the neoliberal logic continues to shape the ongoing restructuring and downsizing of Western welfare states, increasing the burden for social work (Baines 2010). Third, welfare institutions of nation-states are becoming increasingly interconnected and influenced by cross-border processes of policy translation (Lendvai/Stubbs 2007) and by global policy actors (Deacon 2007).

In this issue of the journal, we recognize the value of engaging in a transnational perspective on historical approaches to the study of social work and social welfare. We invite authors to submit empirical and theoretical proposals on “Transnational Histories of Social Work and Social Welfare”. Abstracts can pertain to (but are not limited to) the following foci:

- Historical and transnational accounts of social work fields and sub-fields across the globe covering various time periods
- The transnational shaping of social work in post-Soviet and post-socialist contexts
- The accounts of cross-border flows of ideas, knowledge, policies, and discourses that shaped social work fields
- The direct and indirect influence of socialist and communist ideas on Western social work and social welfare, and vice versa
- The social biographies of individuals that played prominent roles in the development of social work that include a transnational dimension
- Transnational histories of social welfare organizations
- The historical and transnational analyses of values, cultures, ideologies underlying social work and social welfare.

Submission Requirements and Time-Frame

A proposal, in the form of an abstract of maximum 500 words in length should address the following: background of the proposed paper; outline of content; and main discussion points.

Deadline for submission of the abstracts: **September 1, 2015.**

For those proposals that are accepted, articles may be up to 8,000 words in length and should include an abstract of up to 150 words, and up to six keywords, suitable for indexing and online search purposes. The authors are responsible for submitting proof-read and formatted articles.

For the manuscript preparation please use the style sheet and the formatting guideline, which are available here: www.tss.uni-mainz.de/103.php The deadline for submission of full articles is Jan. 1, 2016

The following table contains all deadlines and the time schedule of the focused topic on **“Transnational Histories of Social Work and Social Welfare”**:

Submission of proposal abstracts	Sept. 1, 2015
Submission of full articles	Jan. 1, 2016
Peer review	Apr. 1, 2016
Final submission of publishable articles	July 2, 2016
Publication	Sept. 2, 2016

The instructions for authors are available at:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/action/authorSubmission?journalCode=rtsr20&page=instructions#.U6glxIRhCCg>

Contact

Inquiries and all proposals should be sent to the guest editors of the focused topic on **“Transnational Histories of Social Work and Social Welfare”**:

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For more information on the journal TSR, please visit the homepage:

www.tandfonline.com/loi/rtsr20

References

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