

Network "Social Work in German-Speaking Regions and amongst German-Speaking Minorities"

The organizations and associations in the "Social Work in German-Speaking Regions and amongst German-Speaking Minorities" network have been engaged in a dialogue for a number of years already. An intensive exchange took place in the so-called "Lake Constance Group" for a long time. This involved a professional interchange between organizations from Austria, Switzerland and Germany.

Another group holding various events for professional exchange is provided by "Social Work in the Greater Region" (La Grande Region). (<http://www.grossregion.net/Startseite>). In close contact within this group at his moment in time are organizations from the regions and countries of Luxembourg, Netherlands and the Saarland. Besides this exchange, which takes place on the level of the organizations, the greater region's universities/colleges are also engaged in a dialogue in the "INTERREG Projects of the Greater Region".

The ethics commission of the German Professional Association for Social Work DBSH has been sending invitations to organizations in the "Social Work in German-Speaking Regions and amongst German-Speaking Minorities" network. Inter alia, the topics included an exchange about the respective national and regional professional ethics, how to deal with the newly developing right in Europe, the need for a right to refuse testimony, and many more besides. In the early spring of 2020, the network will be looking into the subjects of digitalization and robotics. Invited to this event are speakers from research institutions as well as university networks, intended to provide stimuli and closer insights into this area.

This meeting will be organized via the ethics commission of the DBHS once again. Invited are organizations from Austria (OBDS as a co-opted member of the ethics commission), from Switzerland (AvenirSocial), with permanent guest status since 2019, as well as Luxembourg (ances) and the Netherlands (BPSW) from 2020.

In addition to this, there are also contacts to the group "Diversity in Old Age" (VIA) of the "Lesbian and Gay Association of the Saarland" (LSVD-Saar) and the INTERREG V A project "Senior active – Ageing Well in the Greater Region" (project period from 2018-2022).

The "Social Work in German-Speaking Regions and amongst German-Speaking Minorities" network establishes contacts between professional associations, organizations in the social work profession, as well as institutions in the discipline of social work.

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