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*East European sub-regional Association of the
Schools of Social Work*

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Sub-regional Report

East European Sub-Regional Association of Schools of Social Work

1. *Conferences.* The members were active in the organising the 5th European social work research conference of the ESWRA, a new social work association established in 2014. ESWRA invited Darja Zaviršek to be the chair of the host conference committee of the conference in April 2015 in Ljubljana. One of the reasons for that was to attract researchers in social work and school of social work from Eastern Europe to join the conference of social work research. Darja Zaviršek and the board members of EEsrASSW (Ana Sobočan, Sanela Bašić, Vjollca Krasniqui) were very active in popularizing the conference and at the consequence many colleagues from EE came to the conference. A lot of solidarity was given to the colleagues from Eastern Europe. We have organised free accommodation for the colleagues from the Ukrainian school of social work, from Croatia, India, Bosnia and Herzegovina and more.
2. *Membership drive.* During the ESWRA 2015 conference we organised a large IASSW poster presentation in the main hall of the conference and each participant of the conference (450 persons) got an IASSW leaflet in the participant bag. The book Noble/Littlechild on Global social work was popularized during the conference.
3. *Promoting new scholars in the region.* Vjollca Krasnichi became the first doctor in social work at the University of Pristhine (2014), finished her doctorate under the supervision of Darja. She got a position of an assistant professor at the social work department and Vjollca and Darja are working on a textbook with some fundamental social work readings for the students.
4. *International study programmes.* International Doctoral Studies in Social Work and Social Policy INDOSOW continue to have its summer university and to support young scholars in social work from Eastern Europe. Two young assistant teachers from University of Banja Luka, members of EEsrASSW Olja Grbič and Gorana Panić (active in disaster management and relief after flooding in Bosnia in 2014) are students at the programme.

5. *Joint Publications.* Darja Zaviršek was the editor of the special issue of the Journal of Social work (*Socialno delo*), published by University of Ljubljana on the Disability studies in Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia. Articles were in both languages, Slovene and English. The special issue wanted to promote and to connect social work scholars who work in the area of disability studies and social work across Eastern European region and to make a comparative analysis with the development of disability studies in Asia. The contributors discussed the development of disability studies in Hungary, Croatia, Kosovo, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Taiwan. In the special issue a special thank was expressed to the IASSW and EASSW which contributed to the 2013 regional symposium on disability where some articles in the special issue were presented for the first time. (Please, let me know if someone wants a pdf version of the whole special issue!)

Darja Zaviršek edited one issue of the Social Dialogue magazine on disability where 3 contributions were from the social work colleagues from EE (Natalija Lisak, Sanela Basić, Vjollca Kranichi).

The EEsrASSW keeps the web site. The work remains voluntary and no fees are charged. We asked the members to send interesting articles, either in English or in local language to be put on-line. The web sites intends to serve as many people as possible from the region. We also asked people to volunteer in the organisation.

The 2015 was very much oriented towards the social work research conference; the plan for 2016 is to focus on the EEsrASSW network and to start new joint projects.

Respectfully submitted by:
Darja Zaviršek, president



July 2015

PS:

Regrefully, I will not be able to join the iassw in July, but I look forward to come back in January 2016.