

# ICCW 2026



## CALL for CONGRESS PARTICIPATION



Organized by  
**The National Association of Social Workers in Moldova**  
and  
**The Alliance for Social Work in Post-Soviet Countries**

### TOPICS

- Community Health & Mental Wellbeing
- Education, Skills, and Social Development
- Praxis: Social Entrepreneurship and Community Innovation
- Culture, Identity, and Social Cohesion
- Ecology, Environment, and Community Resilience

### WE WELCOME

- conceptual papers
- research papers
- case studies
- educational models
- interdisciplinary perspectives
- practice-based case studies and interventions

**Republic of Moldova**  
**May 1-3, 2026**

### SUBMISSION & DEADLINE

**[nasw.moldova@gmail.com](mailto:nasw.moldova@gmail.com)**

Abstract deadline: **February 28th**  
Acceptance notification: **March 13th**

## Preliminary Program

**Day 1: 10:00-21:00**

### OPENING & CULTURAL WELCOME

- Opening ceremony
- Congress overview and presentations
- Cultural Visit: "Rites of Spring" Festival at the National Museum of Ethnography and Natural History

**Day 2: 10:00-17:00**

### CONGRESS SESSIONS

- Plenary and parallel sessions aligned with Congress topics
- Panel discussions, workshops, and roundtables

**Day 3: 10:00-20:00**

### CLOSING, FIELD TRIP & GALA DINNER

- Final presentations and roundtables
- Closing ceremony at ULIM
- Trip to the village of Carbuna
- Gala dinner at Pestera Balaurului cellar

# International Congress for Community Wellness (ICCW 2026)

## Social Work for Resilient Communities

ICCW 2026 welcomes educators, students and practitioners in various health related fields working on complex community wellbeing challenges.

**The proceedings will be conducted in English.**

### ABSTRACT REQUIREMENTS

- **100-200 words**
- include: title, author(s), affiliation, country, email, 3-5 keywords

### PRESENTATION FORMATS

- Individual presentations: 15 min
- Panel presentation: 60 min
- Workshop: 15-30 min (applied/practical)

### REGISTRATION & FEES

**Congress participation:** Free of charge.

**Optional add-ons** (international participants):

- Tour of the Social Work Entrepreneurship Model in rural Moldova (Voievodatul Cărbuneii) with dinner & entertainment (Day 3): 50 EUR/person
- Accommodation package (3 nights): 300 EUR/person (upon request)
- Visa support: invitation letters / supporting documents (upon request)

**Host:** the National Association of Social Workers in Moldova and The Alliance for Social Work in Post-Soviet Countries in collaboration with the Free International University of Moldova (ULIM)

**Organizers:** NGO Proiectul Casa Mare; NGO Vocational Rehabilitation Center - Moldova; International House Moldova and the Youth Club for Social Entrepreneurship



# International Congress for Community Wellness (ICCW 2026)

## Social Work for Resilient Communities

**Theme:** Social Work for Resilient Communities

**Dates:** May 1–3, 2026

**Venue:** Free International University of Moldova, Chişinău, Republic of Moldova

**Background:** Over the past 12 years, National Association of Social Work in Moldova hosted a major experiment in social work—building, testing, and continuously improving an innovative social work model of education and practice. Initially grounded in Western social work frameworks, this effort expanded through the development of a dedicated curriculum, launch of a Master’s program in Moldova, and organization of six international conferences—two in Moldova and others in partnership with professional associations in Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, and Russia.

As the implementation progressed, the core challenge became clear: integrating the “Western” model with specific challenges and opportunities in post Soviet countries. That real-world tensions have led to **a creative synthesis between Western and Eastern approaches**, resulting in a stronger, higher-level curriculum and practice model with profound innovations. ICCW 2026 is designed to share these discoveries, invite critical reflection, and build a sustained international network for improving social work practice worldwide.

The Congress calls for an interdisciplinary dialogue in three strategic directions:

1. **Dialectic Social Expertise** – positioning the social workers as experts on conflict management with a dialectic approach as the theoretical and methodological platform.
2. **Community Wellness vs. the Medical Model** – exploring the system-based understanding of human health and wellbeing as a viable holistic alternative to the medical model.
3. **Social Entrepreneurship vs. Charity** – examining the empowering sustainable and impact-driven approaches to community development.

