

Unifying Forces

Mapping Actors in Social Work's political self-organization in Germany

ABSTRACT

This *Human Rights Praxis Project*, conducted from October 2023 to March 2024 as part of the Master program in *Social Work as a Human Rights Profession* at ASH Berlin, explores the dynamic realm of political self-organization within the field of Social Work in Germany (PSO). Central to its purpose is the development of a comprehensive actors mapping, exploration of the potential for an online networking platform and transferring the results into a practical workshop format for Social Work students. The actor mapping involved 62 identified actors, emphasizing a geographical focus on Berlin and Leipzig. The conceptualized workshop was implemented and evaluated at two Social Work universities in Germany. The investigation into an online networking platform revealed varied opinions on its utility, with considerations for a gender-sensitive and power-critical approach. The project initiated a practical and comprehensive overview of actors in PSO, offering insights into the current state of PSO in Germany and suggesting strategies for addressing its challenges. The outcomes underscore the importance of collective action to fulfill Social Work's Human Rights mandate and professional ethics in a dynamic and evolving political and societal landscape.

Key words:

Political Self-Organization, Social Work, collective action, Actors Mapping,