**La Red Nacional de Instituciones Educativas en Trabajo Social (RENIESTS) Invite**

**6th Regional Conference on Social Work and Migration in Mexico, the United States, and Central America**

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Regional Host: Loyola University Chicago School of Social Work** In collaboration with:

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley; University of Texas San Antonio; University of Houston; the Red Nacional de Instituciones de Educación Superior en Trabajo Social de México; Escuela Nacional de Trabajo Social de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México; Seminario Universitario Sobre Desplazamiento Interno, Migración, Exilio y Repatriación de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México; Secretaría de Desarrollo Institucional de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México; Facultad de Trabajo Social de la Universidad

Autónoma de Coahuila; Facultad de Trabajo Social y Desarrollo Humano de la Universidad

Autónoma de Nuevo León; Universidad Autónoma de Sinaloa; Red INCA Centroamericana;

de Honduras y the Universidad Luterana Salvadoreña. Universidad Nacional Autónoma

**Call for Proposals**

**6th Regional Conference on Social Work and Migration**

***Human Mobility in Times of Uncertainty: Responses from Social Work in Central America, Mexico, and the United States***

The conference will take place in virtual format on the following dates:

January 27, 2022, 10:00 am – 2: 00 pm CST, Inaugural Session, Registration Link for 01/27/2022

February 17, 2022, 10:00 am – 2: 00 pm CST, Working Session, [Registration Link for 02/17/2022](https://luc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN__sa9etepR5OTuSAcOlfppQ) February 24, 2022, 10:00 am – 2: 00 pm CST, Closing Session, [Registration Link for 02/24/202](https://luc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_I_s6dfVRToy0kqIvy6Jq6A)

Simultaneous Spanish/English interpretation will be provided for all sessions

Free Social Work CEUs  [Conference website](https://www.luc.edu/cira/6thvirtualregionalconference/)

Conference History: In 2016, the National Network of Institutions of Higher Education in Social Work (Mexico), initiated an annual binational conference with the purpose of establishing collaborative work between schools and faculties of northern Mexico and those of southern U.S. states, as well as public agencies and organizations of civil society, together with national and international organizations attending to migrant populations.

The premise for the gathering was that the main migratory destination country in the world is the United States and that the Mexican migration corridor constitutes the most heavily traveled route by migrants to North America.

This 6th conference marks a transition from a binational focus to a multinational and regional focus that incorporates Central America, reflecting the changing dynamics marked by the extension of the Mexican migration corridor to Mesoamerica. This is a recognized phenomenon that has incorporated the flows of new groups of irregular migrants (e.g., from the Caribbean and Africa).

Due to the changes in transit routes through South, Central and Mexico to the United States and in response to the growing use of maritime routes through the Caribbean, Mexico has been transformed from a country of migrant origin and increasingly diversified migratory transit, to one that is also marked by flows of return and destination migration. The dramatic escalation of U.S. deportations, mainly to Mexico and Central American nations, has contributed to the generation of reverse migratory flows.

Given these significant changes in human mobility in this hemisphere, a regional approach to migration from this collaborative exercise is justified. Thus, this 6th Social Work Conference on Migration aims to move from a binational meeting to one that incorporates universities and governmental, non-governmental organizations and civil society organization from Central and North America, to explore a transnational social work approach to the accompaniment of migrants in the region.

In 2022, considering the context of instability and insecurity related to the prolonged pandemic and contemporary factors that have contributed to political, social, and environmental uncertainty, the central objective of the Conference is to create a shared space for reflection that fosters the construction of methodological proposals and strategies for care and protection based on research and direct work with the migrant population and their families. This shared space will convene institutions, of higher education civil society organizations and government agencies from Central America, Mexico, and the United States of America with this common purpose.

Target Audience: Academics, researchers, students, professionals in the social services and sciences and humanities and care providers in public, community, and civil society organizations from Central America, Mexico, and the United States with an interest in the dynamics, intersections, strategies and models of intervention, as well as human rights and regional policy that impact the migratory processes.

People interested in participating can share their work, both in presentation and poster formats that reflect:

a) Research processes: methodological proposals and / or research results.

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| b) Theoretical or paradigmatic contributions: | Construction of paradigmatic approaches or contributions regarding migration. |
| c) Direct practice interventions: | Methodological premises of social interventions in complex contexts, best practices, and evidence-based practices, as well as pilot interventions and / or intervention outcomes. |
| d) Pedagogical contributions: | Pedagogical and curricular innovations in the field of training social workers with a regional understanding of migratory dynamics and the knowledge and professional skills necessary to serve migrants and refugees in transnational and domestic manners. |

*The 6th. Regional Conference on Social Work and Migration* will include simultaneous thematic sessions in a virtual format on the Zoom video conferencing platform.

The presentations and posters can be in Spanish or English. Simultaneous Spanish/English interpretation will be provided.

**Thematic Sessions**

* Policies and systems for the protection and care of migrant and refugee populations Human rights of migrants and their forms of social participation.
* Impact of current situation on the physical and mental health of migrant populations.
* Transnational families and households.
* Social work intervention with migrant children and adolescents.
* Models of social work intervention with migrants during a world crisis.
* Social Work practice with migrant women
* Pandemic contingency and consequences for border securitization and militarization in America.
* Migrant demobilization due to COVID-19 and actors of transnational migratory violence.
* Humanitarian assistance provided by governments, organizations, and communities in transnational contexts.
* Social, educational, and labor integration of families and people in conditions of international mobility.
* Asylum seekers and obstacles they face.
* Migratory controls and demobilization along borders due to COVID-19 Human Rights Violations.
* Communities of day laborers.
* Forced internal displacement and dispossession of territory.
* Migration and protection of LQBTQ + migrants.
* Migration and the elderly.
* Human trafficking, xenophobia, discrimination and violence.
* Social, labor and community integration of migrant persons and families.

**Presentation Abstracts**

To propose a presentation, a summary of between 300 and 500 words must be previously submitted.

* Abstracts can be submitted in Spanish or English. Simultaneous Spanish / English translation will be provided for conference presentations.
* Basic requirements: 12-point Times New Roman font, double space with APA format.
* The abstract should include:
  + Title of the presentation.
  + Name, affiliation, and contact information for all authors (email, institution, professional discipline, and telephone number).
  + Indication of who is the author / main author (person(s) who will present the conference).
  + Thematic Session (of the themes indicated in the previous section) with which is the proposed presentation is best aligned.
  + 4-5 keywords that describe the presentation
* The proposal can address research methods, theoretical or paradigmatic contributions of field and intervention experiences.
* If the proposed presentation is a research paper, the abstract must include the main purpose / question of the research; study design (including participants, instruments, methods, data analysis, etc.); main results; and implications of the study.
* The summary of the proposed presentation can be modified as needed based on theoretical, methodological, or intervention-based focus. The abstract should have sufficient detail to allow the committee to evaluate the quality of the work and the alignment with the objective and thematic axes of the conference.
* [Submit the proposal through the portal: 6th Regional Conference on Social Work and Migration](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfFWukdNm2wz4c8fynx5T2QcxzDIOPBvNei4_uZA6FQxrvXYA/viewform)
* Abstracts will be accepted continuously from the date of publication of this call until January 31, 2022.
* Abstracts will be evaluated by the Conference Peer-Review Committee, which will communicate the results of the review process. Once submitted, the authors will receive a decision on their abstract within one week.

**Full Papers**

Full papers can be submitted for the accepted abstracts. Papers must be between 4000 and 6000 words in length, following APA standards and submitted before January 31, 2022.

The technical specifications for the presentation of the full-length paper will be included in the letter of acceptance of summary from the Peer-Review Committee.

**Poster Summary**

* To present a poster, an abstract of up to 300 words must be previously submitted. The [submission will be through the portal: 6th Regional Conference on Social Work and Migration](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfFWukdNm2wz4c8fynx5T2QcxzDIOPBvNei4_uZA6FQxrvXYA/viewform)
* Proposals can be submitted from the time of the issuance of the call until January 31, 2022.
* Once submitted, the authors will receive a decision on their abstract within one week.

**Poster Presentation**

* Once the proposal has been accepted by the Conference Peer Review Committee, authors must send the final version of the poster, in PowerPoint format with explanatory audio (maximum 5 minutes). All the selected works must be sent in their final version before February 10 to the email mvidal@luc.edu for presentation in the simultaneous workshops.
* The posters will be accessible from February 15, 2022 and until the end of the conference.
* The technical specifications for the presentation of the poster will be detailed in the letter of acceptance from the Review Committee.

**ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

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| Mtra. Carmen Casas Ratia | Presidente de la RENIESTS, Directora de la Escuela Nacional de Trabajo Social, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México |
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