

Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> of January 2023, 5 pm

„*Women As a Bridge to Religious Awareness. A Social Work Case Study*“ Dr. Rebecca Ranz (School of Social Work, Sapir Academic College, Israel) and Prof. Dr. Franziska Wächter (Evangelische Hochschule Dresden)

Religion and spirituality (R/S) are fundamental resources that serve populations as they cope with life challenges and stresses. Schools of social work prepare future professionals to address life challenges and stresses, yet attention to both religion and spirituality as key resources to address these challenges is not integral to mainstream social work education. This current state of affairs raises questions whether future social work professionals, the majority of whom are women, are prepared to address these resources with their clients. Research shows that religious female students bring awareness and allowed discourse where it was prohibited (home & family) but are silenced/silence (about their religion) in the academia. In addition, social workers (mainly women) even though they have positive attitudes towards R/S, they hardly engage in integrating client's religion and spirituality in practice.

One of the ways of integrating R/S in the academia and practice is through the Havruta, an intervention tool that integrates spirituality and religion in practice and develops “self-awareness”.

Dr. Rebecca Ranz (PhD.) is Senior Lecturer and International Programs Coordinator for the School of Social Work at the Sapir Academic College. Her main areas of research: Religion, Spirituality & Social Work and International Social Work.

Zoom-Link: <https://zoom.us/j/5793793563>

Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> of January 2022, 5 pm:

„*Promoting Peace in midst of conflict and crisis in northeastern Nigeria*“, Pfr. Ephraim Kadala, EYN/ Nigeria

Social work and peace work go hand in hand in northeastern Nigeria. How can people traumatized by the terrorist attacks of the Islamist organization Boko Haram find their way back to life? How can enmity and prejudice between the different religions and groups in Nigeria be overcome? The Church EYN, itself severely affected by violence and displacement, cares with the support of the partner organization mission 21 for the people in the refugee camps and for those who have returned to their villages. The many challenges, but also the possibilities of trauma-sensitive work for peace and social justice, will be presented by Pastor Kadala, the head of the Peace Education Program.

Peace-Building and inter-religious Dialogue in Nigeria - Evangelische Hochschule Freiburg ([eh-freiburg.de](http://eh-freiburg.de))

# International Talks

Perspectives on religious and social transformation processes on a global level.

Winterterm 2022/23



OSTBAYERISCHE  
TECHNISCHE HOCHSCHULE  
REGENSBURG



EVANGELISCHE  
HOCHSCHULE  
FREIBURG



# Programme

Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2022, 5 pm

## **„Global Social problems: Personal Mastery for Professional Capabilities and Transformative Societies“, Prof. Dr. Vishanthie Sewpaul, UKZN South Africa**

In a world divided, the triad of neoliberal capitalism, new managerialism and science of the logical positivist tradition, rooted in Western hegemony, have pernicious consequences for the social work profession, and for the people who social workers engage with. The deep fissures of the social fault-lines, based on criteria like race, class, gender, sexuality, (dis)ability, nationality and socio-economic governance, exacerbated by Covid-19, implode a range of taken-for-granted assumptions. A decolonized and emancipatory social work provide the framework for countering these dominant discourses and practices, with a simultaneous focus on the awakening of both individual and societal consciousness. The IASSW 2018 Global Social Work Statement of Ethical Principles re-conceptualizes social work as a humanized science and a humanized professionalism - an aspiration that can be achieved by making *Ubuntu, being for the Other* and deliberative, emancipatory action towards an undivided humanity the normative of the profession. In this lecture, we will discuss the nexus between individual and societal consciousness, and how the power of love, kindness, gratitude, compassion, and forgiveness, for self and other, can be elevated to broad socio-political forces in the interests transformative societies

Vishanthie Sewpaul, an awardee of three honorary doctoral degrees from Chile, Norway and Sweden, is a globally recognized social work and human rights scholar, international speaker and activist. Emeritus Senior Professor at the University of KwaZulu Natal (UKZN), South Africa and Adjunct Professor at the University of Stavanger, Norway.

Zoom-Link: <https://oth-regensburg.zoom.us/j/87689210134?pwd=WDJabHV4UE8xdnpLcDZMQXJhMXBzZz09>

Meeting-ID: 876 8921 0134

Code: 494507

Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> of November 2022, 5 pm

## **„Liberation in times of a need for global solidarity“, Prof. Dr. José Luís Gonçalves, ESEPF Portugal**

This talk is based on the sharing of an experience and a new project in Africa: (i) the experience carried out between 2018 and 2019 to train 600 teachers from the African island of São Tomé and Príncipe, through the global initiative "Quality Education for All" of the World Bank, as well as (ii) a new project that begins in October 2022 with the realisation of a Master's in Educational and Social Intervention in Childhood, in Angola. The question is: is it possible to train teachers

and socio-educational interveners in Africa from a liberating perspective? What are the criteria that govern these international cooperation projects, in terms of their sustainability? Do these initiatives effectively contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

José Luís Gonçalves is Professor specialized in Social Pedagogy and Philosophy of Education and current Director of the Paula Frassinetti School of Education, Porto, Portugal

[Liberation in times of urgent global challenges - Evangelische Hochschule Freiburg \(eh-freiburg.de\)](http://www.eh-freiburg.de)

Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2022, 5 pm

## **„Revolution und autoritärer Staat – Betrachtungen politischer Prozesse in Venezuela“, Katharina Wegener, FES Venezuela**

In dem Talk sollen die Gründe für das Scheitern des Chávismus beleuchtet werden, welcher sich in einem Mix aus partizipativer Demokratie und autoritärer Regierungsform zeigt. Für die Soziale Arbeit ist interessant, dass Cháves im Rahmen seines Programms „Sozialismus des 21. Jahrhunderts“ immerhin die größten Sozialprogramme in der Geschichte Venezuelas auf den Weg gebracht hatte. Warum hat das nicht funktioniert? inwiefern hängt das Scheitern des Chávismus mit der Folgeregierung von Maduro zusammen? Gibt es wirtschaftliche Gründe? Welche Rolle spielt die dysfunktionale Demokratie in Venezuela? – All diese Fragen führen zu vertiefenden Einsichten über Möglichkeiten grundlegender staatlicher Transformationsprozesse.

Katharina Wegener, Juristin, Referentin für Menschenrechte (EKD) und Migrationsfragen (Diakonisches Werk), seit 2019 Büroleiterin der Friedirch-Ebert-Stiftung in Venezuela

[Revolution und autoritärer Staat – Betrachtungen politischer Prozesse in Venezuela - Evangelische Hochschule Freiburg \(eh-freiburg.de\)](http://www.eh-freiburg.de)

**Participation:** All Talks will be realized as videoconference.

**Certificats:** Available on request.

Involved organizations:

Arbeitskreis Globales  
Lernen an Evangelischen  
Hochschulen / AGLEH

**Brot**  
für die Welt