

Social Policy Challenges and Innovation: An International Perspective



stand.



speak.



act.

John Gal

The aims of the project

Is policy change an integral part of social work in different countries?

- The importance of policy practice in the social work **discourse** in the countries studied
- The degree to which social work **education** prepares social work graduates to engage in policy practice, and the manner in which it does so
- The **actual engagement** of social workers in policy practice, in terms of the extent of this engagement and the forms that this takes

The Project

- Country experts: Rick Hoefler (USA); Philip Mendes (Australia); Graeme Simpson (England); Idit Weiss-Gal (Israel); María-Asunción Martínez-Román (Spain); Katarina Thorén; Tapio Salonen (Sweden); Annamaria Campanini; Carla Facchini (Italy); Elena Iarskaia-Smirnova; and Pavel Romanov (Russia)
- Identical research questions
- Review of primary and secondary sources
- Diverse country-specific research projects

Comparing Policy Practice

Country	Discourse: <i>Codes of Ethics</i>	Discourse: <i>Other Professional Documents</i>	Discourse: <i>Professional Literature</i>	Education
United States	Explicit; Extensive	Extensive	Extensive	Existent
Australia	Explicit; Extensive	Extensive	Limited	Existent
Israel	Explicit; Limited	Limited	Extensive	Existent
Spain	Explicit; Limited	Limited	Limited	Existent
England	Explicit; Extensive	Non-Existent	Limited	Weak
Sweden	Implicit; Limited	Limited	Limited	Weak
Russia	Explicit; Limited	Non-Existent	Non-Existent	Weak
Italy	Explicit; Limited	Non-Existent	Non-Existent	Non-Existent

Policy Practice Routes

- **Policy Practice by Proxy**
- **Policy Practice thru Recruitment Networks**
- **Academic Policy Practice**
- **The Civil Society Route**
- **The “Insider” Route**

Policy Practice: Moving Research Forward

- **What are the factors that explain social worker engagement in policy practice?**
- **What explains the divergences in the level of engagement in policy practice among social workers in different countries?**
- **What are the factors that explain the divergence in the forms of policy practice in different nations?**

A Policy Practice Engagement (PPE) Conceptual Framework

