

THE NORDIC-BALTIC DOCTORAL NETWORK IN SOCIAL WORK (NBSW)

**invites doctoral students from the Nordic, Baltic and other countries
to participate in the XVI Summer School**

CREATIVITY AND REFLEXIVITY: BRIDGING SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH AND PRACTICE IN TIMES OF UNCERTAINTY

August 18-22, 2025 at Tallinn University, ESTONIA

The Nordic-Baltic Doctoral Network in Social Work (NBSW) is a joint network of doctoral schools, universities, and other social work institutions in seven countries – Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

The Summer School aims to bring together doctoral students in social work from the Nordic and Baltic countries and beyond for five days of intensive lectures and in-depth discussions focusing on creativity and reflexivity in social work research while striving to bridge social work research and practice in times of uncertainty.

We invite doctoral students whose research intersects with social work to join us on this transformative academic journey to explore the dynamic interplay of creativity, reflexivity, and innovative methodologies in addressing the complexities of our time. Through a lively program of keynote lectures, interactive workshops, and collaborative discussions, the Summer School will delve into emerging creative methods, particularly in the digital era, and foster a deeper understanding of the researcher's reflexive role as an instrument in the research process. Special attention will be given to navigating the challenges of burnout and sustaining well-being during doctoral studies.

Highlights include insights from leading academics, such as pioneers in interdisciplinary approaches to well-being research, experts in creative methodologies for analysing multimodal content, and distinguished scholars of reflexivity in social work. Expect engaging workshops that provide opportunities to experience the theatre of the oppressed, role-playing, and practical strategies for integrating reflexivity into research and practice.

KEYWORDS

Methodology, creative methods, new emerging creative methods in the digital era, researcher's reflexivity, researcher as an instrument (incl. burnout issues of PhD students)

TIME

Start Monday, August 18, 2025, at 14:00 (Estonian time)

End Friday, August 22, 2025, at 13:00 (Estonian time)

HOST UNIVERSITY AND LOCATION

[Tallinn University](#), School of Governance, Law and Society (SOGOLAS)

[Tallinn University campus](#) (ESTONIA)

CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

- ✓ Participation in the Summer School is **free of charge**,
- ✓ Prerequisite for participation is the submission of a paper related to the theme of the Summer School
- ✓ Participants are expected to cover their own travel and accommodation costs
- ✓ The Summer School offers 4 ECTS (according to Tallinn University standards)
- ✓ The paper (4000-5000 words) and the presentation relate the participant's research project to the theme of the Summer School. More specific instructions for the paper will follow with the second announcement.

KEY DATES

January 20	First announcement
February 28	Second announcement and instructions for the paper
April 18	Application deadline
May 09	Decision about participation will be announced
May 09	Literature list for reading, practical information for participants
July 25	Paper submission deadline <i>(Earlier submission before summer holiday is recommended)</i>
August 18	Summer School starts

LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Prof Merike Sisask, Kersti Kriisk, Mariann Märtsin, Reeli Sirotkina, Olga Lupanova, Stella Vaik-Täht, Käthlin Mikiver, Sandra Laurimaa, Agnes Aas, Kristina Šadeiko-Liiva

CONTACT

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[Tallinn University](#), School of Governance, Law and Society (SOGOLAS)

LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING YOU!