

Summer School of Evaluation in Social Policies

as part of the [Bridge-Building](#) function of the European
Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research
25-27 August 2021

Registration is now open for the call for applications for the virtual Summer School on Evaluation of Social Policies which will be taking place from 25 to 27 August 2021. The Summer School will be hosted by the [European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research](#). The European Centre is an inter-governmental, UN-affiliated organization located in Vienna, Austria. In its [Bridge-Building](#) function, the European Centre aims at fostering collaboration and mutual learning on social welfare issues between EU, candidate and potential candidate countries and countries of the Eastern Partnership.

Background. EU (potential) candidate countries and Eastern Partnership countries face similar public policy challenges such as limited funding for the social and health sector, increase in demand for social and health care and support, on-going social reforms. This puts pressure on the efficiency of the spending and policy accountability, including society-led and donor-led calls for accountability. Candidate and aspirant countries need to adapt to EU requirements through on-going public policy reforms. This includes major shifts in social welfare regimes with the general aim of increasing their efficiency, effectiveness, and sustainability. They need to adapt to EU requirements, which includes evaluation as important pillar of public policy reform. But do these changes have the desired effects, and could they be sustained in the future? The monitoring and evaluation (M&E) must become an important pillar of public policy reform. Advancing the process of reform requires appropriate methodological and operational skills and knowledge.

Objectives. The 2021 Summer School will be a three-day online event aimed at enhancing skills and knowledge in commissioning and/or conducting social policy-oriented M&E projects and programmes. The Summer School will stimulate an interactive, participatory, and reflective learning among the participants. It will bring together professionals to exchange and enhance their knowledge and expertise in M&E, and to contribute to regional cooperation for European integration by:

1. **Capacity building**, by enhancing knowledge and sharing information on the state-of-the-art research and policy practice.
2. **Facilitating the exchange of experiences** among participants. Interactive, hands-on working groups, and practical exercises will foster peer learning.

3. **Developing ideas and proposals** for real world projects, which can contribute to strengthening the M&E approaches in the European region.

Topics to be addressed are:

- Evaluation needs & aims in social policy
- How to scope and frame an evaluation
- Evaluation steps
- Theory of change & logic models
- How to develop & use indicators
- Evaluation criteria & standards
- Impact vs. process evaluation
- Participatory evaluation

Participant profile and eligibility. The summer school particularly addresses stakeholders working in or with **Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, and Ukraine**. The participants will be professionals from these target countries including government officials, decision makers, researchers, evaluation commissioners, and emerging evaluators. The participants will have diverse social-policy backgrounds from the public, private, as well as NGO sector.

Required documents for the registration: Filled-in application form (use this [link](#)) in English (to be uploaded in the link), and a brief paragraph stating your motivation and interest.

Participation fee: the costs of the summer school are subsidized for all participants from the target countries by the European Centre. Participants are expected to co-participate with a symbolic 40 Euro fee. Other costs related to online attendance (i.e., internet costs, costs for the equipment) must be covered by the participant.

Language of the Summer School on Evaluation of Social Policies: English

A certificate of participation will be provided to each participant. The maximum number of participants is 20.

Deadline for applications: 3 May 2021 (extended to 10 May 2021)

Contact: Please write to BOTH Rahel Kahlert, kahlert@euro.centre.org and Veronica Sandu, sandu@euro.centre.org. Following a review process, applicants will be informed about their acceptance by the end of May.