

# POWERUS – A EU NETWORK THAT FOCUSES SERVICE USER PARTICIPATION

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EASSW Paris 2017



2005



2017



# THE MOBILIZATION COURSE FROM 2005 - 2017



# POWERUS FROM 2011 – 2017

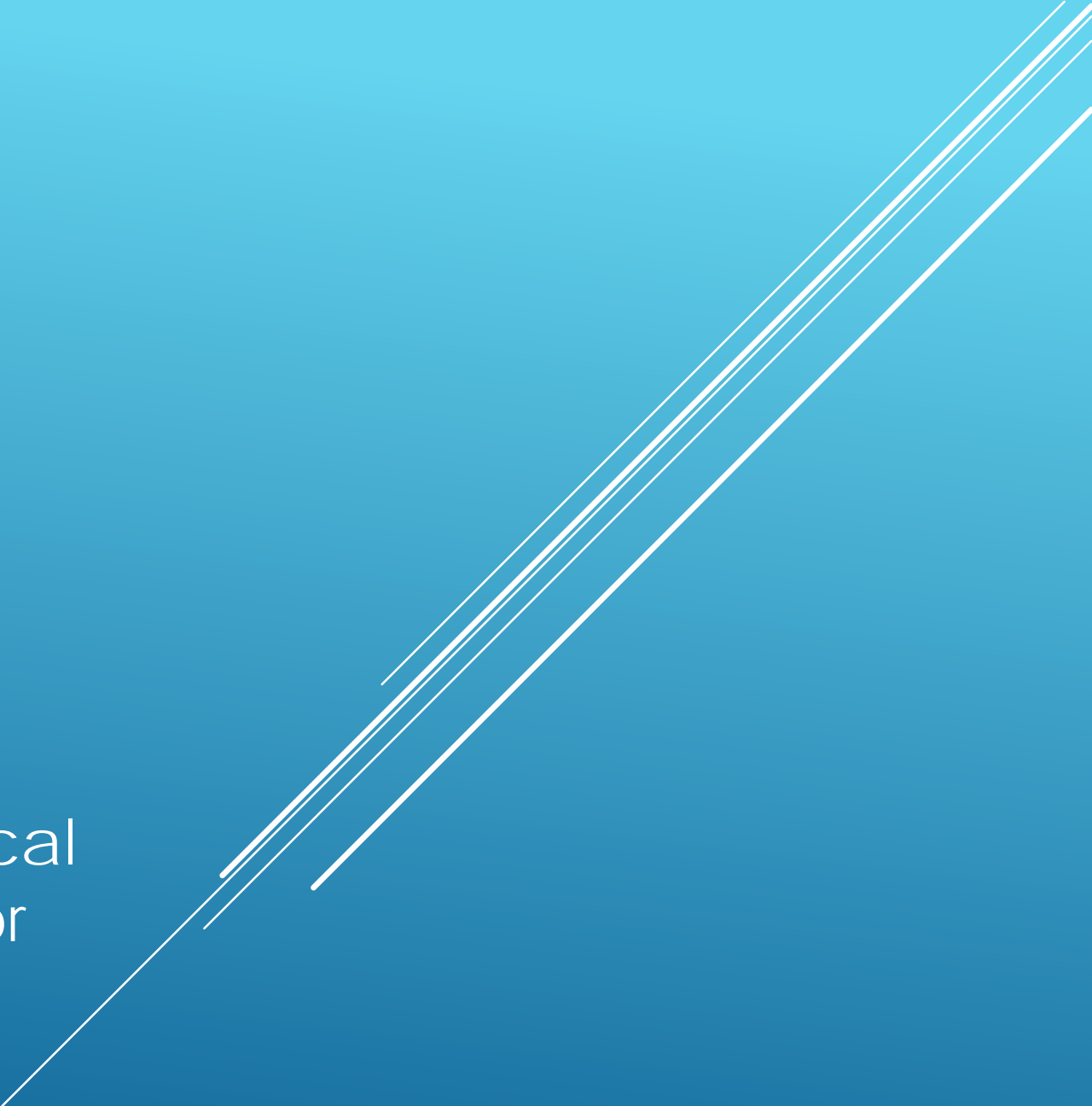
BELGIUM, CANADA, DENMARK, FRANCE, GERMANY, THE NETHERLANDS, NORWAY,  
SWEDEN, SOUTH AFRICA, SPAIN, POLAND, THE TJECK REPUBLIC, THE UNITED KINGDOM



350 000 EURO IN A NEW EU-PROJEKT

# GAPMENDING

To reflect upon what in your local practice that mends the gap or increases gaps between social workers and service users.

A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying thicknesses, slanted diagonally from the bottom left towards the top right, set against a blue gradient background.

Role	Example of organization
Service user	Service user councils
client	Social services
Patient	Psychiatric care
Member	Fountain House movement
Co-worker	Sociala enterprizes
Partner	Development project, Community work practice
neighbour	The settlement movement
Student	Gapmending courses

WHAT ROLES DO PEOPLE GET IN OUR PRACTISES?

## Mobilizing Social Work

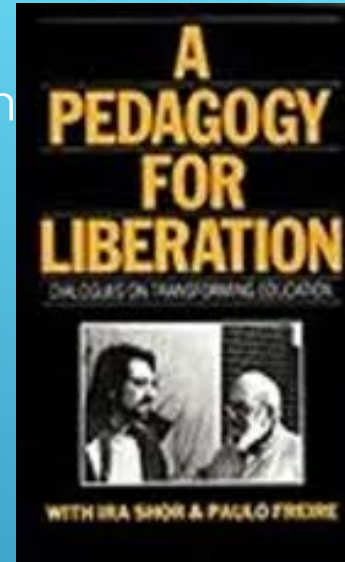
- ▶ Reciprocity and a strive for equality.
- ▶ Co-production of knowledge
- ▶ Creative innovation

## Expert oriented social Work

- ▶ One way give and take
- ▶ Professionally directed
- ▶ Formal and bureaucratic

A COMPARISON  
OF PRINCIPLES

- ▶ Jane Addams & Hull House/ Settlementmovement
- ▶ Paulo Freires pedagogic for the opressed
- ▶ Basta
- ▶ Fountainhouse movement
- ▶ Housing First
- ▶ The Mobilization Course



## SOCIAL MOBILIZATION – A FEW EXAMPLES





- 21 courses since 2005
- 450 social work students
- 250 students from service user organizations
- 50 different service user organizations
- Gapmending courses in Lillehammer, Copenhagen, London, Durham

# THE MOBILIZATION COURSE IN LUND



# THE STRUCTURE OF THE MOBILIZATION COURSE



## THE HYPOTHESIS OF THE MOBILIZATION COURSE

*When the participants of the Mobilization course meet as subjects (unique individuals) rather than objects (representatives of groups) differences concerning experiences, status, age, gender, disabilities and class becomes less of an obstacle for community among them.*

Relational factors:

- Gender
- Age
- Status
- Disabilities
- Class
- Experiences

- ▶ Structural factors:
- ▶ The organization of social work
- ▶ The structures of the university
- ▶ The set up in the class room

TO MEET THE OTHER AS A SUBJECT OR  
AN OBJECT



- ▶ Research
- ▶ Participation
- ▶ Action

THE MOBILIZATION COURSE AS A  
PLATFORM FOR RESEARCH, ACTION AND  
PRACTICE CHANGE

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- ▶ Members of the umbrella organization ENSACT
- ▶ [www.ensact.org](http://www.ensact.org)
- ▶ Partners in EASSWs conferences in Milan 2015 and in Paris 2017



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CONFERENSER

PUBLICATIONS

AKTIONEN

DISSEMINATION OF GOOD EXPERIENCES

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Memorandum of Understanding EASSW & PowerUs



# EU-PROJEKTET

## LUND – AMSTERDAM – ANTWERPEN

### JAN 2017 – SEPT 2019

1. National study of the 700 students that has taken the Mobilization course. What happened afterwards?
2. International studie. Research about the different ways teachers/ researchers invite service users to participate in education and research of social work
3. National conference in Sweden in 2018
4. Common actions in international conferences.