



Brief introduction of Union of the Social Professional Organisations (Szociális Szakmai Szövetség - 3Sz):

The **Union of the Social Professional Organisations (3Sz)** was established in 1995 in Budapest, **Hungary** as an **umbrella organisation** with the support of PHARE Social Policy Development Program. The aim was to strengthen the voice of civil society in Hungarian social-policy.

By now there are ten member organisations of the Union, through which we reach appr. 2000 people working on social field:

- Hilscher Rezső Society of Social Politics
- National Association of Regional Resource Centres
- Association of Hungarian Social Professional Training Schools and Teachers (School Association)
- Hungarian Association of Family Support and Child Welfare Services
- The Hungarian Association of Social Workers
- National Association of Services for the Homeless
- Federation for Community Participation Development
- Association of Social Workers in Health Care Institutions
- Association of Farm-stead and Village Trustees
- Association of School Social Workers

3Sz continues to be open and welcomes all national networks of social organisations.

We are members of three significant international organizations of social field:

- International Committee of Social Welfare (ICSW)
- International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW)
- European Social Network (ESN)

3Sz became an organisation of public utility in 2001.

Chairpersons of 3SZ:

1995 - 2007:	Zsuzsa Ferge (since 2007 honorary chairperson)
2007 - 2011:	Éva Pataki
2011 - 2012:	János Szabó
2012 - :	Dr. Balázs Krémer

The main goals of the Union are:

· **to contribute to the development of civil society** by supporting the values of solidarity and equal opportunities;

- to help **disseminating** social policy **knowledge and information** on the social status of different groups of the society by publishing books, studies and research papers;
- to contribute **strengthening the influence of civil society** in social issues;
- To **assist the well-based decision making in social policy** by co-operating - whenever it is possible - with national and local government agencies, providing background information and policy statements;
- To ensure **continuous professional and civil control** over social policy decisions and institutions;
- To **help the process of self-organisation of the social profession** by assisting the development of co-operation networks among different scientific, educational and practitioner workshops, contributing, at the same time, to strengthen the prestige of social profession;
- To **represent and defend the interests of social profession**
 - by monitoring the work and life conditions of field-workers,
 - by developing and monitoring training and operating standards,
 - by developing the Code of Ethics for social work, and
 - by preparing the establishment the chamber of social profession.

The Union plays an important role in renovating the **social-political dialogue** system with different actors of social provision.

The think tank of the Union helps in developing the legal norm for the council of social politics in Hungary by working out background materials and commenting several professional concepts.

For developing these professional tasks, there have been installed **professional councils** within the Union.

The aims of these professional councils are - besides supervising legal norms, counselling and monitoring - to create a forum for representatives of social professions for an exchange of opinions.

The Union has a wide range of experience regarding **national and international projects and partnerships**. Currently we are running a project about supporting social workers in cases of violence in the family and child abuse. We are member organisation in an international project about preventing early school-leaving and unemployment of young adults. Another project we participate in is about the protection of migrant employees.

Through our professional network we can reach the **most authentic experts** of any kind of social provision or sociological research field.

February, 2016