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Congress of the  
International Institute  
of Sociology  
Yerevan, Armenia

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[www.iisoc.org/iis2009](http://www.iisoc.org/iis2009)

## REGULAR SESSION INFORMATION

**Title of Session:** Social Transformations and Helping Professions

**Name of Session Convener(s):** Artak Khachatryan

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**Comments:** -

**Session Abstract (up to 250 words):** In the end of 20th century many countries have been involved in transformation processes, in the result of which the population appeared in high-risk zone. Any social change has traumatic impact on people; furthermore, difficulties and risks always accompany transformation. During the transformation of the society the less protected groups of population are becoming more vulnerable – children, elderly, disabled people and deviants, women and minorities. They pay too high price for transformation. Poor adaptation resources do not allow them to overcome transition period without losses. That period sometimes can last rather long making life a struggle for survival and affliction. These groups cannot overcome diverse difficulties of the transition period without helping professionals' intervention. There can be various problems like economic and social, legal and psychological, educational and health, etc. Psychologists, social workers, lawyers, pedagogues and other supporting professionals through their interventions prevent negative impact on people's lives, rehabilitate distressed situations, establish wanted state. Adoption and application of new technologies and methods enable these professionals to minimize negative consequences of transformation and support people's adaptation to social changes.

## **General information**

During each afternoon of the congress, there will be room for a large number of parallel regular sessions. Each session is 90 minutes long and consists of an oral presentation of 4 to 6 papers. Session conveners are expected to administer and chair their session at the 2009 IIS World Congress.

Starting in mid-December, calls for papers to participate in approved sessions will be posted on the website. Interested participants will contact the session convener (you) directly with an abstract no later than February 28, 2009. The session convener should take in all submissions and select the best 4 to 6 papers to be presented and forward this information, including e-mail addresses of accepted authors, to the IIS Secretariat no later than March 15, 2009.