

Sex work & Mental health

International Committee on the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe
(ICRSE)

CSF meeting - 2 september 2021



ICRSE programme



- Issues around sex work and mental health
- Support of the mental health of sex workers during the pandemic

Thematic sessions	Support group
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Anxiety- Sexual violence- Addictive and compulsive behaviours- Suicide- Body image	<p>For LGBTQI sex workers' rights activists</p> <p>Closed support sessions</p> <p>Exchange with peers supported by therapists</p>

Development of resources on sex work and mental health

E-consultation with ICRSE members	Sex-worker-only focus groups
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 18 questions- 16 participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 2 focus groups- English & Russian

Topics

- Factors impacting the mental health of sex workers
- Access to mental health care for sex workers
- Best practices within the community

Briefing paper

Toolkit for sex workers' right activists

1. Factors impacting the mental health of sex workers
2. Access to mental health services for sex workers
3. Coping strategies and sex worker-led initiatives
4. Recommendations

- What is mental health?
- What is a mental health crisis?
- What to do in case of a mental health crisis?
- What can your organisation do to improve the mental health of sex workers?
- Resources

Launch & Resources



- Joint launch event with National Ugly Mugs (UK)
- Presentation of:
 - Research from PG Maciotti
 - Briefing paper & toolkit from ICRSE
- Sex worker-led initiatives:
 - Hydra, Germany
 - National Ugly Mugs, UK
 - On migrant led organisations, ICRSE
- 6th of October - 11AM (CET)

Community-led research from PG Maciotti, Giulia Garofalo Geymonat and Prof. Nicola Mai

‘Sex Work and Mental Health. Policy Relevant Report. Access to Mental Health Services for People Who Sell Sex in Germany, Italy, Sweden, and UK’ 2021

<https://www.sexworkmentalhealth.org/>