

shed light an array of contextual configurations, are they by their nature context specific and incomparable except in contexts of extremely high similarity? Examples of findings from the three different countries will be given to participants for discussion.

Conclusions and implications: Collaboration in this area is still at an early stage but the results suggest much benefit to international approaches to the question of learning from practice through case reviews. We will share details of the European network for methodological developments in case reviews.

Maria Isabel Santos. Marie-Thérèse Lévêque and the Lisbon Social Work Institute (1935-1944): A Discreet Pioneer (Saturday 13.30 h)

In Portugal, the teaching of social work began in 1935 with the opening of the Lisbon Social Work Institute, whose technical direction was taken until 1944 by a French social worker: Marie-Thérèse Lévêque. In the present scenery of Portuguese social research, the knowledge produced about the Lisbon Social Work Institute is placed at a generic and patchy level, and although there are no specific studies about the construction of teaching in that school, many authors insist on the influence of French currents of social thought and action, for instance, as a result of the employment of French professionals and directors, as is the case of Marie-Thérèse Lévêque. Knowing the Portuguese social reality of the 1930's, this permeability is not surprising, taking into account the social and cultural similarities of Latin reality, which stand out the small and medium industries, the Catholicism, and a personalistic view that more easily harmonized with the existing possibilities during this historical period. About the figure of Marie-Thérèse Lévêque, seventy-five years have passed after her arrival to Portugal, in 1935, and there are only a limited set of references concerning this first technical director of the school that started the teaching of social work in Portuguese territory. Unlike what happens with some social work pioneers her contemporaries, she never had her own biographer. This communication results from a doctoral research, still ongoing, that considers the existence of a potential for understanding the social work history in Portugal, through the biographical life course of Marie-Therese Lévêque, in its articulation with the Lisbon Social Work Institute (1935-1944). The research's preliminary results have revealed a (discreet) pioneer with a remarkable social training (considering the historical period in which she lived), and a significant personal and professional experience at a national and international level, while historically interesting for a deeper understanding of Portuguese social work history and the overall historical context in which it falls. They also have made clear about the national and international complex circumstances that crossed the institutionalization of social work in Portugal (within the social Catholicism and the hygienist movement, among others), and about the historical construction of its own identity and professional field. Under the guidance of historical methodologies, the data supporting the doctoral research (and, respectively, this presentation) have been collected using two strategies: documentary sources which were found in Portuguese and foreign archives (located mainly in Paris and Brussels); oral testimonies (achieved through biographical-narrative interviews with social workers graduated at the Lisbon Social Work Institute between 1935 and 1944).