



The work of academic researchers, social activists and practitioners has many commonalities, ranging from the motivation to bring about social change to questions about the best ways to engage with people and to understand contemporary social dynamics and challenges. Still, despite good examples across disciplines and geographic contexts, it appears that the potentials and limitations of cooperation between these interest groups have not received sufficient consideration, especially in the case of Central Eurasia. This workshop will serve as a dialogue platform between social researchers and representatives of NGOs and social movements from Kyrgyzstan and other countries, who will share their experiences, observations, expectations and ideas about cooperation with one another. Based on exemplary cases of cooperative projects between practice, activism and academia, participants are encouraged to reflect, 'brainstorm' and collectively discuss the potentials for a synthesis between these different fields. This can help to establish a common understanding of the expectations and needs of the involved parties, to initiate concrete cooperative projects and to assess their potential benefits. The dialogue is also intended to take into account already existing approaches bridging social research and activism/practice, for instance 'action

