## Evidence-Based Recommendations for Policy Makers





# Support Sex Workers' Health & Human Rights

## Decriminalise all aspects of sex work

Why? How?

When any aspects of sex work is criminalized, sex workers face stigma and discrimination, find it harder to access health services, face abuse and violence, including from law enforcement officers, and become less likely to report crime to the police, and are less able to safely negotiate with clients.

Call to remove all laws, policies and practices that criminalise sex work or are used to punish sex workers so that sex workers can access health services, be able to report crime to police, and become meaningfully involved in the development of health and social services for them.

#### Recognise sex work as work

Why? How?

Not recognising sex work as work prevents sex workers from accessing occupational health and safety protections, anti-discrimination and social protection schemes.

Governments should decriminalise sex work and extend all labour rights and legal protections to sex workers. Sex workers must have the ability to access protection of employment legislation without any legal and policy barriers.

## End crackdowns, surveillance and harassment

Why? How?

Crackdowns, surveillance and harassment that target sex workers, third parties and clients seriously undermine sex workers' health and violate their rights.

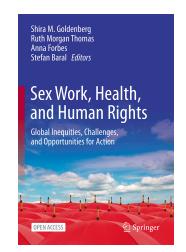
Decriminalisation, "non-harassment" and "access without fear" policies are needed to end police and immigration crackdowns, public health surveillance, arrests and prosecutions.

### Ensure access regardless of mobility/migration status

Why? How?

Migrant and mobile sex workers often face barriers when accessing health care, social services and other supports. Many services depend on local registration and/or immigration status. There are also other reasons migrant sex workers can't easily access services.

Services must be made accessible and safe for all sex workers, regardless of immigration status or place of origin. Laws and policies that restrict the rights and access to services for migrant and mobile sex workers must be removed. Culturally appropriate services are also needed.



Sex Work, Health, and Human Rights: Global Inequities, Challenges and Opportunities for Action is the first global textbook co-written by sex workers, sex worker-led organisations and academics about sex work. Drawing upon community case studies and data from around the world, the book highlights the sustained health and social inequities that sex workers in all of their diversity experienced in 2020.







