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**Social work and social recognition: social workers of foreign origin**

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**Abstract**

This article sets out research about people of foreign origin choosing social professions that was carried out some years ago. I try to show up how social work is also at stake in recognition, not only about its clients, but about itself. At that time I was putting emphasis on the sociology of interaction. I reviewed this research for my university habilitation around the theory of recognition (Jovelin 2010). In the first part, I try to show the reasons why young people of foreign origin choose social professions, and in the second part, I relate this approach to the theory of recognition.

**Keywords**

Social work, social workers, social professions, socio-demographic characteristics