## **Special Issue**

# Vulnerable Groups Protection and Rights for Advocacy: From the Perspectives of Community-Based Policy Making and Initiatives

### Message from the Guest Editor

Advocacy is a mechanism to secure the rights and represent the interests of, as well as obtain the appropriate services needed for, vulnerable groups, so as to ensure dignity and promote inclusion, equality, and social justice. All models of advocacy share a theoretical commitment to social justice and a methodological activism that has been explained as 'an idea that mobilises people to act in order to bring about change'. At a community level, advocacy has been a valuable tool used by various stakeholders to address issues experienced by vulnerable groups within the communities they serve, as well as the diverse, multilayered, and ever changing social, political, economic, and cultural context this work takes place in. This Special Issue aims to explore this dynamic and illuminate the protection of vulnerable groups and their rights for advocacy. We are interested in the ways that community initiatives and grassroots PAR approaches have been employed to provide rights-based support for vulnerable groups in various contexts, and how these may be used to inform further social policy change based on vulnerable groups' protection and rights.

#### **Guest Editor**

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#### Deadline for manuscript submissions

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