

Developing bottom-up platforms for justice reform

Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) concerns the need to initiate, develop and support, as well as advance collaboration between, new, bottom-up platforms for justice reform. The signatories are the founders of three networks and organisations – *Community of Restorative Researchers*, *Nepal Forum for Restorative Justice* and *Czech Institute for Restorative Justice* – and a Core Member of the *Restorative Justice: Strategies for Change* team in Poland. We seek to use the internet and social media platforms to encourage and support progressive criminal justice reform around the world.

We believe that these tools enable us cheaply and inclusively to:

- build new and closer relationships between researchers, activists, policymakers, practitioners and civil society groups, both within and across borders and disciplines;
- support national and international conversations and collaboration on the development and implementation of progressive, positive and evidence-based change;
- find new and innovative methods of disseminating research and making research findings more accessible to those involved in criminal justice policymaking, practice and reform;
- share information, expertise and experience across borders so that we might learn from efforts at justice reform in other countries;
- and support our friends and colleagues who seek to act as organisers for the reform movement, helping sustain their energy levels and positivity, while reducing feelings of isolation.

We, the undersigned, composed this MOU to pledge to work together, using technology to disseminate research and connect people, supporting persons who wish to create new bottom-up platforms for justice reform for other audiences, and otherwise collaborating to realise the above aims.

Signed,

Dr. Ian Marder – Founder, [Community of Restorative Researchers](#)

Dr. Anna Matczak – Core Member, [Restorative Justice: Strategies for Change \(Poland\)](#)

Ram Tiwari – Founding Chairperson, [Nepal Forum for Restorative Justice](#)

Dr. Petra Masopust Sachova – Chairperson, [Czech Institute for Restorative Justice](#)