

2021: the beginning of the new chapter on Empowerment and Leadership in Nursing History*2021: el comienzo del nuevo capítulo sobre empoderamiento y Liderazgo en la Historia de la Enfermería**2021: o início do novo capítulo de Empoderamento e Liderança da História da Enfermagem***Camila Mendonça de Moraes¹**

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Moraes CM. 2021: the beginning of the new chapter on Empowerment and Leadership in Nursing History. *Glob Acad Nurs.* 2021;2(Spe.2):e104. <https://dx.doi.org/10.5935/2675-5602.20200104>

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Editor in Chief: Caroliny dos Santos
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Executive Editor: Katia dos Santos
Armada de Oliveira

Invitation submission: 07-15-2021

The year 2021 will certainly mark the beginning of a new cycle for Nursing, after the historic moment in which Nursing became the Centrality of Care. Without Nursing, how would we experience the COVID-19 Pandemic? Nursing started by Florence Nightingale for 200 years has contributed invisibly and increasingly to the health of the world, its development in clinical-practical care, in technical-scientific development, dedication to research, evidence-based practices, the production of knowledge, technology, products and services, culminated in the beginning of a new stage for nurses, the path of recognition, leadership and entrepreneurship.

The Nursing Now Brazil Campaign, derived from the worldwide movement initiated by the World Health Organization (WHO) raised national practices to the public's knowledge, praised successful initiatives and possibly encouraged many professionals to sublimate their work. Incoherently, in higher instances and in public or deliberative policy decisions of the State, Nurses were little noticed as spokespersons for health, they remained invisible, even being the largest number of professionals involved in the entire work chain of the health organization. Transcending this invisibility, the Nursing Now Movement reached the goal of bringing to light Empowerment and essential discussions for the beginning of a new cycle of Nursing work to point the way to the absolute development of its role in Global Health, with strengthening of nursing leadership in all instances of care, administrative, deliberative, decisive, and assertive regarding to excellence in health care.

The new chapter of Nursing History, that is, the Nursing of the future that begins with the Nursing of Now, will be leveraged by professionals who, with their prominence and influence, will assume leadership roles, excelling in advanced nursing practices to meet the needs of the population, becoming more and more fundamental for Universal Health coverage.

The first report on "The State of the World's Nursing"¹ (State of the World's Nursing) presented at the 72nd World Health Assembly, on World Health Day, corroborates the understanding related to investment in the Nursing workforce until 2030, with opportunities for advanced education and professional improvement, including at the political level, which will certainly generate improvements in the health of the population.

We still have a long way to go, it is necessary that government leaders from all countries can guarantee an enabling environment for the practice of Nursing, to improve the attraction, implementation, retention, and motivation of the Nursing workforce. Adequate levels of personnel, occupational health and safety in the workplace must be prioritized and enforced, with special

efforts paid to nurses operating in fragile, conflict-affected, and vulnerable environments. Compensation must be fair and adequate to attract, retain and motivate nurses. Additionally, they must prioritize and apply policies to address and respond to sexual harassment, violence, and discrimination, as well as the mental health of these professionals². And even though there is inequity to be worked hard in Nursing around the world, the report¹ presents expressive evidence of the importance of investments in Nursing education, jobs, and leadership, with a decisive impact on Global Health³.

We are all responsible and needed in this new context, from small actions to big government decisions, we must all do our part for the dignity of Nursing⁴.

Nursing Now Brazil had more than a thousand registered actions, of which more than 140 were highlighted and presented as successful initiatives in 11 thematic axes and throughout the years from 2019 to 2021 it carried out more than 90 scientific dissemination and social media actions, reaching more of 50 thousand people⁵. A fact that greatly contributed to the national dissemination of Nursing practices and their influence in micro and macro health spaces, the movement continues in favor of the enhancement of Nursing.

In this context, in my micro space, I continually seek improvement, personal and professional development to offer the result of my work to society and future Nursing professionals. And this year, the year of Nursing, the year of so many challenges, difficulties, impediments, restrictions, and hard work, I reaped the result, in the form of recognition of my small contribution, with the successful initiative praised by Nursing Now Brazil and with impact in Brazil and in the world: the ELPO award and the launch of the ELPO App, I feel flattered and driven to do more and better. And you, have you ever thought how to do your part?

Together we are stronger, each one contributing to the micro space and ensuring visibility and prominence of Nursing actions, in the most diverse health functions, we will be represented, we will add Value to our work, in the difference we make in the health of the world, and we will enshrine this new cycle as the chapter on Empowerment and Nursing Leadership. The health of the world requires the commitment of all Nurses, of all countries to support and invest in the Nursing workforce. I hope you will join us in this call to action for Nursing Empowerment and Leadership in global healthcare excellence!

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