



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS
FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSISTANTS SOCIAUX
FEDERACIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE TRABAJADORES SOCIALES

Work Programme 2016-2017 for IFSW Europe e.V.

This work programme is presented under the following broad subheadings adopted by the 2013 IFSW Europe e.V. Delegates Meeting:

- 1. Visibility and Voice**
- 2. Membership development**
- 3. Services for members.**

The document “**Executive Members Work Portfolio**” identifies the executive member who has lead responsibility for designated areas of the work programme.

The executive member/leader may establish a team if s/he considers this to be necessary to complete the task.

“Principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility and respect for diversities are central to social work.” (IFSW Definition of Social Work) and constitute the basis for all actions performed by the executive committee of IFSW Europe e.V. in the different areas of the work programme.



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Work Programme 2016-2017	Developments / actions	
<p>1. Communication</p> <p>1.1 Internal executive communication</p> <p>1.2 Internal communication with members</p> <p>1.3 External communication with stakeholders</p> <p>1.4 Communication values, rules and guidelines</p> <p>1.5 Social Media</p>	<p><u>Improving ways of communication</u> IFSW Europe is a well established, regulated and registered organisation. However further capacity building is required to improve communication and contact with and between members (inward) and to develop our marketing and lobbying/communication with partner organisations (outward).</p> <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . To use google group account, skype meetings and any other relevant and affordable forms of communication . To email on regular bases to members information and updates . To carry out Connecting Members Project in order to update the members of the Executive designated to link with individual member organizations and contacts in countries not currently represented . To support regional and subregional meetings through Skype or by other means of communication . Support new associations on how to reach out to members . To take other relevant actions . To keep regular contacts with external stakeholders . To review and update existing communication values, rules and guidelines in relation to internal and external communication of IFSW Europe 	<p>To continue the implementation /development of all actions as described</p>



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	. To update IFSW Europe social media and website	
2. Finances	<p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Finances and Legal Body maintenance . To issue guidance concerning the reimbursement of expenditure incurred by executive members carrying out official duties . To publish rules and an application form for delegates applying for assistance to attend the Delegates Meeting 2015 . Updates on membership status . To negotiate with the EU to be a mandated body to answer on European tenders . To support lobbying for the status of mandated body 	
3. Membership development	<p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Developing relations with countries with no member and re-establishing relations with former members . To support the development of social work in new social work countries . To support the development and build the capacity of professional networks in emerging countries 	
4. IFSW European Conference 2017	<p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . To continue the organization process of the IFSW European Conference 2017 in Reykjavik, Iceland from 28 to 30 May 2017, in partnership with the Icelandic Association of Social Workers 	
5. ENSACT, European Network for Social ACTION	<p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . To continue to participate in ENSACT meetings . ENSACT and the European Observatory for the Global 	



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	<p>Agenda: The European observatory report will be disseminated to all members during spring.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . ENSACT-partners will present the work at a workshop at the Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development in Seoul, Korea, 27th-30th June 2016. . An abstract will also be sent to the IFSW European Conference 2017 in Reykjavik. . The ENSACT-partners have decided to continue the collection of examples of good social work practice. 	
<p>6. EU issues and Social Platform, The European Social Platform</p>	<p><u>Visibility and Voice</u> IFSW Europe is working to ensure that the voice of social workers is more prominent in Europe and national campaigns concerning the importance of maintaining the commitment within the EU to address poverty and exclusion and recognise the avoidable suffering and greater expenditure in the long term that will result from failure to do so. This must go hand in hand with addressing the operational needs for good quality and standards in social work practice, including human rights, ethics, professional role, training and qualifications, as well as organisational, contextual and conditional issues related to social work practice.</p> <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To maintain our organisational membership of the European Social Platform and continue networking with colleagues from other Social Platform organisations to raise IFSW's profile and contribute a social work perspective to the issues they are pursuing b) To designate members to join the team representing IFSW 	



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	<p>at meetings of the Social Platform's Steering Group and Task Forces and with those organisations we have formal links with</p> <p>c) To support our Brussels based representative, Dalé Kabasinskaitė and effectively engage with the Platform, other key organisations and officials and politicians in the European Commission and Parliament</p> <p>d) To continue to support the Platform's action to secure the exemption of social care services from the scope of the proposed EU/US TTIP agreements</p> <p>e) To pass on information about issues relevant to social work being pursued by the Social Platform to our members and where appropriate encourage them to link with the national members of Social Platform networks in their own countries to lobby their MEP's and Heads of State for the changes required</p> <p>f) To promote engagement with prospective members of the EU particularly those countries where HR abuse is condoned by the authorities and encourage dialogue about how this can be tackled constructively</p> <p>g) To be aware and participate in lobbying about on going negotiations regarding TTIP, SETA, TISA and other possible trade agreements.</p> <p>h) To continue to support the platform's action to secure the exclusion of health and social services in the context of European Social Models. Collect and disseminate positions from around Europe and link with Global members as appropriate.</p> <p>i) To encourage members to meet emerging service personnel</p>	
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	to consider readiness to respond to epidemics like Ebola and other major disasters. Also ensure that the requirement for Social Services is taken into account.	
7. EAPN, European Anti-Poverty Network	<p>Actions:</p> <p>. To maintain and develop our organisational membership of EAPN through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Actively contributing to capacity building and campaigning and lobbying activities at a European level b) Passing on info about EAPN's lobbying activities, and publications to our members c) Encouraging our members to work more closely with EAPN's member organisations in their own countries d) Participating in task Force for Poverty and Human Rights 	
8. FRA, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights Platform	<p>Actions:</p> <p>. To continue to be members of the Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP) and engage with other civil society organisations concerned about fundamental rights</p> <p>. To disseminate information about FRA's research and publications to our members and the wider social work community</p>	
9. EURORDIS, European Organisation of Rare Diseases	<p>Actions:</p> <p>To promote the contribution of social work and social care to the support of people suffering from rare diseases and their carers by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Contributing as Associate Partner to a European conference on rare diseases - 8th European Conference on Rare Diseases & Orphan Products 	



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	<p>(ECRD 2016) to be held at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC), Scotland from 26 to 28 May 2016; IFSW Europe have been awarded complimentary places at this conference and we are doing a joint poster presentation.</p> <p>b) Participating at a meeting with social services and stakeholders: INNOVCare - Innovative Patient-Centred Approach for Social Care Provision to Complex Conditions Improving Integrated Care for People Living with a Rare Disease and with Complex Conditions that will take place in Ågrenska, Gothenburg – 9-10 June 2016;</p> <p>c) Participating in Webinars organized by EURORDIS, as invited keynote speakers;</p> <p>d) Promoting Rare Diseases Day through IFSW Europe social media.</p>	
<p>10. EUROCHILD, Network of organisations and individuals working in and across Europe to promote the rights and well-being of children and young people.</p>	<p>Actions: . To apply for organisational membership of Eurochild to ensure that members are aware of and can contribute to campaigning and lobbying activities that aim to ensure that Europe maintains the commitment to de-institutionalisation and other measures necessary to ensure the health and well-being of all children</p>	
<p>11. The Social Work and Identity Project The project “Social Work Role and Identity Project” set out to establish an effective baseline understanding of the state of social work across Europe.</p>	<p>Actions: . To continue collecting data and preparing reports</p>	



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<p>The project is a regular exercise to help IFSW Europe to be informed and measure the progress of social work across the continent of Europe over years. The main approach is to collect the information through questionnaires focused on core information about the association, as well as themes like social work education, standards of practice and legal aspects of the profession</p>		
<p>12. H2020 Project(s)</p>	<p>Actions: . To participate in 2 further bids led by the European Federation of Nurses (EFN) for Horizon Funding with consortiums that include general practitioners and physiotherapists. The first of these concerns the development of ICT skills within the nursing and social care workforce both during professional and post qualifying training and the second bid concerns the development of Integrated Health and Social Care Services.</p>	
<p>13. Privatization of social work services in Europe</p>	<p>. To set up a working group to consider the impact that the privatization of state provided social services has had on the quality of services provided and the implications of the current policy drive promoting the further development of such services rather than those provided directly by the state . To formulate an IFSW position paper and action plan on this issue</p>	
<p>14. World Social Work Day 2016</p>	<p>Actions: . Call for Action in Europe</p>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Publishing events and actions around Europe through our media tools (Blog and Facebook) . Video message from IFSW Europe 	
15. Related with IFSW Global	<p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Appointment of the European Representative to the Global Agenda . IFSW Global Executive Meetings, June 2016, Seoul, Korea . Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development, Seoul, Korea 27th-30th June 2016 - programme committee . Cooperation with IFSW Global on the Review of the Constitution . Elaboration of proposals to empower regions within IFSW 	
16. Network for Social Workers in Europe working with Refugees	<p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . To build a network for European social workers that are working with refugees in order to share information on the refugee crisis and to share their work with refugees for example on an informal basis via a Facebook group. . To organise a workshop on Social Workers in Europe working with Refugees during the IFSW European Conference in 2017, to highlight the social workers' role in supporting refugees. 	
<p>17. Network for Social Workers in Europe from countries living under austerity measures</p> <p>The goal of this network is to achieve a European covenant against austerity in Europe. This Covenant would involve social workers, organizations of the civil society and</p>	<p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . To create a network of social workers in Europe to fight against the Austerity Measures . To create an internal working group in IFSW-Europe to develop a common message that shows our thoughts and demands . To look for data that can be compared among countries 	



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<p>political agents.</p>	<p>and that set forth how the substantial government expenditure cuts on the social protection system has led to a breach of Human Rights in Europe. This would be done in collaboration with the Human Rights IFSW team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . To organize a session/meeting at the European Parliament together with the political parties represented in the European Parliament to sign a covenant against austerity 	
<p>18. Council of Europe and International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGO)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . To participate in the 2 semester meetings of the Conference INGO (planned to the winter and summer) . To take part in the thematic working groups, namely those with close links with the main activities of the professional category (Human Rights Committee, Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Challenges Committee) . To follow and co-operate in activities related with gender issues . To improve the information to be provided to the affiliated organisations namely via the European Social Worker newsletter . To encourage national organisations to disseminate the documents and debates in operation in the Conference of INGO 	
<p>19. Human rights</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . To continue the research related to the Human Rights related to social workers and the people affected by social exclusion . Continue advocating for human rights for social workers in Europe: prepare a policy paper and organize workshop on Human Rights during the IFSW European Conference in 2017 . To relate with the work of refugees and make a link 	



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	between the Human Rights and child protection special for refugee children	
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