



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

## IFSW Europe e.V. | WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015

---

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

- > **Visibility and Voice**
- > **Membership development**
- > **Services for members**

The attached “**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 Human Rights and Social Justice are fundamental 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.



## WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015

### 1 | COMMUNICATION

- > Honorary Secretary
- > Designer
- > Emailing members with information and updates on actions
- > Google group account (executive members)
- > Skype meetings
- > Blog
- > Facebook
- > Website
- > ESW - European Social Worker - newsletter
- > Media work productions
- > Power point presentations
- > Production of papers with guidelines to help the integration of new executive members and delegates from members organisations
- > Connecting members project
- > Press and press release strategy
- > Organization of Delegates Meetings

## DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

### IMPROVING WAYS OF COMMUNICATION

IFSW Europe is a well established, regulated and registered organisation. However further capacity building is required to improve communication with members (inward) and to develop our marketing and lobbying/communication with partner organisations (outward).

### ACTIONS

- > Integration of new executive members and honorary secretary
- > Continue working with the designer to develop IFSW Europe's promotional material, brand and message to the wider social work community and other key stakeholders, as described on her work programme
- > Publish regular update and progress reports on IFSW Europe's Blog and Facebook
- > ESW – Produce 2 editions a year
- > Review and where necessary revise Executive Members Work Portfolio throughout the year.
- > Connecting members project-to review and update the members of the Executive designated to link with individual member organisations and contacts in countries not currently represented.
- > Paper: Communication values with guidelines to executive committee members to be revised and re-issued.
- > Paper: Requirements for hosting the Annual Delegates Meeting to be revised periodically
- > Website: to continue updating the website directly by the communication team
- > To prepare a video message for WSWD 2015



## WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015

## DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

- > To update the lists of contacts (members organizations, associations of social workers, partners, media, etc.) and make this available to members.

### 2 | FINANCES

#### ACTIONS

- > Appointment of the Honorary Treasurer of IFSW Europe
- > Finances and Legal Body maintenance
- > To review the 5 year Budget
- > 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

### 3 | MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

#### ACTIONS

- > To continue the review of membership in IFSW
- > “Networking with”:
  - Developing relations with countries with no member and re-establishing relations with former members



## WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015

### 4 | ENSACT

European Network for Social ACTION

## DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

### ACTIONS

- > Participation in ENSACT meetings
- > Evaluation of future engagement with ENSACT

### 5 | IFSW EUROPEAN CONFERENCE 2015

### ACTIONS

- > To continue the organization process of the IFSW European Conference 2015 in Edinburgh Scotland in partnership with the British Association of Social Workers (BASW)

### 6 | EU ISSUES AND

SOCIAL PLATFORM,  
The European Social Platform

### VISIBILITY AND VOICE

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 the cost in terms of avoidable suffering and greater expenditure in the long term of failing to do so.

### ACTIONS

- > Networking with colleagues from other Social Platform organisations, raising IFSW's profile and the perspective of SW's and responding to their agendas
- > Designate members to join the team representing IFSW at meetings of the Social Platform's Steering Group and Task Forces and support our Brussels based representative, Dalé Kabasinskaitė to effectively



## WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015

## DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

engage with the Platform, other key organisations and officials and politicians in the European Commission and Parliament.

> Pass on info about issues relevant to social work being pursued by the Social Platform to our members and encourage them to lobby their MEP's and Heads of State where appropriate.

> Review and refine the briefing paper sent to members in advance of the 2014 Delegates Meeting outlining the expectations of individuals appointed to represent IFSW (E) on SP Working Groups and orgs like EAPN

> To engage members from countries where HR abuse is condoned by the authorities in a dialogue about how this can be tackled constructively

> Progress the work started on a Human Rights Wall chart and a Strategy for our work on Human Rights in 2014-2015

### 7 | EAPN,

European Anti-Poverty Network

### ACTIONS

> To continue to actively participate in EAPN capacity building, other meetings and campaigns and encourage our members to work more closely with EAPN's member organisations in their own countries.

> Passing on info about EAPN's lobbying activities, and publications to our members



## WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015

### 8 | FRA,

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights Platform

## DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

### ACTIONS

- > To participate in the annual FRP meeting in Vienna
- > To continue to engage with other civil society organisations concerned about fundamental rights. To disseminate information about FRA's research and publications to our members and the wider social work community.

### 9 | 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.

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.

### ACTIONS

- > To continue collecting data and preparing reports



## WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015

### 10 | PROJECT: ECONOMIC CRISIS IN EUROPE

#### CHALLENGE AND RESPONSE OF SOCIAL WORK PROFESSION

The main aims of the project are:

- > To present information about “the response of social workers/social work organizations to the ongoing economic crisis at the national levels.
- > To discuss and decide on actions for social work organisations in an international level:
  - Exercise advocacy, empowerment and lobby at European level;
  - Support and engage with member organisations and social workers in countries most affected;
  - Express at high levels (governments, EU, etc.) the responsibility of social work profession for human rights and ethics by presenting alternative ways of dealing with the crisis and austerity.
- > To discuss and develop a working plan for the next years to respond to the effects of economic crisis.

## DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

### ACTIONS

- > To present the final report with conclusions and recommendations and implementing an action-plan for the future
- > To produce a leaflet with the results of the Project for dissemination among members, partners and media
- > To continue the development of the link between the project and actions arising from the IFSW Global Agenda within the European Region



## WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015

### 11 | PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS DIRECTIVE

The Professional Qualifications Directive is essential to enabling professionals to start a new business or to find a job in another Member State requiring a specific qualification for a specific professional activity. The proposal aims at simplifying rules for the mobility of professionals within the EU by offering a European Professional Card to all interested professions which would allow easier and faster recognition of qualifications. It also clarifies the framework for consumers, by inviting Member States to review the scope of their regulated professions and by addressing public concerns about language skills and the lack of effective alerts about professional malpractice, notably in the health sector. This proposal was based on the answers on the Green-Paper (2011).

### 12 | TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL WORK IN NEW SOCIAL WORK COUNTRIES

## DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

### ACTIONS

IFSW Europe will continue to express the social work profession's interest in and willingness to actively contribute to these developments.

We will also explore the possibility of closer involvement with the Expert Group established to pilot the proposed the European (EPC) with colleagues from the European Federation of Nurses (EFN) and the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) who now regulate Social Workers and a number of health professional groups in England, both of whom are represented on that group.

### ACTIONS

> To support the development and build the capacity of professional networks in emerging countries





## WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015

## DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

### 13 | WORLD SOCIAL WORK DAY 2015

#### ACTIONS

- > Call for Action in Europe
- > Publishing events and actions around Europe through our media tools (Blog and Facebook)
- > Video message from IFSW Europe

### 14 | RELATED WITH IFSW GLOBAL

#### ACTIONS

- > Global Agenda – European Representative
- > Development of a bid for the Global funding to do sub regional workshops to further promote IFSW Europe
- > Executive Meeting, Melbourne, Australia July 2014
- > World Conference on Social Work and Social Development Melbourne 2014 - programme committee
- > Cooperation with IFSW Global on Definition of Social Work

### 15. ENS4Care THEMATIC NETWORK

EVIDENCE BASED GUIDELINES FOR NURSING AND  
SOCIAL CARE ON THE DEPLOYMENT OF EHEALTH  
SERVICE

#### ACTIONS

- > To continue to actively contribute to the ENS4Care project coordinated by EFN, European Federation of Nurses, to ensure that joint guidance produced conforms to social work values and principles and supports and empowers those requiring services.



## WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015

The main objective of the project is the development of evidence based guidelines for the implementation of eHealth services in nursing and social care, building on existing good practices amongst the participants of the Network, sharing and transferring knowledge across European regions.

The ultimate goal of ENS4Care is the establishment of a sustainable mechanism to support nursing and social care research in the field of ICT enabled integrated care.

### 16. TIMEBANK

Time Banking is an innovative form of reciprocal exchange based on mutual support, and is a highly effective system for promoting active citizenship, the growth of social capital and community empowerment. Time Banks build on strengths, both individual and organisational, and recognise that everyone in a community has something to offer.

Time Banks value all kinds of reciprocal help and skills people can offer each other. There is no exchange of money – the fundamental concept is that everyone's *time* is valued equally: one hour = 1

## DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

- > To promote the development of "Social Prescribing" and other preventative approaches and realise the potential of telecare and other specialised equipment to enable people to live independently in their own homes.
- > To disseminate and promote the material produced to our members and the wider social work and social care community utilising the European Social Work Research Observatory, conferences and other training events.

### ACTIONS

- > To support the British Association of Social Workers - **BASWs**' proposal to engage with the member organisations who have expressed an interest in developing the Time Bank concept to explore the kind of activities that these members could assist one another with and how such reciprocity between members might be promoted and supported through the establishment of Time Banking system which credits and debits members for the number of hours of assistance they give or receive from other members.



## WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015

time credit. Members 'deposit' their time by giving their skills and expertise to others and can 'withdraw' their time credit when they need something for themselves.

Time Banking recognises people and organisations as assets, promotes reciprocity and builds trust and mutual respect between members.

## DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

### 17 | PRIVATIZATION OF SOCIAL WORK SERVICES IN EUROPE

#### ACTIONS

> 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.