



**Delegates Meeting for IFSW Europe e.V.
Reykjavik, Iceland, 26-28 May 2017**

Minutes

COUNTRIES IN ATTENDANCE:

1. Armenia
2. Austria (Coordinating body OBDS and younion_Die_Daseinsgewerkschaft)
3. Azerbaijan
4. Belgium
5. Croatia
6. Denmark
7. Finland
8. Georgia
9. Germany
10. Iceland
11. Ireland
12. Israel
13. Italy
14. Moldova
15. Norway
16. Portugal
17. Romania (Coordinating body CNASR and ASproAS)
18. Russia
19. Spain
20. Sweden
21. Switzerland
22. UK

OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

- Representative to the European Social Platform
- Representative to EAPN
- IFSW Secretary - General
- IFSW President
- Global coordinator of global agenda



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1 WELCOME AND FORMALITIES

1.1. Welcome and opening of the DM

The President of IFSW Europe e.V Ana Lima, opened the Delegates Meeting and welcomed all delegates. She informed that 22 European member associations were registered and since last Delegates Meeting in Zagreb Moldova, Poland, and The Netherlands joined IFSW Europe e.V. She also noted that Slovakia was in process to join IFSW.

Ana Lima asked all delegates to introduce themselves.

She thanked the Icelandic Association for hosting and organizing the meeting

1.2. Presentation from the Icelandic Association of Social Workers

On the behalf of the Icelandic Association of Social Workers, Maria Rúnarsdóttir welcomed the delegates to Reykjavik and made a presentation about the Icelandic Association of Social Work as well as to role of social workers in Iceland. She wished all members a successful and nice meeting and informed about practical and logistic aspects.

1.3. Procedures for the Delegates Meeting

Appointment of the Chair. Ana Lima proposed Josefine Johansson as Chair of the DM

Josefine Johansson explained the procedures and formalities of the meeting and asked if her position as Chair of the meeting could be approved

- *Propose: Norway*
- *Seconded: Russia Federation*
- *Carried unanimously*

Appointment of Parliamentarian. The Chair proposed Nicolai Paulasen (Denmark) as Parliamentarian

- *Proposed: Armenia*
- *Seconded: Austria*
- *Carried: unanimously*

Appointment of Tellers. The Chair proposed Gabriel Stark-Angermeier (Germany) and Mimmi Kvisvik (Norway) as tellers

- *Proposed: Romania*
- *Seconded: Switzerland*
- *Carried: unanimously*

Josefine Johansson asked the election officer to explain the election process and inform about voting rights, candidates and deadline for nominations.

John Brennan informed that all 22 delegates registered were eligible to vote and each member was entitled to have two votes. During the delegates meeting 2 executive members and 2 deputies positions needed to be appointed, each position would serve for two years. The two candidates with the highest number of votes would take a position on the Executive and the candidate who get 3rd and 4th number of votes would be the two deputies.

Quorum of the DM. The Chair stopped the meeting and explained that only 17 members were presented. According to the Article 5a of IFSW Europe e.V bylaws, the number of members did not provide legal quorum.



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The Parliamentarian proposed to wait 30 minutes to meet the requirement of the bylaws and discuss topics that did not require voting. He also pointed out that everything that was voted until that moment was illegal so the members presented had to agree with the decisions took until that moment and express if they felt comfortable talking about items that did not require voting

John Brennan listed the progress on the organization of the World Join Conference in Dublin on July 4th - 7th, 2019.

- The theme of the Conference was *Environmental and Community Sustainability. Human Solutions In Evolving Society*
- The organizers was the Irish Association of Social Work, The Irish Association of School of Social Work and the European Antipoverty network who represents the International Council of Social Welfare at the international committee
- There were already 9 key note speaker confirmed, from Ireland (Mary Robinson), North Ireland, Costa Rica, Australia and also users of social services.
- The opening date for abstracts would be June 21st and the closing date November 1st.

The Chair proposed to move to point 18 of the agenda *Any other business* and present the National Conferences.

- **Romania** - National Conference in June 16 - 18th. The topic will be resilience e innovation
- **Spain** - National Conference in Mérida in October 21st. The theme is Building Sustainable Communities
- **Croatia** - National Conference in October. The theme is Social Work in the World of Change.
- **Rep Russia** - Conference in November 20th - 22th. The topics will be Social Rights of People and the Council of Europe will participate.
- The Russia Association of Social Workers will organize a conference in Vietnam, too
- **Portugal** - National Conference during the SWD on Ethics, Education and Supervision.
- **Israel** - National Conference in 20th - 21st November. The topics will be "Power and Empowerment. It is going to be a celebration of 80th Anniversary of Social Work in Israel
- **Germany** - National Congress in Germany 18th - 20th of October in 2018. The topic will be Attitude for the profession
- **Denmark**. - Conference on November 1st - 2sd. The topic will be Public governance and professional freedom
- **Armenia** - National Conference on November 4th (it is social work day in Armenia) The topic will be Professionalization of SW in Armenia

Ana Radulesco acknowledged the job of the British Association of SW during their Walk for Austerity and Guy Shennon (UK) thanked this recognition and the support got from IFSW.

1.4. Approval of the agenda and timetable

The Chair asked the delegates if they approved to move back to the agenda and proceed with the meeting

- *Proposed: Ireland*
- *Seconded: Denmark*
- *Carried unanimously*

The Chair asked members to modify the agenda and to move point *12 Elections* and point *13. Appointment of external and internal representatives of IFSW Europe e.V.* to Sunday. On Saturday afternoon, point *16 Work Program* would be discussed.

- *Proposed: Romania*
- *Seconded: Portugal*
- *Carried unanimously*



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2 MINUTES OF THE DELEGATES MEETING 2016

The Minutes of the Delegates Meeting held in Zagreb, Croatia were circulated on July 10th, 2016 and again in preparation for this meeting.

There were no matters arising.

The Chair asked if the Minutes of the 2016 Delegates Meeting could be approved

- *Proposed: Norway*
- *Seconded: Austria*
- *Carried unanimously*

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

4. PRESENTATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S WRITTEN REPORT FOR APPROVAL AND PRESENTATION OF EXECUTIVE MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO WORK PROGRAMME

The Executives reported on the items on the work program (distributed 11th May 2017)

4.1. Communication project and European Social platforms

Ana Lima explained that during 2016 the Executive worked in two lines of actions:

- Internal communication. Members received information about the job developed by the representatives as well as by the associations members. A new protocol to collect information was developed to standardize the information
- External communication. The tools used were IFSW Europe e.V website and IFSW Europe e.V facebook

For 2017 - 2018, Ana Lima proposed to improve the communication strategy and strength the external communication. She stated that it was needed to increase the visibility of the actions and the job that the Executive, the members and the representatives developed. It would allow IFSW Europe e.V to create a powerful lobby, a strong network and would impact on IFSW Europe e.V reputation and identity. The President of IFSW Europe e.V proposed to standardize the communication by developing protocols. and improve the website to store all information there. Another tools would be press notes and press conferences.

Questions and comments were invited from the floor.

Ruth Allen (UK) remarked the importance of solidarity and communicate the collective actions. She manifested that IFSW Europe e.V had to make the activities of their members more visible and demonstrate the impact that they had. It was important to make IFSW Europe information available for all practitioners and be accountable.

Ana Radulesco pointed out that it was needed to identify the target groups to design a strategy to communicate both with practitioners as well as with policy makers to impact on the legislation

4.2. The Social Work Role and Identity Project

Ana Lima reported that the project "Social Work Role and Identity Project" was paused due to the changes on the President and Vice president positions. For 2017 - 2018 she proposed to work together with Manane Petrosyan on this project and invited members to contribute on the project



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4.3. The Development of Social Work in New Social Work Countries

Manane Petrosyan informed that assumed the responsibility of coordinating this projects in January after the resignation of the former Vice-President, Salome Namicheishvili.

For 2017 - 2018, she proposed working on professionalization of Social Work instead of developing Social Work and collect information about legislation, different structures, etc.

Questions and comments were invited from the floor.

Herbet Paulischin (Romania) agreed with the proposal to support colleagues on their own developing of professionalization and pointed out that was important to work on social work education in those countries and help to develop their curricula to take jobs in decision making levels and to promote the profession

4.4. Privatization of Social Work Services

Manane Petrosyan reported that since she assumed the responsibility of this item in January 2017, reviewed the existing material. The proposal of the Executive for 2017 -2018 was to look for new ways to collect data and evidence different from our own questionnaires

Questions and comments were invited from the floor

David Jones remarked that it was important to show our knowledge and evidence to have credibility and impact. One example was the Global Agenda and its impact at the UN.

Herbet Paulischin (Romania), Ana Radulesco, Dunia Gharwal (Austria) Henrik Egelund Nielsen (Denmark) and Fran McDonnell (UK) commented that evidence was needed to develop arguments that practitioners, to impact on legislation, on policy makers. They proposed using data and results available instead of creating our own data. They suggested some resources:

- The European Semester report
- The Social Work Hub
- Working with research institutes as Researcher Centers and try to influence on their research elections.
- Use the resources that IFSW Europe e.V had as member of different platforms and networks and interchange the information in a more effectively way

Kristiina Koskiluoma (Finland) and Jane Shears (UK) also suggested to work together with the School of Social Work to get access to their results. This collaboration happened already at Global level

Henrik Nielsen (Denmark) proposed the Executive to consider all the ideas and develop new approaches and strategies to get evidences, to be more productive, and strength our political discussion and the discussion among social workers.

4.5. European Network for Social Action (ENSACT)

Josefine Johansson reported verbally on the collaboration between IFSW Europe e.V and ENSACT with the use of a power point presentation (ATTACHMENT I).

ENSACT won the bid to be the European Observatory of the Global Observatory linked to the Global Agenda and the European report was made voluntarily by Kerstin Svensson, Professor in Social Work at Lund's University. She informed that the regional reports was merged into the global observatory report but there was also a European stand-alone version on www.ensact.com. It contained 32 good examples from 16 countries



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She presented the feedbacks received on the report and emphasized that was essential that future reports could be disseminated at member conferences. Josefine Johansson mentioned that the report linked social workers from different countries based on the projects and explained that the European report depicted more projects from practitioners than other regions. The European report did not include abstracts of Conferences.

Regarding 2017 - 2018, Josefine Johansson informed that the working team of ENSACT was working on framework to prepare a template on the concept "sustainable environmental communities". For the new report, abstracts was going to be accepted.

Questions and comments were invited from the floor

David Jones informed that for 2018 the topic was *Community Development and Environmental Sustainability*. He clarified that both topics did not need to go together and that the process for 2018 report was going to be more guided. However, those projects that could not fit in the model provided could be also submitted

Klaus Kühne (Switzerland) explained that on SWD 2017 in Geneva there were two panels on Community and Environmental Sustainability and proposed that IFSW Europe relates its job also with the Agenda of UN

5. PRESENTATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S WRITTEN REPORT FOR APPROVAL AND PRESENTATION OF EXECUTIVE MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO WORK PROGRAMME - PART II

5.1. Network for Social Workers in Europe working with refugees.

Maria Rúnarsdóttir reported that this topic was proposed in Edinburg in 2015. However, because several networks and platforms started working on this topic, IFSW Europe e.V Executive decided not to develop its own network and considered more effective to collaborated with the networks already existed.

One of the networks with whom IFSW Europe e.V collaborated was RAN (Radicalization Awareness Network). Maria Runarsdóttir informed that they worked on workforce in social care and health and she collaborated with them to identify social work associations and involve social work perspectives on their work. Iceland, Croatia, Austria and Romania worked with RAN

For 2017 - 2018, Maria Rúnarsdóttir proposed the delegates to discuss during the working groups, if IFSW Europe e.V needed to develop it owns network and if that was the case, what would the aim of the network or if it was more convenience to work with organizations and networks that already work on this field.

5.2. Regional development communication project

Tanja Katkic reported that the aim of the project was to work with associations that were not usually represented in the DM, or in Europe in general, and made more visible their actions, projects, etc. as well as supported them to participate more actively.

In 2016 - 2017, Tanja Katvik worked with Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Greece, Italy, Kosovo, Macedonia, and Montenegro. Some of the actions were:

- Some Ex-Yugoslavia countries signed an agreement for future cooperation on National Social Work Day
- Bosnia expressed its interested in joining IFSW but there were 3 organization of social work, so they needed support to coordinate these different bodies.
- Macedonia was already a member of IFSW and also expressed its interested in being again a member, but needed to create an specific Union of Social Work.



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- Serbia was not interested in joining IFSW
- Tanja Katkic explained that also tried to reach and invited Italy and Greece to collaborate with RAN and that was going to invite the Greece Association to attend the National Conference of Croatia and to organize a workshop

For 2017 - 2018 Tanja Katkic proposed that the members discuss the best way to make more visible the work of all national organizations. Some suggestions of the Executive were creating a Google group and holding meetings with members.

5.3. IFSW Preconference at EASSW Conference in Paris

Tanja Katkic reported that IFSW Europe e.V was organizing a pre-conference during the Conference of the EASSW in Paris in June. The theme was "What is so special about social work and Human Rights: challenges of Social Workers across Europe " Ana Lima, Manane Petrosyan, and she would make presentations.

For 2017 - 2018, Tanja Katkic proposed to create a small working group to handle all the information and documents that IFSW Europe e.V was going to obtain from the Pre-Conference in Paris, from the workshop on Human Right in Zagreb, from the work of Herbert Paulischin on Human Rights

Questions and comments were invited from the floor.

Ana Radulesco suggested presenting this material of IFSW Europe e.Von Human Rights Day and proposed to approach the own human rights of social workers which were also being challenged. Following this suggestion, Priska Fleischlin (Switzerland) recommended to contact a UN working group in Geneva that worked on defender on human rights

Fernanda Rodrigues (Portugal) proposed to give space to 3/4 countries during Pre-Conference to present practices and challenges on HR. Josefine Johansson clarified that EASSW invited IFSW Europe e.V to organize a pre-conference as action of our collaboration with them

5.4. Network for Social Workers in Europe from countries living under austerities measures

Tanja Katkic informed that assumed the responsibility of this project in January from Ana Lima and reported that since then they discussed several strategies on this regard.

For 2017 - 2018, the Executive proposed to work with social workers, NGOs, policy makers to lobby again austerity measures and create a network of social workers in Europe. Another proposals was to shape a working groups to analyze all the material available of IFSW Europe e.V on this topic to elaborate work proposals, policies at European level and propose actions together.

Questions and comments were invited from the floor.

Nicolai Paulsen (Denmark) proposed to add poverty, specially poverty in children, on this item.

Ana Radulesco pointed out that creating a network and being the leader of the network required a budget and there was not an specific budget for it. She recommended that IFSW Europe e.V did not started a network and approaching people and entities if it was not going to be able to do it successfully. It would impact on IFSW Europe e.V credibility.

5.5. Finances and Legal Body maintenance



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IFSW Europe e.V Finances. Brian Auslander reported that IFSW Europe had a deficit budget during the last 7 years. In 2011, the treasurer Barbara Molderings asked the delegates to approve a deficit budget and since then the reserves of IFSW Europe e.V considerable reduced.

For 2017, Brian Auslander explained that the Executive took the decision to reduce the expenses of IFSW Europe e.V to not longer have a deficit budget. For 2017, IFSW Europe budgeted a total income of 24,000€, if collected 100% of the fees, and a total expenses of 22,000€. It would bring a plus of 2,000€.

In order to have the budget balanced, Brian Auslander pointed out that the Executive minimized the expenses of IFSW Europe to keep the activity of IFSW Europe e.V and cut the budget of IFSW Europe e.V Representative and decided to have only one face to face Executive Meeting. However, in spite of this cuts, the Honorary Treasurer informed that it was possible to keep the economic support for some delegates to attend the DM. He also acknowledged the efforts of Maria to help IFSW Europe e.V budget with the organization of the DM to keep the expenses to the minimum

Questions and comments were invited from the floor.

Gabriela Stark-Angermeier clarified that in Germany was possible to have a plus until a maxima of 17.000€ in order not to pay taxes. She also acknowledge the efforts of Brian Auslander to change the continues lost of reserves and building up the finance of IFSW Europe e.V

Nicolai Paulsen (Denmark) stressed that the responsibility of building up the finance of IFSW was a responsibility of all members and stated that the treasurer and the Executive were responsible for dealing with the finance and with the money with transparency and with a good communication with members. He requested that the Executive improves the way how they reported on the finance of this year and the year before, how they explained where and how the money was used. It was needed more information and transparency.

Fernanda Rodrigues (Portugal) raised the topic about covering the expenses to attend the DM. Some delegates had to fund their participation because their Associations could not afford to pay their expenses. The associations were facing difficult times and maybe some needed to leave IFSW. She suggested taking this issue to IFSW Global because it was not only a regional issue.

IFSW Europe Legal Body Brian Auslander reported on the situation with the legal body status of IFSW Europe e.V and explained that during the DM in Zagreb, after the amendments were presented, the delegates decided to create a group to work and bring a new proposal to discuss during the delegates meeting in Reykjavik. The group was comprised by Nicolai Paulsen (Denmark), John Brennan (Ireland), Gabriela Stark-Angermeier (Germany) and by Brian Auslander (Israel)

Brian Auslander explained that the group decided to propose the minimum amendments as possible to met the requirements of the German court. The most important were:

- The position of the treasurer has to be elected by members during a DM.
- The elected period of the treasurer will be 2 years
- IFSW Europe e.V had to be an independent organization and not subsidiary of IFSW Global.

Questions and comments were invited from the floor.

Liliana Cocozza (Belgium) commented that the Belgium Association of social Work was an independent organization but on its Statutes they added that the Association has the right to work, be members or partner of entities with the same field of activities



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Ian Johnston and Ana Radulesco commented on the opportunities that being a legal body provided to apply for fund. The European Union did not give money to fund organizations but gave money for services provider and in 2017 there was a possibility to apply for funds on the Pillar on Social Rights.

David Jones pointed out that IFSw Europe could create a new organization with no legal structure to apply and take the money. However, this option had different challenges such as how to be registered in the two organizations, how to separate them, how the money relates to the entities, etc.

The Chair asked if the report on the work programme 2016 - 2017 could be approved by the delegates meeting

- *Proposed: Germany*
- *Seconded: Armenia*
- *Carried unanimously*

6 THE EUROPEAN PILLAR OF SOCIAL RIGHTS (PSR)

Ian Johnston and Fran McDonnell reported verbally on the European Pillar of Social Rights with the use of a powerpoint presentation (ATTACHMENT II).

Ian Johnston explained that the PSR presented good opportunities and listed the policies that related more with social work are: Gender equality and work-life balance; Long-term care; Childcare; Disability; and Access to essential services. He stated that it was important that social workers were involved in the implementation of the PSR and in the process to ensure that the European Pillar of Social Rights brought positive changes to people's lives.

Fran McDonnell stated that the involving on social workers in the implementation of the PSR had to be based on a human rights approach, as the PSR had a clear human rights perspective regarding providing services and developing policies. She informed that in November 2017 there would be a Social Summit and the European Pillar of Social Rights would be proclaimed jointly by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission. Fran McDonnell proposed to develop a document about how social workers and social work associations had to engage and take actions on this process. She presented some suggestions on how IFSW Europe e.V members could influence the implementation

Questions and comments were invited from the floor.

Ana Radulesco explained that the PSR has two levels, Brussels (They dealt with the concept of the pillar) and Local (Each country had a national representative who acted as link about how to implement the recommendations of the PSR). She stated that IFSW Europe e.V was the only organization in Europe with an structure of members in all countries so it was a good opportunity to increase IFSW Europe e.V visibility. She suggested identifying the local representatives and presented them the social work perspectives and proposals. She stressed that this had to be done before November if IFSW Europe e.V wanted that the social work's perspective was included on the PSR. She also informed that during the Social Summit the two main items that would be discussed were

- Recommendations to implement the PSR at national level. The name of Social Work had to be mentioned and appears somewhere else
- Proposals for funding to implement the PSR. There would be a new open for funds and IFSW Europe had to use this opportunity

Liliana Coccozza (Belgium) proposed to contact the members of the European Parliament and present the social work proposals, too



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Ian Johnston and Henrik Nielsen (Denmark) commented that it was important to develop formal partnerships with other organizations and with entities that were both in the European Union and outside the European Union. Henrik recommend that IFSW Europe e.V connects with EPSU - European Federation of Public Service Unions

The Chair asked if the report of the Social Platform team could be approved by the delegates meeting

- *Proposed: Denmark*
- *Seconded: Switzerland*
- *Carried unanimously*

7. REPORT THROUGH ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES OF IFSW EUROPE

Members were distributed in discussion working group with the IFSW Europe e.V Representatives to approach and discuss on the following topics.

- Council of Europe. Facilitated by Fernanda Rodrigues and Antonina Dashkina
- Human Rights and Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP). Facilitated by Ana Radulesco and Tatjana Katkvic
- Ethics. Facilitated by Jane Shears and Gabriele Stark-Angermeier
- European Social Platform and European Pillar on Social Rights. Facilitated by Ian Johnston and John Brennan
- European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN). Facilitated by Fran McDonnell

8. CONSIDERATION AND AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES AND BYLAWS OF IFSW EUROPE E.V.

8.1. Proposed amendments to the Articles.

Brian Auslander reported on the proposals for the amendments of the Statutes and emphasized that the aim of the working group was to limit the changes to meet the requirements of the German court and at the same time retain the link with IFSW global. He explained the main changes.

- **Art 1.** It was removed the sentence "*The association is part of the International Federation of Social Workers at a global level with registered office in Bern, Switzerland (abbreviated to IFSW Global).*"
Brian Auslander explained that to be registered in Germany it was necessary that the organization "stand alone" and not be a subsidiary of an international body.
- **Art. 2.** It was removed the sentence "*The statutes of IFSW Europe e.V. are based on the constitution and by laws of IFSW Global.*"
Brian Auslander stated that now the article 2 was named *Purpose and Aims*. This article held the relations between IFSW Europe e.V and IFSW Global. One association could not be members of IFSW Europe without being member of IFSW Global.
- **Art 5a.** Brian Auslander explained that according to the German Law IFSW Europe e.V needed to have President, Vice-President and the Treasures. The new proposal stated a new structure and they would be elected positions during European Delegates Meetings. The President and the Vice-President would be elected for 4 years during the same days as IFSW Global DM. The Treasurer would be elected for 2 years during a regional delegates meeting
- **Art 5b.** The last item was removed. Brian Auslander explained that only the President, Vice President and Treasurer would have the signing authority. He also pointed out that



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if the two deputies could not fulfil the positions president, vice president or treasurer, in the event that they were unable to fulfil their term in office

- **Other changes.** Brian Auslander explained that the rest of the final changes removed references to the founding members because there were no longer relevant.

Brian Auslander and the Chair reminded members that no amendments were received so these proposals had to be voted together as a packet

Questions and comments were invited from the floor.

Nicolai Paulsen (Denmark) acknowledged the job and presentation of Brian Auslander and asked if IFSW Global had been engaged with IFSW Europe e.V in this process as well as if there were any feedback from IFSW Global on this proposal. Ruth Allen (UK) followed on this recognition but also expressed her concerns that the dialogue with the global level had not happened before the vote and expressed that the changes were not explained properly in advance. She also raised the point how IFSW Europe e.V was linked to this Statutes once the German Court approves them and if it was easy to make changes after that.

Josefine Johansson informed that during the last two years IFW Europe and IFSW Global talked about the legal situation of IFSW Europe. In fact, there was a discussion about Global collecting IFSW Europe fees. However, because they were registered in Switzerland it was not possible. Following this topic, Brian Auslander added that these last proposals were not discussed with IFSW Global but Ana Lima and Ana Radulesco would meet tomorrow with IFSW Global to discuss these changes. On the other hand, once these statutes were approved, it would be possible to make and send any amended if it was needed

Klaus Kühne (Switzerland) asked about the election of the President, Vice-President and the Treasurer. According to the proposal it had to be on an European Delegates, however these election took place on Global meetings with small numbers of members presented. Brian Auslander explained that members could vote by proxy but these were topics that had to be discussed with Global.

8.2. Amendments to the Bylaws

Brian Auslander noted that the changes on the bylaws were collected from the changes on the Statutes. The main changes related to:

- **Bylaw 2 Agenda for Delegates Meetings.** Brian Auslander explained that now the agenda of the DM needed to include the
 - Election of the President and the Vice-president of IFSW Europe according to terms and timing for election
 - Election of the treasurer and other three additional members of the Executive Committee and the two deputy members

He remarked that these elections had to be done during European Delegates Meeting

- **Bylaw 4 Procedures in Delegates Meetings.** Brian Auslander indicated that now each member organisation was entitled to two delegates, instead of 3, because that was what the Statutes stated
- **Bylaw 7 Elections and appointments.** The changes on this articles related to the time that the Treasurer served on his/her position. It would be elected for 2 years during an European Delegates Meeting. The position of the President and Vice-President would be appointed for 4 year and would be elected at a European special delegates meeting (according to the statutes of IFSW Europe e.V. art. 4a no. 4 and bylaw 3)



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Brian Auslander also explained that other changes on this article stated how to fulfil the positions of IFSW Europe President and Vice-President in case of vacancy

- The other changes related with clarifications more than with amendments

Questions and comments were invited from the floor.

Klaus Kühne (Switzerland) proposed that the period for the treasurer was also 4 years and asked why the Executive modified the proposal of 4 years that was discussed in Zagreb. Brian Auslander agreed with the suggestion of 4 years but the working group decided to make the less changes as possible

Nicolai Paulsen (Denmark) reminded the delegates that during the meeting in Zagreb one of the concerns was to have different terms for different positions. Members discussed about having an Executive with three fixed positions of 4 year. This was the reason behind the 2 years proposal. Also, he stated that on the last document forwarded it was stated 2 years term

The Parliamentarian clarified that the proposal had to be voted yes or no as a global document.

8.3 Adoption of the amendments to the Articles and Bylaws

The Chair asked if the amendments to the Statutes and Bylaws presented by the Executive could be approved by the delegates meeting

- *Proposed: Germany*
- *Seconded: Austria*
- *Carried unanimously (18 members voted.)*

9. APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AND THE REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

9.1. Report from the Honorary Treasurer, accounts 2016

The Honorary Treasurer explained that 2016 was a transition year with two major issues.

- ***Finding a new home for the bank account*** in a country member of the European Union. The process was very difficult, and only in the last few months were we able to move the account to Spain; until that moment Gabriele Stark-Angermeier volunteered to continue managing the account. This circumstance caused that all the financial actions had to be carried out by her and IFSW Europe Honorary Treasurer did not have access to the status of the current accounts.
- ***Reduce the expenses of IFSW Europe e.V*** to balance the budget for 2017. The Honorary Treasurer reported that in 2016 the Executive held 3 face to face meetings during the first half of the year. Owned to the cost of these meetings as well as the cost of the Delegates Meeting in Zagreb, the Executive decided to freeze all spending for the rest of the year and reduce severely the expenditures. This included to the economic support for IFSW Europe e.V representatives as well as holding only one executive meeting face to face in 2017

IFSW Europe e.V began 2016 with a balance of 18,642.62€ and had an income of 27,571.40€, mainly from fees of 24,414.60€. The 2016 budget called for expenditure of 28,100€ and the expenditure was 33,332.78 €. The budget was overrun by 5,761.38€

Questions and comments were invited from the floor.



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Nicolai Paulsen (Denmark) expressed the concerns of the Danish Association regarding the transparency and communication about IFSW Europe finance and asked to record it on the Minutes. For the Danish Association was a key issue to improve the communication of the financial information and the transparency. He also complained about receiving the financial information just before the delegates meeting and stressed that it was needed to have financial information in time to have a proper discussion on the work plan.

Brian Auslander clarified that 2017 budget was sent on time but unfortunately it was not possible to do the same with the financial report 2016

9.2. Report from the auditor 2016

The Honorary Treasurer presented the report of the auditors for 2016 that approved the finance report presented with a loss of 5,761.38€

The Chair asked if the report of the accounts 2016 and the auditor reports for 2016 could be approved by the delegates meeting

- *Proposed: Romania*
- *Seconded: Russia Federation*
- *Carried unanimously*

9.3. Presentation and approval budget 2017

Brian Auslander presented the budget for 2017 and described the major challenges for the executives.

- **Balance the budget.** For 2017, the Executive decided to present a no deficit budget and maximize the income as well as reducing expenditures to bring the budget in line with expected income. IFSW Europe e.V needed to reduce the expenses, otherwise IFSW Europe e.V reserves will run out in 2 or 3 years.

The 2016 budgeted 28,100€ for expenses while the 2017 budget reduced the cost to 22,700€. Collecting 100% of the 2017 fees would bring in 24,000€.

- **Cover expenses of the IFSW Eu Representations.** Brian Auslander explained that the Executive decided to temporarily suspend representative travel that came from the IFSW Europe budget. He asserted that the executive was aware of the importance of supporting the representatives to allow them to attend meetings and present the social work position. He also informed that the payments of the membership fees of the partners, networks and bodies of IFSW Europe e.V were included in the budget 2017.
- **Identify new sources of revenue.** Brian Auslander stated that the executive had to find the resources to allow not only the representatives to do their jobs but also to develop the activities and the projects that IFSW Europe e.V planed.

For 2017 - 2018, Brian Auslander informed that the Executive proposed to decide on a policy for the appropriate use of the reserves, what was the lowest necessary budget to maintain IFSW Europe e.V desired level of activities and to bring to the next delegates meeting a way of meeting these needs.

Questions and comments were invited from the floor.

Jane Shears (UK) proposed to create a working group to review possibilities to increase revenues and work together to look for new possibilities.



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Dunia Gharwal (Austria) recommended to consult IFSW Global guideline on covering cost and expenses of the executives and the representatives.

Herbet Pulischin mentioned that several years ago there were incomes from IFSW Europe Regional Conference and asked if that was still an option. Tanja Katkic (Croatia) informed that during the regional Conference organized in Croatia there was a benefit of 15.000 - 20.000€ that was never distributed. Recently, the court recognized that the money had to be divided so there was a possibility to get some money back.

Gabriele Stark-Argemeier (Germany) expressed her concerns about not having resources for ensuring representation at European level meetings, and raised the question if it made sense to pay the member fees of organizations where IFSW Europe e.V could not be active or take part in their meetings.

Myra Antonyan (Armenia) suggested to allocated some money to the representatives as well to the Executives to be able to meet at least twice if this Conference got some revenues.

Antonina Dashkina asked about the budget for economic support to attend the DM. She asked if it was possible to have more information on the countries that received the support as well as the procedure to distribute the fund. She considered that more members could have received more support. Brian Auslander clarified that for 2017 DM all the scholarship funding was distributed (6 in total) and that the executive could only give money to countries which applied.

Nicolai Paulsen (Denmark) expressed that it was needed to allocate some money for the representatives and remarked that it was needed to have a strategy about how IFSW Europe planned to get more money. He proposed the following amendments, seconded by Switzerland, as a raise of the budget 2017.

Type of costs	Actual costs 2016	Presented budget 2017	Proposed budget 2017
Travel Representation € 1.000,00	181 EURO	0	300 EURO
Travel / COE € 1.300,00	754 EURO	0	1.000 EURO
Travel / EU € 900,00	1.277 EURO	0	700 EURO

It could be financed by: Reducing the Travel ExCo (including hotel and meals) by 2.000 EURO, or Adjusting the total balance by 1.300 EURO and reducing the Travel ExCo (including hotel and meals) by 700 EURO

The Executive discussed the proposal of Denmark and agreed to allocate 2.000€ to IFSW Europe representatives. 1.700€ were withdrawn from the balance and 700€ from the budget initially allocated for travel of the executives.

The Chair asked if the budget 2017 with the amendments of Denmark and Switzerland could be approved by the delegates meeting

- *Proposed: Denmark*
- *Seconded: Switzerland*
- *Carried unanimously with one abstention (Belgium)*

10. RATIFICATION OF THE GENERAL AND FINANCIAL POLICIES OF IFSW EUROPE E.V.

10.1. Decision on the annual membership dues (regional fees)

Brian Auslander reported that the membership fee was 0,20 cents per organization member and 1/3 of the associations members paid less than 100, 00€



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There were no proposed changes on the fees for the forthcoming year.

10.2 Review of activities and accounts of IFSW Europe e.V.

Gabriele Stark-Angermeier (Germany) asked the Executive if for the next delegates meeting they could present a proposal on how to have higher income opportunities and suggested to consider having a differential rate depending on the resources of member organizations. Ruth Allen (UK) agreed with the idea of developing a funding model including the fees issues. She proposed to create a working group to develop a new funding structure.

Nicolai Paulsen (Denmark) stressed that was important to improve the financial situation, and proposed that the executive or the working group considered to approach members both from national organizations as well as individual members.

The Chair asked if the proposal to create a working group for developing a new funding structure could be approved by the delegates meeting

- *Proposed: UK*
- *Seconded: Austria*
- *Carried unanimously*

Members for the group: Herbert Paulischin (Romania), Ruth Allen (UK), Antonina Dashkina (Russia), Niels Barkholt (Denmark) and IFSW Global Treasurer (Dunia Gharwal)

10.3 Appointment of an independent auditor

Brian Auslander presented the proposal of the Executive to empower the Spanish General Council of Social Work to hire an auditor. It would be the same auditor used by the Spanish Association

The Chair asked if the proposal to appoint the same auditor that the Spanish General Council of Social Work could be approved by the delegates meeting

- *Proposed: Germany*
- *Seconded: Romania*
- *Carried unanimously*

11 DISCUSSION ON SOCIAL WORKERS AND AGE DETERMINATION OF UNACCOMPANIED MINORS - BY BASW

David Jones presented on behalf of BASW this topic and proposed members to work in groups and provide answers to the following questions:

- was age determination an issue for social workers in your country?
- Should social workers be involved in age determination?
- Should age determination be a multi-professional activity?
- Should IFSW develop a policy or position statement on age determination?

The aim was to elaborate an IFSW Europe document with the social work's perspective that could help social work associations and social work practitioners to protect and defend their real role on this issue.

Niels Barkholt (Denmark) proposed not only to write a statement, but also a specific policy that listed the dilemmas that involved this issues. Following this suggestion, Dunia Gharwal (Austria) suggested identifying the kind of Human Rights that would be violated on this cases and not only approach the ethical principles of the profession.



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It was agreed that IFSW Europe develops a policy or position statement on age determination. David Jones and Jane Shears presented a draft proposal for an statement.

The Chair asked if the last proposal of the statement on age determination could be approved by the delegates meeting

- Proposed: UK
- Seconded: Norway
- Carried unanimously

IFSW Global stated that wanted to raise this statement to Global

12. WORK PROGRAM 2017 - 2018

12.1. Work program 2017

Josefine Johansson informed that all delegates received the work program 2017 - 2018 and that the executives presented some of their proposals during the first day of the Delegates Meeting

12.2 Working groups to discuss proposals for the work programme

The delegates were asked to discussed in groups the work program 2017 - 2018 and report on their feedbacks.

Feedback table 1: (Denmark, Russia, Norway, and Sweden)

- Make sharp priority in the program.
- Focus on fewer activities in order to have the resources to fulfil the goals.
- Give the social pillar program high priority under Social Platform. It is important that it achieves great impact.
- The organizations do not have enough resources to meet and work with all the topics. That makes it unrealistic to have an extensive program.
- Suggest that 8) EURORDIS and 9) EUROCHILD and 10) The Social Work And Identity Project and 11) Privatization of social work services in Europe are taken out of the program.

Feedback table 2: (UK, Austria, Switzerland, and Romania)

- Sharp the plan and make it more related to actions and achievable, measurable objectives
- Communications: explore improvements in communications between members including specifically considering the possible use of SocialWorkHUB resource.
Overall need for increased communications between countries as well as from Exec to associations
- Finance: Add the funding models working group into the financial section
- Membership development: suggest this is focused more on developing relations between associations (e.g. through 'twinning') for mutual support and sharing of ideas and knowledge, experiences of professionalization etc.
Overall need to develop more dynamic ways of working that engages more associations and individual SWs within them in actions with outcomes and impact
- Austerity: The section on austerity needs to be retiled because austerity now impacts all countries and all social work services. Would be better to positively promote social protection systems (in line with IFSW global agenda around this)
- Overall would be better to involve more people in activities rather than having single representatives. Possibly lead person and more active support team would be inclusive model.

Feedback table 3: (Belgium, Portugal and Germany)



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- Communication it is good to focus on website. The information as send out as email could also to go on the website in the area of Europe. The contact person is important to be publish
- Finance and legal body. The next step is to bring forward the revised registration of the legal body. Finance group is working out a plan for funding.
- Membership. The contact person could be more present, to act with the countries.
- ENSACT. It is good to support this in this case as observatory to the global agenda. The proposal is that the report could be send in the regional language.
- Social Platform. This get a good priority
- FRA und EURIODIS. Is not priority
- Proposal to the “Privatization of social work services in Europe” - drop off the work programme
- Proposal - The Social work and identity project – the collected data (from Salome) should be save. We support the offer from Austria, social hub. It is good to have a new contact person.
- Proposal – in the programme about human right should add the work on the “white paper”

Feedback table 4. (Finland, Armenia and Ireland)

- Communication. Develop a social media plan. The executive must identify one person responsible for facebook and share more information on IFSW rather on other material
- Finance. The working group must be added
- Work on social work professionalization and no social work development
- Better information on the work between IFSW Europe e.V and ENSACT
- The Social Platform should be under the title Europe Issues and there must be more communications proposals.
- Looking for resources and partners to find and create information rather than sending questionnaires
- FRA and EURORDIS. Must be not priorities for IFSW Europe

Feedback table 5: (Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Russia, Scotland, Romania, Croatia)

The comments go went under Item 3. Membership development

- How new member countries develop under IFSW umbrella in East-Europe area
- How new countries develop by using existing resources;
- How to involve non-member East-Europe countries in IFSW Europe;
- Have discussions via events on social work development and promotion among new countries;
- Have regional events on professionalization of social work (that encompasses a broad topic of developing the profession and support social workers further enhance their competences in various directions) in our region and share experience, knowledge and skills to:
 - Develop Legal framework for professionalization of social work (laws, regulations, charters, job descriptions, qualifications criteria, standards)
 - Establish system for licensing/registration where applicable
 - Change the “image of social work” which is wrongly developed during the USSR
- To meet and share common experiences and learn from each other’s experience and lessons-learned.

12.3. Approval work program 2017

An Radulesco and Brian Auslander informed that the Executive discussed the feedbacks provided by members and presented a new proposal for work plan 2017 - 2018

The Chair asked if the reviewed work program 2017 - 2018 could be approved by the delegates meeting

- *Proposed: Denmark*



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- *Seconded: Finland*
- *Carried unanimously*

13. CONSIDERATION OF ANY OTHER PROPOSALS

13.1. Statements

No other statements were proposed, besides the Statement on Age Determination

13.2. Delegates Meeting 2018

Josefine Johansson informed that there was a proposal from France to hold the DM, however recently they removed their offer

Herbert Pauslischin (Romania) presented a proposal to host the DM 2018 in Romania that included to organize a 2 days workshop to develop a strategy to IFSW Europe. He also asked for clarification why France did not longer want to organize the DM 2018

Graça André (Portugal) presented also a proposal to host the DM 2018 and Fernanda Rodrigues (Portugal) added that Portugal could also provide the resources for working on developing an strategy. She emphasized that austerity and decentralization were topics that had to be considered.

Ana Lima clarified that the French Association offered to organize the DM in 2018 and asked about the requirements to host the DM. After the Executive sent this information and clarified that IFSW Europe could not accept their proposal until the DM in Reykjavik, they informed that were not longer interested in hosting the DM. In June, during the Pre-Conference in Paris, Ana Lima, Manane Petrosyan, and Tanja Katkic will try to meet with the French Association.

Klaus Kühne proposed to organize the delegates meeting 2018 in Dublin around the days of the Join World Conference to reinforce the relationship with the international organizations. John Brennan (Ireland) accepted the proposal.

Fernanda Rodrigues (Portugal) withdrew the offer of Portugal to support the proposal of Dublin

The Chair asked members to vote on the offers of Romania and Ireland to host the Delegates Meeting 2018 with the following results:

- *Romania - 13 votes*
- *Ireland - 7 votes*
- *Abstentions - 1*

The Chair asked if the proposal to host the Delegates Meeting 2018 in Romania on May 18th - 20th could be approved by the delegates meeting

- *Propose Finland*
- *Second Denmark*
- *Carried unanimously with one abstention (Portugal)*

13.3. Other proposals

No other proposals arising.

14. REPORTS FROM IFSW PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY GENERAL (IFSW GLOBAL)

14.1. Report / communication / information of IFSW Global



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The President of IFSS Global presented her report verbally with the use of a powerpoint presentation (ATTACHMENT III).

The President described the governance body of the Federation and explained that expressed that the communication between region and global was through the President and the Vice-President. In the case of Europe through Ana Lima and Ana Radulesco.

She described the 3 main areas of work of the Executive Work and explained that each area had commitments under actions, policies and advocacy. *Expanding global partnerships, Expanding regional partnerships* This was a big challenge, how to translate Global policies into national level. *Promoting national level partnerships*

IFSW Global worked on borderless problems such as migrations, climate change, tax evasion etc and on 2 main areas:

- **Internal:** She commented that after the Global Meeting in Seoul a new Constitution was approved. There was a new manual for new members of the Executive. IFSW Global launched a book on Austerity based on the seminar held in Greece and a book on social work and sustainability. The President noted the need to review membership fee structures, and concerned about the high cost of conferences and inequality in fee structures. The threat of privatisation from the TTIP proposals from previous US administration had gone as this was no longer being taken forward but there was a need for social workers to be aware of the implications for our work of trade agreements remained
- **External:** The President presented that Global wanted to involve people who used services and were working on this item with the work of the UN convention on the rights of the child. Young people who were not living in their birth family demand a right to love and security. IFSW Global was exploring whether and how it could be included in the UN convention. Other external issues are Global Agenda, WSWD, World Conferences

She reported on the actions in the different regions and explained how the less affluent regions were using their global funding to take forward areas of global concerns – such as **Africa** working on sustainable communities and climate change and key training in recovery from disasters. **In Asia Pacific:** It included the two largest countries members China and India. The President remarked the importance of supporting China to host first conference in 2017. **Europe.** She remarked the continuing development with the EU through the work on Social Platform **Latin America and Caribbean.** Ruth Stark explained how in Latin America the executive successfully challenged UNESCO who wanted to locate social work in health faculties in the Universities. **North America.** The President reported that they were working to change how the global executive members were chosen and also got an agreement to increase the fees collected

To make sure that the work of Global Executive Committee put IFSW vision into practice Ruth Stark listed that IFSW Global comprises a *Steering Committee Group, Two staff members.* The President also thanked BASW for funding a social work trained administration and communications assistant (Alba) who also provided translation into Spanish. *Two working commissions* on Ethics and Human Rights. *Nominations committee.* Ruth Stark noted the importance of a nominations committee structure for key roles in IFSW which ensured people could fulfil roles and also to encourage people to come forward. *UN Representatives. Amnesty International IFSW Ambassador*

Ruth Stark thanked the audience and acknowledge the commitment and contributions of the European Delegates that collaborated with IFSW Global (They all stood in the room)

Rory Truell, IFSW global Secretary General reported on the growth of the Federation and that more and more social workers wanted to be involved so IFSW Global was getting its message out. This was translated in the recognition of IFSW reach and potential by different organizations as



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the UN, where IFSW was able to promote the importance of fair trade not aid to develop sustainable communities

He remarked the importance of social work in enabling people to solve social problems and in breaking down barriers to inclusion which was recognised by governments. The paper created in Seoul on the role of social work in social protection systems was important to promote and show evidence of economic and other benefits of social work. The Global Secretary remarked that the most impressive social work was often in the countries with the greatest challenges where social workers were building visions of big change in their societies

Klaus Kühne (Switzerland) thanked IFSW Global for their inspiring presentation and all the work they are doing.

14.2. Regional Fund Project - By Rory Truell

Ana Lima informed that IFSW Europe Executive submitted two proposals to the Regional Fund Project. However, the Executive decided to develop a new project based on the proposals provided by the delegates to the work program 2017 - 2018.

14.3. Information about election of the IFSW Europe Vice president

Rory Truell welcomed Ana Radalescu to the Global executive and explained that David Jones oversaw the global election processes. Rory Truell described the process by which proposed executive members' nominations were checked and explained that there was a vacancy in IFSW Europe from a resignation and only one person came forward (Ana Radalescu). The General Secretary apologized that IFSW Global announced the nomination to the world before the regional executive could announce it.

Gabrielle Stark Angermeier (Germany) and Brian Auslander raised the point that there were needs to be a clear written process for election. David Jones agreed as election officer to provide a written signed statement of the process to confirm compliance.

15. IFSW EUROPEAN CONFERENCES

15.1 The IFSW European Conference 2017 in Reykjavik, Iceland, 28-30 May 2017

Maria Rúnarsdóttir listed the main points of the Conference:

- The President of Iceland and the Minister of Social Affairs and Equality would speak during the opening the ceremony together with Ana Lima and with Maria Rúnarsdóttir.
- She thanked several members of the executive that agreed to chair several sessions
- During the second day of the Conference, the topics was the Global Agenda. The Key note was Lena Dominelli and after her session there would be a panel discussion "From Marginalization to community and environmental stability" chair by Director General at the Ministry of Welfare. Maria Rúnarsdóttir thanked the European delegates who agreed to participate in the panel
- The closing ceremony was organized on the social area instead of on the auditorium.

15.2 The IFSW European Conference 2019

The President of IFSW Europe e.V reported on the process to host IFSW Europe Conference 2019 and informed that the results of the bid were:

- Israel: 10 votes
- Turkey: 3 votes
- Abstentions 8 votes



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Ana Lima explained that the Executive decided that the bid of Israel won. However, due to the previous conversations in Seoul and the level of abstentions, the Executive agreed to ask Rory Truell to mediate to try to reach a higher participation and avoid conflict with the Palestinian colleagues.

Rory Truell reported on the mediation process and acknowledged the effort and the collaboration of Brian Auslander along the process. The General Secretary explained that IFSW global was responsible for all regional conferences, as well as for signing off on all bids and assess if a conference fulfilled the aims of the profession and if it supported the work and reputation of IFSW global. He stated that the concerns of IFSW Global were that a conference in Israel did not fulfil all the aims of IFSW global. Rory Truell noted that Israel had every right to put in a bid and informed that IFSW embarked on a process to develop a conference in Tel Aviv that was fully supported by the region, however there was not time to do this for 2019. He stressed that the aim was to keep working to hold a Conference in Israel that all European members supported. He remarked that this process went further than expected because of the social work perspective.

Brian Auslander presented the opinion of the Israeli Union and reported that they objected to the way the process was handled and stated that Israel was not withdrawing its bid to hold the conference in 2019. He expressed that the original bid was to hold the conference in Jerusalem but following discussion in Seoul the Israeli Union agreed to move the conference to Tel Aviv. The proposal of the Israel was always to welcome all neighbours to attend the Conference and facilitate the Palestinians to attend the Conference. Brian Auslander thanked Rory's mediation efforts to try to work towards a joint statement that both associations could accept, however he informed that the two organizations were stuck on fact that members of Palestinian union insisted on a statement on the end to the occupation which was not something the Israeli association could accept because this was a political statement.

Brian Auslander stated that the Israeli Union felt that was held to a different set of standards than other members because the decision taken by IFSW Global gave Palestine a veto over Israel having a conference. Brian Auslander expressed that the European region voted and made a decision that Israel was the venue and IFSW global hijacked the decision and this raised a concern about IFSW as a democratic organisation. One of the comments was in terms of liabilities and the bid of the Israeli association assumed all financial liability and kept costs to about 300 euro. The President of the Israeli Union wrote to IFSW to clarify what the reputational risk was and had not had a response.

Questions and comments were invited from the floor

Lilianna Cocozza (Belgium) said that in the past there were conferences organised in countries in conflict and raised the questions if any other organization could talk with both associations and not only Rory Truell.

Gabrielle Stark Angermeier (Germany), Klaus Kühne (Switzerland), Nils Denmark (Denmark) and Fernanda Rodriguez (Portugal) acknowledged the efforts made on both sides, thanked the Israeli association to be open to discussion with Palestinian association as well as the process started by IFSW Global. They supported to keep working on the process to have a conference in Israel.

Guy Shennon (UK) and Klaus Kühne (Switzerland) expressed their disagreement with the process on how the vote results were communicated to members. It was needed to have a global discussion but members had to know the results. Josefine Johansson reported that the process started by IFSW Global did not allow IFSW Europe to inform on the results. Only, when Global



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communicated its decision of not organizing an IFSW Conference in Israel the European Executive explained the results and opened a new bid with a deadline on June 25th

Ruth Stark expressed that because Palestine was in Asia Pacific region, the discussions were across regions and the decision made by the global executive was to keep working and moving toward an agreed settlement for 2021. The Global executive agreed that there was not time enough to work for a Conference in 2019 with the support of all members of the region. If the Conference was organized in 2019 not all members of the region would attend it and this was the reputational risk of split in Europe. She stated that the process to get to a position to have an equally based conference in an area of conflict was opened, and IFSW Global asked for time to keep working on it.

Klaus Kühne (Switzerland) and Herbert Paulischin (Romania) expressed their disappointment with the position of the European Associations who stated that would not attend a Conference in Israel during the discussion in Seoul. It is needed a dialogue perspective, which is the social work perspective. Nils Denmark (Denmark) stated that social work was a political quest and could not be ignored and acknowledged the social work process underway because it was an opportunity to work together

Also, Herbert Paulischin (Romania) expressed his concerns about the veto of one region over a decision took by IFSW Europe and considered that there was respect for the colleagues of Palestine but no respect for the situation of the colleagues in Israel. Antonina Dashkina (Russia) also commented on why if the Israel Union won the bid we deny them to organize the conference. She proposed to organize the Conference in Turkey

Brian Auslander closed his participation by expressing that the bid of Israel was as much inclusive as it could be and wanted to involve everyone.

Rory Truell ended the discussion by recognizing that it was a good and important discussion and the General Secretary remarked that it was needed to work for a social work outcome and do more than the politicians. It was needed to hold a conference that could be supported by all and that was the process that members and the Federation started

15.3. Future conferences

Ana Lima informed that Nino Zganec, President of EASSW Europe, proposed to organize again a Regional Conference together. Before answering to the EASSW, Ana Lima proposed to discuss and vote during the DM

Questions and comments were invited from the floor

Herbert Paulischin (Romania) and Klaus Kühne (Switzerland) expressed that last IFSW Europe Conference were successful so needed more reasons for joining with the EASSW. In mostly of the joint conferences the academics were paid and had more profile than practitioners.

Graça André (Portugal) and Ioan Durnescu (Romania) supported the proposal and presented experiences that work well. Also, stated that it is important not to separated academics from practices this will be an opportunity

Ruth Stark reported on the tripartite agreement at Global level and proposed that Europe waits until the agreement was reviewed in 2018. Rory Truell commented that the disconnection



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between education and practitioners was not going to be solved by organizing a joint conference and suggested to elaborate a more strategic discussions.

Nicolai Paulasen (Denmark) and Gabriele Stark - Angermeier (Germany) proposed to have a better structured proposal and more time and information to discuss on what the goals of the cooperation are before answering Nino. Gabriele Stark - Angermeier (Germany) proposed the Executive to prepare a proposal to discuss among delegates for 2021.

The Chair stated that there was not support to go back and organize a joint Conference with EASSW for 2019. The Executive would thank Nino and inform him that the delegates did not give support to the proposal for 2019. The executive will wait for the outcome on the discussion at global level to keep the considering the proposal

16 ELECTIONS

16.1. Election of members of the Executive Committee

John Brennan explained the change in the election process held on the new Statutes approved yesterday. John invited people to come forward if interested in being treasurer and that election would happen first, followed by the election for the other executive member and two deputies.

Elections of IFSW Treasurer. Brian Auslander was the only candidate

John Brennan informed that Brian Auslander was elected unopposed to role of Treasurer

Elections of 1 position of IFSW Europe executive

Four nominations were received and each person was given a few minutes to make a presentation. A vote took place with the results as follow:

- Maria Rúnarsdóttir (Iceland) - 8 votes
- Manane Petrosyan (Armenia) - 6 votes
- Niels Christian Barkholt (Denmark) - 4 votes
- Jane Shears (UK) - 4 votes

A vote took place for the second deputy position with the results as follow

- Niels Christian Barkholt (Denmark) - 14 votes
- Jane Shears (UK) - 7 votes

John Brennan informed that Maria Rúnarsdóttir would serve for 2 years in the Executive. The deputy members, Manane Petrosyan and Niels Barkholt would serve for 1 year

17 APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES OF IFSW EUROPE E.V.

17.1 Representative of IFSW Europe e.V. for the Council of Europe – and a support team for this person

John Brennan informed that two nominations were received and each person was given a few minutes to make a presentation. A vote took place with the results as follow:

- Fernand Rodrigues (Portugal) - 20 votes
- Linda de Chenu (UK) - 1 vote

It was confirmed



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- Representative: Fernanda Rodrigues.
- Support members: Ioan Durnescu and Linda de Chenu -

17.2 An IFSW European contact person to the Global Human Rights Commission – and a support team for this person

- Representative: Ana Radulescu
- Support members: Fernanda Rodrigues and Linda de Chenu -

17.3. An IFSW European contact person for the Global Permanent Committee on Ethics – and a support team for this person

- Representative: Jane Shears
- Support members: Gabriele Stark-Angermeier, Linda de Chenu

17.4. IFSW Europe e.V. Election Officer. The European Elections Officer is a European appointment just for European elections within the frames of the IFSW European Delegate Meeting.

- Election Officer: John Brennan

17.5 IFSW Europe e.V. Representative to the European Social Platform - and a support team for this person, designated as the Social Platform Team

- Representative: Ian Johnston
- Support members: Graça Maria André, Niels Christian Barkhoit, John Brennan

IFSW Europe e.V. Representative to the European Anti Poverty Network (EAPN) - and a support team for this person

- Representative: Fran McDonnell
- Support members: Fernanda Rodrigues, Ian Johnston, John Brennan

IFSW Europe e.V. Representative to the Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP) – and a support team for this person

- Representative: Graça Maria André
- Support members: Dunja Gharwal, Linda de Chenu, John Brennan

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- **Dunia Ghawal (Austria)** proposed to meet with the Executive to present a trial to use the Social Work HUB with view to opening up to members if useful.
- **Klaus Kühne (Switzerland)** informed on the ADT 4th world. They had a campaign against poverty marking 100 years of campaigning and there is invitation to join the campaign at country level.
- **Priska Fleischlin (Switzerland)** informed that there was opportunity for social workers to attend NGO Committee on Ageing in Portugal.
- **Fran McDonnell (UK)** handed out a questionnaire on EAPN involvement in each country
- **David Jones** asked by Oxford University Press to prepare a bibliography about social work in Europe and should reflect all the languages of Europe. Asked all delegates to send three or four publications of most importance. Needed name of author, title, name of journal (if in a journal) include a web link if available.
- **Aytakin Huseynli (Arzejban)** Suggested that each delegate gives about 5 minutes update on their activities during that particular year: such as what major things they've done, what they have achieved, what issues they had and what is next. It would take about 2



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hours for 37 members. It can be divided into 3 days by 45 minutes that people do not get bored.

- **Niels Barkholt (Denmark)** - Suggested to develop a template with few questions to know more about each other

The Chair thanked the delegates for the successful meeting and to the Icelandic Association. She thanked the job of the screen notes, Jane Shears and Ruth Allen, and the Honorary Secretary Lola Casal. The Executives thanked Josefine Johansson for chairing the meeting

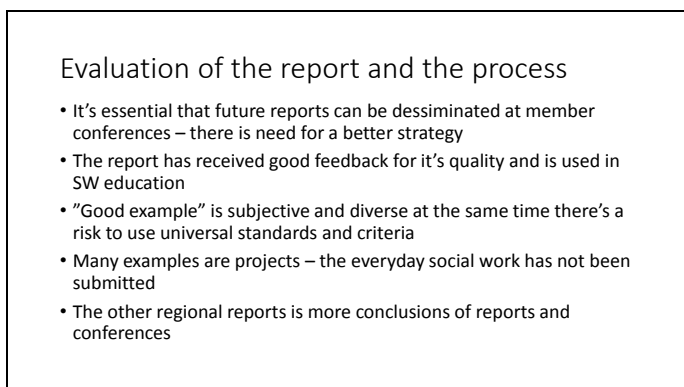
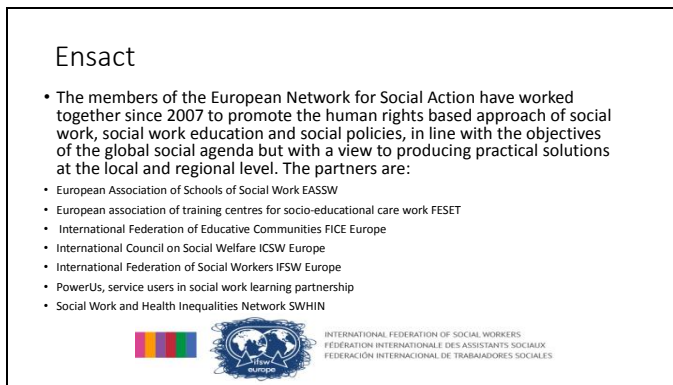
The Chair formally closed the meeting at 13h20.

Ana I. Lima Fernández
President
IFSW Europe

Maria D (Lola) Casal-Sanchez
Honorary Secretary
IFSW Europe



ATTACHEMENT I. THE EUROPEAN OBSERVATORY REPORT





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The next European Observatory Report

- New theme Promoting sustainable communities and environmentally sensitive development
- Ensact are looking for someone(s) who can compile examples and write the report
- There is a need to conceptualise and have a frame work before the call
- Call out during the summer for good examples
- Deadline probably in the end of October
- Next report will also include examples from this and other members conferences
- Info at www.ensact.com

Thank you!

- To the Nordic Committee of Social Workers Associations for funding my travel costs!



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



ATTACHEMENT II. UPDATE ON PILLAR OF SOCIAL RIGHTS

Update on Pillar of Social
Rights

Social Platform Team
May 2016

Background

- Announced 2015 by President Juncker
- March 2016 consultation launched to give parity to social objectives
- Members alerted at Zagreb about 3 main objectives and 20 specific domains
- IFSW welcomed new initiative but sceptical like many organisations about whether it will be implemented
- We contributed to SP and EAPN responses and we did a statement
- On 26th April 2017 a White Paper on Social Pillar was released
- The Social Summit in November will involve stakeholders in how to implement the Pillar

Commissions Proposals

- Equal opportunities and opportunities and access to the Labour Market
- Fair working conditions
- Ensure dignity across life style
- Social protection and inclusion
- Work-life balance
- Quality employment with adequate wages
- Minimum income
- Acceptance that business interests should not take precedence over people

Examples related to social work

- Rights of children to be protected from poverty
- Reaffirms rights of people with disability to be included in society
- Right of people to receive home based care
- Right of everybody to quality and inclusive education, training and lifelong learning
- Right to parents and people with working responsibilities to leave, flexible working and access to services



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Negatives

- Talks about rights but doesn't give any guarantees
- Pillar remains a set of principles rather than specific obligations
- Pillar has a social scoreboard –mark against 3 points- important for monitoring but doesn't identify how aspirations will translate to legislation
- Should recognise existing responsibilities of local authorities to people across the life span and to protect the most vulnerable at critical moments and make social protection principles relevant to local authorities
- Could be more ambitious

3 steps to ensure real impact of the Pillar

- Investing in a Rights based integrated approach to reducing poverty and inequality
- Invest funds to deliver on social rights
- Championing real democracy and participation

How do IFSW members influence the implementation through the work plan

Some examples:

- Writing to MEPS- Support team could develop a template
- Lobbying with national and local organisations such as EAPN country networks
- Engaging social workers in the potential of the Social Pillar for social work and how they can be involved in pushing for proper implementation.
- Include concrete measures in the workplan e.g. develop a position from IFSW, make it a project for the workplan



ATTACHEMENT III. REPORT ON IFSW GLOBAL

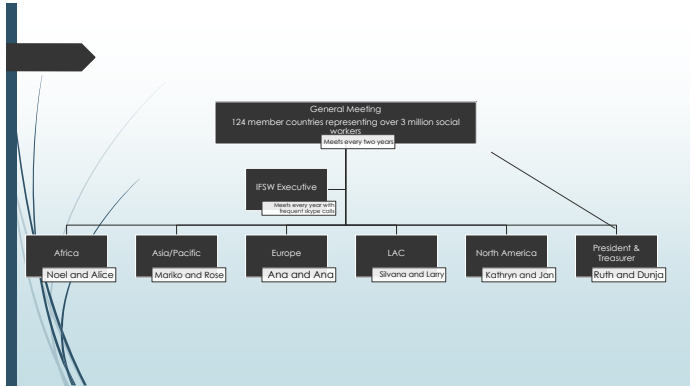


International Federation of Social Workers

- Social workers commit to TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE
- Inclusive, socially just, sustainable communities
- IFSW supports all members to realise our vision
- IFSW works with partners at all levels to achieve our aims

How does change happen?

- Locally and nationally is where change can be achieved
- Aid/welfare does not create inclusive, sustainable, socially just communities
- Employment, belonging, being needed creates sustainable communities
- Successful leadership at all levels reduces the extremes and excesses of 'boom and bust'
- The role of international cooperation is to work on borderless problems
eg Climate change, migration, crime, tax evasion, trade etc
(Duncan Green, 2016)



Executive Workplan

Partnerships	Action	Policy	Advocacy
Expanding global partnerships.	Implementing The Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development! Involving people who use services	Developing policy that specifies the role of the practitioners and key partners in creating sustainable social outcomes, including people who use services.	Bringing a social work voice to the United Nations and other international organisations.
Expanding regional partnerships.	Increasing the visibility of social work at regional level through the media and political action	Developing policies based on the experiences of people using services and the reality of providing services.	Engaging with Regional structures to listen to the voice of people who use services and social workers who provide them.
Promoting national level partnerships.	Bringing international awareness, attention and support to national level social work action.	Developing policies from frontline skills, knowledge and expertise to meet the needs of the people and their communities.	Bringing forward the voice of the silenced.



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Key work areas

- ▀ Internal
 - ▀ Constitutional Review also produced Manual for Executive Members and guidelines for Representatives
 - ▀ Development of Communication Strategy for IFSW to connect members
 - ▀ WSWD
 - ▀ Development of Indigenous Committee
 - ▀ Publications
 - ▀ Fund raising
 - ▀ Review of membership fees and conference fees
 - ▀ Policy Development
 - ▀ Trade agreements; trade and social work
 - ▀ Assessments across national borders



Key work areas

Colleagues in Bangladesh

- ▀ External
 - ▀ Involvement of people who use services
 - ▀ Global Agenda
 - ▀ WSWD
 - ▀ Guardian and other media partners
 - ▀ UN days and ongoing work
 - ▀ IJSW
 - ▀ World Conferences
 - ▀ Policy Development – taking the message forward



Social work in Zambia: 'Children have the right to love and security'



What IFSW does across the World

Africa

- ▀ Welcoming many new members
- ▀ Creating a Regional Infrastructure
- ▀ Developing appropriate social work, moving from former colonial expectations to recognising the strength of indigenous knowledge
- ▀ Challenges of conflict, political instability, corruption, climate change, drought, famine, floods, pandemics of Ebola & HIV/AIDS, unparented children
- ▀ Change the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- ▀ Regional Funding to contribute to three IFSW Global developments
 - ▀ The Global Agenda, climate and environmental impact on communities
 - ▀ Inter-country assessment of children and their families
 - ▀ The African perspective on the Global Ethical Statement



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Asia/Pacific

- Membership stretches from Palestine to Japan, Kirgizstan to new Zealand. It includes our two of our largest countries China and India. Prospective new members include Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
 - 80 different languages
- The regional executive has developed key training in recovery from disasters and runs training events around the region
 - A strong body of evidence has grown showing the limitations of aid and the importance of employment
- The Regional conference will be in China in September 2017 this will include discussion on the Ethics Statement and a seminar bringing together evidence for the global agenda
- The regional funding, last year examined child labour to give substance to their regional work plan; this year intercountry assessment of children and families separated by national borders

Europe

- Membership increased with Slovakia, Netherlands
- The regional executive has supported continuing development with the EU
- European regional Conference in Iceland to include the Global Agenda and discussion of ethics
- Regional Funding Project?

and much more.....

Latin America and Caribbean

- Increasing membership – from Mexico, Panama, Cuba in the north to Argentina in the south
- Regional Executive actively developing social work throughout the region.
- The challenges include very difficult geography and climate change, extremes of wealth and poverty, political instability and corruption
- The positives include using indigenous knowledge, energy and motivation for change
 - Human rights and ethical practice support key to development
- Regional funding supporting the development of social work in the region, including help with the geographical challenges

North America

- CASW and NASW
- Executive members are the Presidents of both Associations
- The Global Agenda has brought them closer together
- They have very different political contexts
 - Social policies
 - Immigration
 - Local or global?
- Indigenous knowledge is an increasing part of social work education
- No regional funding
- Significant contribution to UN Team in New York and supporting developing membership of IFSW



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Steering Group

- President
- Treasurer
- Global Vice President (elected every two years by the Global Executive)
 - Making sure we have the means to put the IFSW vision into practice

Staff

- Secretary General
- Part time administrator
- Head office
 - 2 roomed apartment in Rheinfelden, Basel Land



Two Commissions

- Ethics
 - Chair Dawn Holby (USA)
 - Gabrielle and Jane from Europe
- Human Rights
 - Chair Nigel Hall (UK and Zimbabwe)
 - Ana from Europe

Nominations committee

- David
 - 5 Regional members
 - Europe - Nicolai



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Representatives <http://ifsw.org/un-representation/>

- UN
 - New York
 - Geneva
 - Vienna
 - Bangkok
 - Nairobi
 - Santiago
- Amnesty International – Terry Bamford
- IFSW Ambassador – Suzanne Dworak-Peck

International Partnership with ICSW & IASSW

- The Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development (2010- 2020) – coordinator David Jones
 - How will we shape the vision post 2020?
- The Global Conferences Seoul 2016, Dublin 2018, 2020 ?
 - Fees need to be accessible for practitioners
 - Need to rotate the opportunity to attend throughout the five regions
- The International Journal of Social Work, published by Sage and owned by the three organisations
 - Research is key to credibility but who asks the research questions that inform practitioners about what works?

Our strength is in our members
and their members!

The Global Team includes people from all the regions:

- From Europe
 - Executive - Ana & Ana
 - Ethics - Gabrielle & Jane
 - Human Rights – Ana
 - Global Agenda – Josefine
 - UN Geneva and Vienna - <http://ifsw.org/un-representation/>

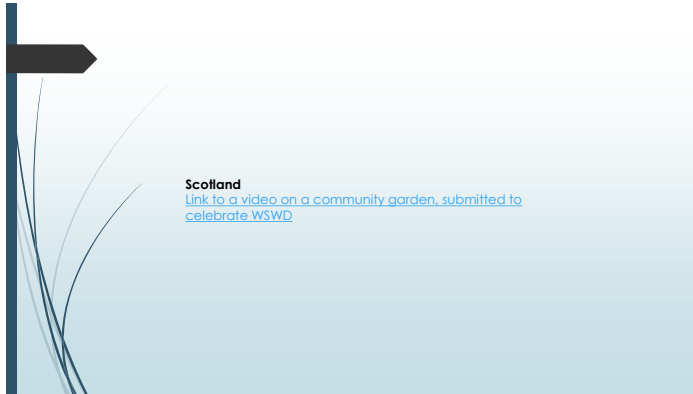
What unites us?

- Iceland is an island where if you cannot catch it, make it or grow it you import it
- If you are in Ethiopia or Sudan in a drought there is little to catch or grow
- We trade but this has to be done ethically and justly
- If we cannot trade we are forced to move
- Our task is helping create inclusive, socially just, sustainable communities



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Scotland
[Link to a video on a community garden, submitted to celebrate WSWD](#)