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7. EDITORS NOTE  Joana Malheiro
1. PRESIDENT’S ADDRESS

THE COLOR OF EUROPE
Dear IFSW Members and Colleagues,

If I was to name a color that described IFSW Europe’s activity throughout the current year and the mobilisation of the European members for a cause (the defense of the rights of citizenship, which have been somehow affected at all European countries as a result of the economic crisis), then it would be orange.

Orange is the color of the Spanish movement Marea Naranja (Orange Tide), which is well known and admired throughout our professional community and that has inspired more and more actions by European social workers. Social workers have come to be assumed as true agents of change, fighting alongside the populations, in order to ensure a welfare that respects people’s rights.

An orange wave cheerfully flooded the European delegates’ meeting, that this year was held in May in Madrid, with the excellent organization of the Consejo General del Trabajo Social / General Council of Social Work Spain.

The European delegates participated at a demonstration through the streets of Madrid, which was accompanied by a cheery music group of percussion instruments, and then there was a lively debate about the plight of cuts in social services, which is one of the consequences of the austerity measures that have affected several countries in Europe.

In Melbourne we welcomed the prize awarded to the president Ana Isabel Lima Fernández in recognition of the work developed around the Orange Tide.

Unfortunately, also this year, red was a color that stained the region of the Middle East, with the conflict between Israel and Gaza. However, we have also seen (in Europe and the rest of the world) the white color appear, calling for peace and definitive resolution of this eternal conflict. There was a campaign (like we’ve never seen before) coming from IFSW, which had the support of all social workers across the globe represented by IFSW’s five regions.

In Madrid we sent messages on balloons released into the sky.

I believe that these messages contained wishes for the achievement of the values that underline our social intervention and are based on the recognition of human dignity and, of course, only in peace and freedom we can achieve a universal well-being.

I hope you enjoy reading this magazine and wish you All a good end of the year!

Cristina Martins
President of IFSW Europe e.V.
2. COMMUNICATION
Joana Malheiro has been formally appointed to the position of Honorary Secretary of IFSW Europe and has been working in her new duties since August 2014. Joana is now a member of the communication team with Cristina and our professional designer Maria Mónica.

Joana Malheiro is Portuguese and lives in Oporto. She has graduated in English and German (Translation) and is an administrative support professional with 6+ years experience. She also has some experience and training in the area of social gerontology. With Portuguese as her mother tongue, she has also been learning Spanish for over a year.

Joana joined recently for the first time the executive meeting held in Porto, Portugal.
The Delegates Meeting of IFSW Europe was held this year in Madrid, Spain, from 16th to 18th May 2014. Delegates from 18 countries were present / represented: Armenia, Austria, Croatia, Denmark, Faroe Islands, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

The European President Cristina Martins welcomed delegates to the Delegates Meeting and gave a particular welcome to the 2 Romanian Associations, National College of Social Workers in Romania and ProAS who were present for the first time at a Delegates Meeting as observers.

Ana Isabel Lima Fernandez welcomed delegates to the meeting on behalf of the Spanish General Council of Social Work. The history, legislative and conceptual framework, underpinning values and current practice of social work in Spain were shared with delegates, as well as the financial, demographic and political pressures through the presentation of a video.

The delegates meeting this year was a very intense experience to all delegates, mostly due to the great organization from the Spanish association that provided all the support to the meeting and were also very creative with the preparations for the Session “Socializing in IFSW Europe”.

The main idea of this session is to socialise with each other during the coffee break in an informal setting and discuss topics that matter to delegates.

This year’s session theme was presented by Ana Isabel Lima who explained the Orange Tide movement to the delegates. This was followed by an enthusiastic debate around the Social Cuts in social services, one of the major consequences of the financial crisis. All delegates participated actively on a mini Orange Tide by marching in the streets of Madrid.

The Delegates Meeting recorded a big thanks to the hosts in Spain. It was announced that the next Delegates Meeting will be in Edinburgh Scotland, from 4 to 6 of September 2015.
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IFSW Europe launched a Press Release on the occasion of the Delegates Meeting- Cuts in expenditure on social services constitute false economy. http://ifsw.org/europe/statements/
Dear colleagues of IFSW-Europe,

We would like to share with you some of the news we have published in our website about our last meeting in Madrid.

As we announced, we have composed the mosaic with your photos and your explanations about the challenges of social work in your countries. You can read here: http://cgtrabajosocial.es/noas/los-retos-del-trabajo-social-en-europa/2260/view

Moreover, here you can read the interview we made to Rory Truell. In this case, we also have published it in English: http://cgtrabajosocial.es/noticias/rory-truell-orange-tide-should-spread-inmediately-all-over-the-world/2155/view

You also can see all the photos in the next link: http://www.cgtrabajosocial.es/fotos

Also, in our Youtube channel there are the videos of the orange tide performance we made: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcW_sPNGEbNsX34qGl5obbA

Yours sincerely,
Vanessa Pi
Communication Officer of General Council of Social Work Spain
And finally, we share with you the impacts of our Meeting in the most important Spanish Media:

**CADENA SER**

**LA SEXTA. Informativos (min 23:52)**

**TELECINCO. Informativos**
http://www.telecinco.es/informativos/informativo_15_horas/Informativo_15-00_horas-Isabel_Jimenez_2_1796580123.html

**LA VANGUARDIA**

**EL DIARIO.ES**
http://www.eldiario.es/sociedad/millones-reforma-recortaran-servicios-sociales_0_260724139.html

**EL CONFIDENCIAL**

**BALANCE DE LA DEPENDENCIA**

**ESCALERAS DE LA DEPENDENCIA. Entrevista a Ana Lima (a partir 9:25)**
http://001005-000703.europodcast.es/domingo_1000-1100.mp3

**MÁS SALAMANCA**

**IBEROAMERICA.NET**
http://iberoamerica.net/espana/prensa-generalista/lavanguardia.com/20140518/noticia.html?id=0LSkSd4

**EL DIA.ES**
http://w.eldia.es/agencias/7506956-trabajadores-sociales-exigen-UE-gobiene-personas

**SOCIALWORKNEWS**
http://www.socialworknews.net/language/es/

Yours sincerely,
Vanessa Pi
Communication Officer of General Council of Social Work Spain
4. MEMBERS ROOM

GEORGIA - SUMMER SCHOOL IN PARIS
SALOME NAMICHEISHVILI
IFSW Member at Large for Europe

In July 2014 I have participated as the invited scholar at the Summer School within the frames of the MA in Advanced Development in Social Work (ADVANCES). The Summer School took place in July 2014 at the University Paris Ouest La Defense Nanterre in France. The summer school focused on the links between research and practice, including fieldtrips to social projects and services in Paris. The summer school was explicitly targeted at qualified, experienced social workers from around the world who wished to upgrade their practice skills, especially with a transnational focus. The participants were from Portugal, Palestine, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Thailand, Tanzania, Uganda, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Romania, Ukraine. My lectures were focused on social work research role in developing social work profession in the countries where social work did not have much history. Within the frames of my lectures, I’ve tried to give to the students an understanding of how social work developed as the profession in Georgia, what are the main challenges of the social work profession developments in the “new social work” countries, what is the role of IFSW in Europe and globally, etc. As the social worker, who has been involved in micro, mezzo and macro level to develop social services, social policies and social work profession in Georgia, I realize that to be involved in teaching is very powerful, as it enables us to transfer knowledge about the purpose and context of social work, share understanding of the international, national and local contexts of practice and promote values and ethics of social work as well as synthesize intercultural knowledge, particularly in providing support and promoting change for those experiencing multiple disadvantages, with an emphasis on social justice.
ISRAEL - FIGHTING POVERTY IN ISRAEL
BRIAN AUSLANDER
Coordinator of International Relations, Union of Israeli Social Workers

Since joining the OECD Israel has been at the bottom of the rankings in terms of both families and children living below the poverty line. In 2011 (the most recent data available) 19.9% of families, 24.8% of individuals and 35.6% of children were living below the poverty line. In addition, 2 groups in the population, who are characterized by under representation in the workforce and large families, have significantly higher poverty levels (child poverty of over 50%).

The government, under the auspices of the current Minister of Social Affairs and Social Services, has appointed a high level commission to make recommendations to reduce the level of poverty.

The commission is made up of the main body (50 members) and specialty committees to look at employment, education, housing, individual and family needs and health. Social workers from the union, academia, social service agencies and the health field are prominently represented on the commission to make sure that our professional voices are heard.

50% of the members of the main commission are social workers, including the head of the union, Tzafra Dweck and the heads of 3 of the 10 schools of social work – Professors Johnny Gal, Faisal Aziza and Orit Nutman-Schwartz. Other social work members come from university social work faculties and various service providers, including the heads of social service departments servicing the poorest segments of the population (Bedouin, ultra-orthodox and Muslim Arab).

The social work members of the specialty committees include prominent social workers with years of experience in each of these specific areas. All together over 20 social workers are participating in this important project.

The commission has already decided that all recommendations will be practical and must be backed up by the necessary budget for a multi-year program to significantly reduce poverty. Among the issues being discussed are the effect of cash transfer payments on poverty reduction and the different methods for measuring poverty. One of the greatest concerns, raised by the head of the social workers union, is preventing a worsening of the situation caused by low wages and a high cost of living and housing. There is a very real possibility of middle class workers sliding into poverty due to the government’s wage and economic policies. If these policies continue there is will be a social crisis and uprising.

The union, in the role of ‘social watchdog’, will be following the implementation with great interest.
With this action you plan to take the testimony of the National Association of Social Workers - AssNAS that since 1948 has been the meeting place for cultural debate and social workers in the international arena, dell’IFSW and being a member of the Coordination Committee of the assistants social partners in the European Union since its inception. Recall that the guidelines of operating the social worker’s professional, you are constantly adapted to the delicate tasks entrusted to the Italian Social Workers, whenever were no new major social problems and areas of exclusion and discomfort.

The constant reference to the historical event of the Social Service and the relationship between this and that of the Italian Welfare, the themes of cultural and political debate that emerged as part of our service system and the comparison with other professions involved in such a system, responds to constant care developed by the professional social worker to the problems and needs of people and society, and to their solution, rather than a philosophy of the image. Social worker, a figure that is stated as a professional of that specific area usually called the “social”, characterized by a high degree of complexity because dynamic generated by the intertwining of multiple factors: social tension and conflict, constraints (economic, political, cultural, etc.), forms of poverty and exclusion, deviance of abuse, reports of abuse of power and domination. But “social” is not merely a continuum of problematic hardship, deprivation cumulative and / or suffering; is also the possibility of triggering significant processes of change, to inspire projects, that promote / improve as institutional actor and actor -attuatore -stimolatore options politiche-the autonomy of persons in conditions of difficulty / discomfort; is the ability to affect the interactions between individuals and groups activating forms of joint and several liability, new and more intense ties of community and reciprocity.

It seems not entirely coincidental that the L.328 / 00 Consider social service as an essential level. All the principles of the Social Service contained in our code of ethics have become common property and incorporated into the framework law 328/00 and the methods of intervention, but certainly the backbone of the system of the system is the promotion of active citizenship and the creation of a welfare system of Liability.

The heavy cuts imposed on transfers to local authorities, in fact, be doing less resources for decades Regions, in collaboration with the institutions involved, have attempted to manage through the Law 328/2000.

Until now, the priority objectives of social policy in Italy were aimed at safeguarding the fundamental rights of citizens in a difficult situation. With the latest economic measures the government abandoned to their fate million people, of which it is certified under the existence of a "minimally acceptable standard of living." In fact, until today, the social services have always ensured, despite a thousand difficulties, the answers to the priority needs of citizens (crèches, retirement homes, facilities for the disabled, home care ...).

Cut the social indiscriminately without a minimum overall project which identifies priorities for action, is equivalent to saying that politics no longer exercises its
role as guarantor of the principles of social solidarity expressed in our Constitution, but merely administer generic and superficial the limited resources available, not implementing any policy choice able to structure growth systems that would be required instead to face a crisis like the one that is gripping Italy. The greatest risk you are running is the reduction, if not cancellation, of the essential levels of assistance (for another planned, but not defined) then the overthrow of the community welfare.

In the guidelines, the setting does not appear in line with the Constitution, as it bends to the interpretation of non-genuine art. 118. The article pursues the spontaneous manifestation of subsidiarity with the favor of the citizens of the institutions, and not, as is obvious, the “exploitation” of the initiative according to a civic approach to delegation, nor the mere run-up to the allocation of services to be offered. The document, however, insists on the ideas of "models of care in the private-social" as a patch to the crisis of the welfare state, in lieu of a guarantee of social rights and as a result of undue "outsourcing" of institutional duties.

Subsidiary activities of citizens can not be the answer to cutting public spending social vision this would conflict with the autonomy that the Constitution recognizes them in pursuit of the general interest. Especially since the most significant actions put in place by the citizens concern not so much not only the provision of services, but the protection of the rights, support for vulnerable people, care of the commons. It is a design of more just and cohesive society, made possible by the active participation of voluntary organizations and even individuals that operate autonomously for this.

It is essential and no longer be postponed to reform the welfare state that we are aware can not be separated from the definition of a new model of socio-economic development in key national, European and international level. In recent years increasing and worsening social problems in a community that feeds disrupted inequalities and conflicts. We are witnessing a demand for more services in the face of a decrease in the availability of economic entities operating with their research, therefore, low-cost services, hence, the appeal to the Third Sector, recognized as the subject better than others and can contribute to solution of the problem.

Necessary to analyze the social mechanisms that generate exclusion, and not only on the tools (services, performance, etc..) To repair or reduce the conditions of ‘malaise’ of many citizens think should be on inclusion and the fight against discrimination and the inaccessibility to services even with the third sector, with equal dignity than other industries to share, arrange tools and methodologies If you intend to implement a reform of the third sector, but we do not mean on purpose (and thus the scenarios of social change that you want to reach) as the announced reform may be ambitious, extensive and meticulous we will not have a third sector that knows how to make the most of its potential, not in the context of a vicariate of the Public Administration, but in a context of inclusive policies that will mark the change markedly perspective. The reform should therefore contribute to creating the conditions to guarantee all citizens the respect for human rights, equal opportunities, equality, dignity.

Another risk that the document runs is that, instead of asking questions about how to welcome and accompany more effectively the various civic activities, predominantly manifest intent of the State approval, regulation and control. On the contrary, the Constitution is particularly stressed the need to accommodate, promote the autonomy of social actors who operate in the public interest. In this sense, the Constitution does not allow the institutions to withdraw after exercising a kind of evaluation that is attentive only to the formalities and which goes in the direction of “contract” of services. They must accept the challenge of dealing with the active citizenship of an innovative plan of "democracy dual, ie permanent dialectic between individuals of different nature, with distinct powers, but destined to compete.

The third sector as the subject primarily economic rather than political. Those that are activated individually for general interest, either individually or in combination, are the institutions subject to the design, construction and implementation of public policies, and civic actions of general interest offer directions and constraints specific to the institutions in this regard. They do not just provide services, the state does not have to use them. These principles must be recognized as the cornerstone of a different approach. Rather than reform the laws
(which, well, they can be simplified and improved) must be coordinated and made consistent, effective and responsible public policies towards the Third Sector, in the perspective of constitutional subsidiarity circular.

Accepting this means going beyond the vision of Public Administration only controller and the procuring entity: means recognizing the ‘active citizenship’ as a political influence on the broad public policy: the old approach that looks at organizations and activities. You should not put emphasis on organizations as such, but on the concrete activities that they, as well as individuals, to achieve the public interest. Evaluate the actions, and not the organizations, represents a new approach to the Third Sector, from a logic still centered on collateralism between politics and associations, to one where the autonomy of the social is manifested through the relevance of the initiatives put in place and it works, in turn, as a counterweight all’autoreferenzialità of the traditional political forces. Otherwise, it would be like if the government, contrary to the intentions expressed, did not recognize the legitimacy interlocutors associative fuller.

The Italian legislation has so far covered some aspects of the third sector, but he has not defined jointly by the legal point of view.

There are different definitions attributed to the non-profit attributable to different disciplines, but recent studies have highlighted the common features that define the criteria which should be subject the organization operating in the third sector:

> The absence of profit distribution;

> Having private legal nature (although some organizations, such as the IPAB, still have a strong public control);

> The act of having a formal constitution formalized by a contract or of an explicit agreement between the members;

> Being based on self-government;

> The have a certain amount of volunteer work;

> Being an organization with a democratic basis (election of the charges and the effective participation of members).

All the features listed above, however, can not be considered as elements that make up the definition of the Third Sector; they often find themselves as the criteria referred to by the legislation. This means that not always are all simultaneously present. The third sector is almost a new social economy, which has not established a legal form, a unique model of reference, but it is an area where there are organized structures of a social nature with very different legal forms. Are different and diversified fields of activity affecting the Third Sector which includes institutions that stand between the State and the Market, but it can not be attributed to one of them to another. Each denomination has its own paradigm that considers only some aspects of the phenomenon, omitting the others. The views are those prevailing sociological, economic and political science.

The Third Sector is an attempt to regain possession of the civil society of the function needs to capture and produce goods and services of interest to social responses, always the responsibility of the State. Today is essentially the ability to respond to common needs that public services are no longer able to satisfy. E therefore the social in a broad sense, the scope of the third sector: this is also talk of ‘social economy’ and ‘associative economy’ definitions that are closely related to the context in which they are developed.

The relationship between social services and the third sector, the vast world that is by social cooperatives to voluntary associations, has been increasingly consolidated on a formal level after the ‘entry into force of the law 328/2000 called the Framework Law for the implementation of the integrated system of interventions and social services.

In reality it is an expression in a process of integration between social services and the third sector, in place for some time; the law 328/2000 certifies that in a disorderly manner and was already happening informally, mainly through methodological indication of the Area Plans. The evolution of our society toward ever more complex forms has forced institutions to a critical comparison with the difficulties besetting the system of care for people, based on a standard of redistribution of goods and services. The continuous change in the map of people’s needs, as well as expand and diversify the horizon intervention of social workers and social workers, has placed us in front of the need to establish an ‘after the welfare
state", that combines rigor and attention to individual walks of life of the people. It is in this context that seems to lie 328/2000 the law: to promote the sharing of paths between social services and the third sector. This approach aims to provide an overview of personalized answers and different solutions to multifaceted forms of discomfort, by a greater number of subjects, which are intended to interventions sensible and oriented towards the needs expressed by the people in an attempt to overcome the rationality of course included in the institutional bureaucracy.

The other side of the coin, with reference to the route taken, is made up of the risks it causes. In fact, the multiplication of centers that provide services, and the resulting competitive dynamics that inevitably arise, it can create a sort of 'supermark' of such services, disorienting the citizen-user in selecting the appropriate service and leaving the edge who has no way of enter into a dialectical relationship with the services. In such a scenario, the hub of reflection seems to be the concept of community. A community that bases its foundation on the voluntary actions of individuals, which in the sharing of common objectives arise in a relational perspective with the institutions. Let's talk about subjects that are able to convert into concrete proposals and organized the requests coming from the bottom, putting themselves at an intermediate level between civil society and institutions. All of these subjects are to be seen as the third sector, a reality from the intermediate nature, able to act as a mediator between communities and institutions in the "intent to assert the needs of people.

The entry into force of the aforementioned law 328/2000, in giving a new impetus to relations between social services and the third sector, has therefore determined the planning and organization of social policies and generated dense relations between the actors involved, including their and in respect of the reference structures. Today we witness the blossoming of multiculturalism, experienced in the field: social workers, educators, psychologists, sociologists, volunteers (just to name a few) share their savoir faire and their work experience. New activities arise from the comparison and cooperation between social services and the third sector, the flourishing of individuals belonging to the same network of social services.

The private capital, especially at the operational level, it can offer to speed communication between communities and institutions to decrease the gap between people's needs and corresponding services. Characterized by a dense network of contacts in the area, the reality of the Third Sector, coordinated in a functional and effective, can really enrich the network of social services, providing for a professionally important as that of the social roles of coordination. The entrance of the third sector in the economic system and its subsequent exit from the voluntary size, also has also created new job opportunities for different training and working, which undoubtedly, one of the social worker.

Among the various changes that are going through our society, certainly exceptional importance must be given to changes in the world of the third sector, which has changed its role within the company, becoming the partner institutions of the welfare state, not mo in all reality territorial. You can not, however, mention the problems that this entails. The so-called 'externalities', the process that sees the 'public body such as contractor services to the third sector, by virtue of greater effectiveness, but primarily from a lower cost. In the invitations, the logic is that of the lowest bidder, which is usually added to the biblical days of receipt of payments by public authorities. Of course, this process sucks the lifeblood of private capital, which becomes subordinate substitute of the public, losing the creative contribution and motivation that has always characterized him. The other big risk is the excessive proliferation of associations, which certainly testifies to the great interest of contributing to public life, but at the same time could create fragmentation and disorientation as we have already said.

The reform of the welfare system and integrated social services in 2000, envisioned the construction of a Community Welfare, that is, in a responsible growth of a social fabric that becomes an active subject in the construction of a social policy programs more closely to the needs of its territory; has often resulted instead in a consultation with the third sector, by institutions, formal and certainly not only functional, aimed at a proxy, to un'abnegazione responsibilities proper to the State, intended to produce the outsourcing of services, and that which is more serious, of basic services. The third sector in a market logic has played down without a real
and full involvement of the quality of services rendered, in a bureaucratic dependence by the Public, in many cases using unqualified personnel, underpaid or poorly used, in a logic of insecurity. The logic of empowerment or participation of the responsible use of resources of the local community should have no other purpose if you want to produce real change.

Participation is identified as a strategy used to improve the responses that develop local policies to the citizens, through a process of synthesis of knowledge, meanings, perspectives, interests that must be guided by the will and purpose to define common goals and to make choices and actions in an integrated and cooperative. The evaluation of the potential role of participation and involvement of citizens by the social worker is crucial in defining the political agenda and in the light of the development of local communities (winter 2007), and not only that but also in building a fabric and cozy respectful of the rights of all referring to the specific rights of citizenship, as the article says. The principle of subsidiarity has characterized our historical moment (from the 90s to the present) and the current model of Community Welfare, that does not mean delegate or abdicate responsibility to a specific state, but does it mean to know, promote and enhance the leadership of all forms of organized citizens, families and social capital, as bearers of needs and solutions, to help build a cozy fabric, a culture of solidarity. The social worker knows the resources and energies that these social forces have, if you listen carefully, adequately involved can produce the change that goes towards greater social cohesion and a better quality of life. He knows because the uses for example, in custom projects. If the participation of citizens and organizations is seen as a process in which individuals take an active part in the various phases of the decision-making institutions, the definition and implementation of programs depending on the characteristics of the contexts and environments they live, then participatory action must be seen as inextricably linked to the development of a sense of belonging to a community.

Sense of community and participation are seen as two-dimensional intertwined in a system of mutual causal relationship (Sarason, 1974). Avoid you can not ignore that the real participation must therefore be understood from this point of view, as an expression of a sense of belonging, as expression of a desire to improve the quality of life, as an expression of a sense of collective life, as a form of shared action that lies between the subject and the institutional context in which symbolic and relational lives. It then must start to promote this awareness in the territories paths of emancipation and re-appropriation of responsibilities and competencies that can increase opportunities for discussion and collective growth opportunities especially inclusion of marginal groups, and reflections on the issues of public welfare local.

It requires a comprehensive legislation of the Third Sector that while still keeping the existing regulatory framework, to ensure:

a) a clear identification of the persons belonging to the Third Sector.

b) that in all the forms of association that the principles of democracy and active participation in the pursuit of social goals in situations of equality by all members.

The present system is characterized by mode which are stratified and crossed in recent decades and that make uneven, over which uncertain from the point of view of the sources of law, the current system. At the center should be paid the person to whom the interventions and services and not the service itself. For all bodies or legal entities registered in the relevant registers that offer
themselves as providers of the service, provision should be made transparent accreditation criteria that take into account especially the operational capacities and techniques designed to maintain or achieve high standards of quality. The institutions of the Third Sector can not be relegated to the task of becoming a more just economic order to ensure performance, nor participate in tendering the lowest bid for the services to the person.

Persons in respect of which it has been drawn up an individual project should not be mere recipients of monetizing their needs, but also be equipped with a project budget of life appropriate to ensure their full inclusion in their social context and family.

Should be declined as the trial of the voucher, as subsidiary and not substitute performance. The logic of the good or service voucher is a logical performance only and not of actual taking charge of the person of the groups and the community that welcomes, accompanies, supports the person and their family in the choice of the custom design closer to the person of the bearer need. It is not the principle of free choice of a quality assurance of the answer; the risk you run more easily is to increase the distance of the institution and the service by the person in distress. Continuing the examination of other points of the guidelines, it is considered necessary to be maintained a clear distinction between the non-profit, the profit and for profit.

It would be important to understand better what the Government intends and wants to do when it expects in its lines, guide the promotion of the Fund for Social Enterprises and the livelihood of the network of ethical finance. Equal attention should be placed in better define the role of bank foundations and centers for Voluntary Service.

With regard to the Civil Service Universal, is thought to be an opportunity for all young people, also useful for spreading a culture and knowledge of social problems, and enable awareness and availability to civil and social, but take care to ensure that programs are personalized social commitment nationally and internationally, with opportunities also for people who have difficulties and limitations in both intellectual and physical.

We agree that the institutions of the Third Sector recipients of public and / or private should first and foremost ensure full transparency of financial and ethical in their behavior. In contrast, the entities themselves, especially if they manage services under the agreement, accreditation or expectations, plans, etc, should be able to have the resources necessary to pay any employees, in respect of employment contracts applied to fulfill all tax and regulatory obligations and anything else necessary to the management. In fact, the authorities of the Third Sector should never be used - nor should prestavvisi the same - to make benefits and services with the simple aim of cost less than the other public body should support. In this context, any resources from fundraising are to be understood as additional guarantee, as a priority, research, development and extension services. To this end, the use of European Structural Funds becomes strategic. To enhance the principle of vertical and horizontal subsidiarity, should be given over to its full implementation, with particular reference to the definition of the basic level of social benefits provided for in the law 328/2000, to refinancing - to the extent appropriate to the needs - Funds of the National social Policy and should also accelerate institutional reforms related, small towns and the mandatory nature of programming and managing the associated form in the local social policies.

The Guidelines propose a series of measures that, taken one by one is not susceptible of a priori positive or negative evaluations. It would seem, however, to understand that the idea behind this
step is, in essence, the need to simplify the system of credits and, above all, to approach and make it easier and direct relationship between citizens and the user / subject dispenser. That any of the cases mentioned in the Guidelines could be useful / necessary there is no doubt, but by itself, and in accordance with what is indicated in the introduction, when invoked the principle of subsidiarity, it should be understood about the ways (so many ways about) through which a community (a neighborhood, a town, etc.) intends to promote / preserve the common good and inclusion. The problem then is not “just” a simplification or a stimulation of the displacement of action by public administrations the Third Sector, but a radical overhaul of the welfare system, starting from the territories, promoting the co-design and partnership between public and private sectors. In particular, then, about the use of certain instruments envisaged in the Guidelines, (e.g., voucher) we consider, as mentioned above, it is necessary to collocate the use within a specific and shared “environment” design and implementation of interventions (taking charge), poorly defined and clarified.

Another risk that the document runs is that, instead of asking questions about how to welcome and accompany more effectively the various civic activities, predominantly manifest intent of the State approval, regulation and control. On the contrary, the Constitution is particularly stressed the need to accommodate, promote the autonomy of social actors who operate in the public interest. In this sense, the Constitution does not allow the institutions to withdraw after exercising a kind of evaluation that is attentive only to the formalities and which goes in the direction of “contract” of services. They must accept the challenge of dealing with the active citizenship of an innovative plan of “democracy dual, ie permanent dialectic between individuals of different nature, with distinct powers but destined to compete.”

We must go beyond the vision of Public Administration Controller, the State contracting entity: means recognizing the “active citizenship” as a political influence on the broad public policy.

The old approach that looks at organizations and activities. You should not put emphasis on organizations such as (of course it is desirable to reorder, but not in key civil and not primarily with this cut), but on the concrete activities that they, as well as individuals, to realize the interest general. Evaluate the actions, and not the organizations, represents a new approach to the Third Sector, from a logic still centered on collateralism between politics and associations, to one where the autonomy of the social is manifested through the relevance of the initiatives put in field work and, in turn, as a counterweight all’autoreferenzialità of the traditional political forces. You should fully understand that active citizenship, in its varied forms, is a political entity, with its own peculiarities protagonist of identifying the general and therefore capable of address on public policies, but also on the correlated necessary reforms of the political system.

The consultation, basic tool for the construction of paths of participatory democracy through the free forms of organization of group of Civil Society, has taken a negative connotation due to the distorted interpretation of this form of relationship.

The same, however, can not be subrogated forms of mere consultation dear to anyone who plays the evil duty to administer, with the “right to command.” Therefore, it must be preserved and strengthened forms of consultation even within better defined manner and levels of representation in respect of the principle of vertical and horizontal subsidiarity. To this end, it is necessary to better define the criteria of greater representation to prevent organisms plethoric poorly representative of the collective or diffuse interests or - worse - a mere corporatist nature. For example, it would be important for greater representation, join associations, federations or networks of national character. To this end, reviewing the criteria for training and updating of relevant registers of local, regional and national.

* The guidelines developed are configured as a draft of the Bill on Third Sector Delegation, which will be approved by the Council of Ministers of 27 June 2014: before sending the text to the relevant bodies, operators of the Third Sector, stakeholders and citizens or supporters of the nonprofit end users are invited to submit proposals and suggestions by e-mail: terzosettorelavolta@lavoro.gov.it
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ITALY - AUDITIONS PARLIAMENTARY SENATE ON DISCIPLINE OF THE PROFESSION OF SOCIAL WORKER

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE AssNAS

Auditions
15 January 2014, Parliamentary Committees 11a and 12a joined
Bill n. 660*
Discipline of the profession of social worker

The Association, since its inception (1948), has put in place actions and is committed at the end of each Congress, preparing motions aimed at achieving the objectives that led to the recognition of professional titles, the organization of the profession and institution of the professional, the university training of social workers and, at the end of the last National Congress (Lecce, 27-28 November 2010), the approval of a proposal for a draft organic law of the profession.

At this crucial time for the profession, which requires a greater recognition and accurate identification and recognition at all levels of responsibility in the different contexts in which it is operating, one of the critical issues that must be addressed and resolved, as well as the unique academic, degree, for the
exercise of the profession of social worker, the definition of the scientific sector self of Social Service, is to have a standard organic profession.

For the first time this bill is shared and supported by all organizations and associations of the profession, gathered in the "Pact for the Profession" formed by the National Association of Social Workers. It is the first time in sixty years of history, that there is to witness the convergence of all the abbreviations: National Order of Social Workers - CNOAS, National Union of Social Workers - SUNAS, National Association of Social Workers - Association of Italian Teachers and AssNAS Social Services - AIDOSS, on a proposal of the Law. This means that this proposal is the expression of the needs of 40,000 social workers in Italy. This joint position, arises from the need of the professional social worker, intellectual profession recognized and ordered as such, which since its founding laws recognized sees the technical autonomy and judgment as any intellectual profession, and that today, due to the complexity of the social situation must have a wealth of knowledge and strong uniform national plan. Position that corresponds to the professionalism that a social worker must be as required by the laws creating the profession, by the same code of ethics and the provisions under DL n. 137/12 confirms that the requirements that must possess the intellectual professions.

A three-year training, it is no longer compatible with the complexity of today which sees social workers struggling with ongoing judicial actions to promote and manage (see all matter of legal expenses, directors' support, the complexity of the cases of judicial protection child, the issue of immigration, and the whole issue of Justice on projects for prisoners, the contracts in evidence to the Social Services and the testing for minors, and how much more ..); also the same in team collaboration and networking with other professionals, like today for the management of complex cases is not always necessary, see the need to make an objective and highly qualified parificata preparation.

Also devastating for the profession today is, Degree three plus two that the state allows you to have a degree in any faculty (eg. Agrarian or letters etc ...), to achieve the specialist and then merge into the labor market as an assistant social, with only two years of specialized, such maiming people of all basic knowledge and training necessary for the creation of the 'professional' social worker. This thing is now a high risk to individuals and institutions, (un'ASL never assume a nurse who does not have a degree in nursing, but has only two years of specialist? Today with social workers is this happening).

The changes required in this draft Law, are tools that social workers need to continue to work in accordance with, and the utility of citizenship and the state. This position has already seen moreover the University of certified graduate courses in one cycle (5 years), because there are already degree programs that allow a formation of five years, with no additional charges to be placed in the field, it is only to regulate them strictly in sequence, allowing the access to the profession only to those who are in possession of five years.

The complexity of the social reality of today, inherent in a complex political and institutional fabric, no longer allows a low-profile training, a situation reinforced by increasingly also by the European recommendations, the last in 2001 recommended that Member States with a high-profile training for Social workers and organization of services allowing adequate support to citizens; the whole of the EU recommendation is articulated repeatedly expressed this need (see attached).

Hearing in the Commission - Commissions 11 ° and 12 ° joined. On 15 January 2014, together with all the CNOAS AssNAS and the SUNAS have been audited by the Commissions 11 and 12 of the Senate gathered during the referral in relation to the Draft Law 660 on the Discipline of the profession of social worker. The result of the examination has been updated in the upcoming weeks.

http://www.senato.it/japp/bgt/showdoc/frame.jsp?tipodoc=SommComm&leg=17&id=734931
SWEDEN - MEND THE WELFARE!
JOSEFINE JOHANSSON
Executive committee member of IFSW Europe

What do you do to accomplish 84 activities all over a country during one week? How do you get media to write about almost everything you do and people to share and tweet about this? You do a campaign like “Mend the welfare”!

This year is election year in Sweden on local, regional and national level. Unfortunately, social work and other important issues for welfare workers are not likely to be on the billboards for the political parties. The Swedish association Akademikerförbundet SSR analysed how we can make an impact anyway and we arranged a “Welfare week” five months before the elections. Firstly, we decided on four focus themes: social protection floors, elderly care, school health and immigrated academics. We elected these themes, because they were most likely to be interesting for both politicians and the media and thus also for the general public. We had made reports and policies about all of them that could be used to make articles, seminars and debates.

To mend the welfare, you need a lot of tools so we made big paper spanners to hand over to politicians and small plastic ones (where the end can be used as a coin) to hand out to anyone. We also made small toolboxes with candy spanners. Mend in Swedish also means to cook so we did a small leaflet with funny recipes and our demands to every theme. Then we encouraged and supported all our organisation to arrange activities: debates, welfare coffee breaks and lunches with discussions, quiz, expositions and elections on the most important welfare issue. As you can see, our members were very creative!

Fortunately, media was very interested in almost everything we did. We had the most shared debate article that week in the biggest newspaper in Sweden. We had 214 articles, radio and tv spots in one week that reached out to 15 843 144 readers/viewers! During this week, we were tweeted 29 375 times. We also did a youtube film that has been seen 14 000 times until today.

As you may understand, this week required a lot of planning and resources. The focus themes were decided on seven months before “Welfare week” and the first information was out five months before. About half of our staff worked full time with this a period before and during the week. Luckily, it was very rewarding mediawise and to many of our members it was a new way of working with professional political issues that was fun and made them proud. Hopefully it has also attracted new members and made our influence among politicians and policymakers greater.

Link to prezi
http://prezi.com/t7odejctd0c/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy&rc=ex0share
GLOBAL MEETING 2014 - A NEW DEFINITION FOR THE SOCIAL WORK PROFESSION

CRISTINA MARTINS
President of IFSW Europe e.V.

IFSW General Meeting 2014 was held in Melbourne, Australia on the 6th and 7th of July. A new Global Definition of the Social Work Profession was approved at the meeting.

GLOBAL DEFINITION OF THE SOCIAL WORK PROFESSION

“Social work is a practice-based profession and an academic discipline that promotes social change and development, social cohesion, and the empowerment and liberation of people. Principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility and respect for diversities are central to social work. Underpinned by theories of social work, social sciences, humanities and indigenous knowledge, social work engages people and structures to address life challenges and enhance wellbeing.

The above definition may be amplified at national and / or regional levels.”
GLOBAL AGENDA

The First Global Report on Social Work and Social Development, “Promoting Social and Economic Equalities” was launched at the Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development, from the 9th to the 12th of July, in Melbourne, Australia.


EUROPE WELCOMED NEW MEMBERS FROM ROMANIA

Two separate applications from Romania were presented at the General meeting – the Romanian College of Social Workers and the Association Pro Social Work (Pro A.S.) under a coordinating body. Romania joined IFSW as a coordinating body.
EUROPE PROUD WITH AWARD GIVEN TO SPAIN FOR OUTSTANDING SOCIAL WORK

An award was given to the General Council of Social Work in Spain for the inspirational Orange Tide – a movement which brings together social workers and service users to protest against austerity measures. Ana Isabel Lima Fernandez, President of Consejo General del Trabajo Social, the Spanish General Council on Social Work, received this award on the behalf of the Council.
IFSW Europe congratulated the outgoing President Gary Bailey for all the support given to IFSW, by giving voice to social work concerns.

Gary ended his farewell speech at the meeting with a quote from Rabindrat Tagore:

“I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy.”

THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING WILL BE IN SEOUL, KOREA, IN JUNE 2016.
The joint world conference on social work, education and social development was held from the 9th to the 12th of July in Melbourne, Australia. The conference theme was “Promoting social and economic equality”. Visitors came from 78 countries and Europe was quite well represented despite the location.

During the workshops, every speaker had 10 minutes to present. This gave the listeners a little information on a variety of studies. I listened to a lot of practitioners, especially social workers, in Australian health care. They said that the hospitals are more interested in practitioner research than other employers and several hospitals have a strategy to get more social workers to study and do research along with their work. The importance of social workers in health care was stressed by many, since half of the health problems have social factors and the genetic factors represent only 15% of the cases. All social work has health impacts.

It’s clear that we work with the same theoretical framework all over the world. Motivational Interviewing – MI was mentioned in these different settings: to reduce inhalants among street children in India, to reduce binge drinking among pregnant women in South Africa and within Michigan’s behavioural health care. Case management and CRA were other methods that were mentioned. I also made a field visit to the treatment centre ReGen. They had just started a new non residential rehab programme. To do this, they started with what they knew from 40 years of experience, they studied research on what works for people with substance abuse and they worked with a committee of service users. The result was a programme based on MET and CBT: MET individually to strengthen the motivation to stay in the programme, and CBT in group work. Their conclusion was that the programme had to be of at least six weeks, full time, five days a week. They also added therapies that are not evidence based for treating substance abuse but that their experience had proven effective and that the participants asked for: family therapy, art therapy, debt counseling and information on how different drugs work. A good example of evidence based practice at its best! They also offered a lot of support to the families and loved ones of people with substance abuse.

Go to http://www.regen.org.au to know more.

After four days packed with new experiences and information, the conference ended and was handed over to South Korea – a nation that has gone from a poor developing country to a modern industry nation in less than 50 years. The next joint world conference will be held in Seoul from the 27th to the 30th of June 2016. Anyone who wants to present their work to international colleagues can send their abstract between the 15th of May and the 30th of September next year.

Learn more at http://www.swsd2016.org
IFSW CAMPAIGN - SOCIAL WORK FOR PEACE AND SELF-DETERMINATION IN PALESTINE AND ISRAEL
CRISTINA MARTINS
President of IFSW Europe e.V.

IFSW Europe joined this global campaign for peace by producing the Statement “Social Work for Peace and Self-determination - Peace is the way”

This initiative began after the attacks on Gaza by the Israeli military forces that led to the death and injury of thousands of people, including civilians of all ages.

The entire community of Social Workers participated actively at national and regional levels and several statements were produced appealing to the international community to work towards finding peaceful solutions that could put an end to this conflict and an end to Israel’s occupation of Palestine.

At the European level the Icelandic Association of Social Workers was the first association to make a stand with an open letter addressed to the Icelandic government concerning human rights violations in Palestine. This was followed by the British Association of Social Workers (BASW) that launched a statement concerning the humanitarian disaster taking place in Gaza.

The Israeli Union of Social Workers also produced a statement calling for Israeli and Palestinian political leaders to reach an agreement of peace.

These statements as well as many others from the Global President Ruth Stark and other regions of IFSW (Latin America & Caribbean, Asia-Pacific, North America and Africa) and also from national organisations, individuals and students are available at IFSW’s website.

The planning for the next European Conference is well underway. There will be two major events in the first two days. A conference with exciting plenary speakers exploring major themes from practice, two cinemas to share good practice, 55 workshops each of an hour’s duration to explore issues from practice. The second will be a major event running alongside the conference will be a social services expo with plenty of exhibitors to explore for resources and exchange. The third day will offer seminars in specialist areas of practice, across the central belt of Scotland. It is hoped that from these seminars that current and new networks of social workers will build across Europe to continue learning and development across national boundaries.

WEBSITE
The conference website is on http://www.ifsurope2015.org

You can register your interest now to get updates as the programme develops but the actual bookings will start in January 2015 once the full programme is available. Fees will be the same as the last conference with the best deals for places booked before the end of April.

There is a link from the website through Edinburgh Marketing who are handling the accommodation needs of delegates. There is a huge range of options available from shared apartments, backpacking hostels, student accommodation, B&Bs and the full range of hotels from budget to 5*. We anticipate that we will be able to offer a small number of homestays.

The infrastructure to host the conference is well in place. The venue is the EICC, a purpose built conference centre in the middle of Edinburgh and buses will take you to the third day seminars all within one hour of Edinburgh. There will be good networking opportunities, challenging ideas to kick around and new friends to make – accompanied by a warm welcome from your UK hosts from BASW.

PLENARY SPEAKERS
The immediate issue is to put together an exciting and detailed programme. There is an outline...
programme detailed below but we are still looking for presenters you want to hear from, films you want to see or topics you want explored. Just let us know direct at ifsw2015@basw.co.uk

Prof Walter Lorenz is booked as our keynote speaker on the opening day. We are now searching for speakers from across Europe to speak to the themes of the plenary sessions

Session 1: The Practical and Ethical Dilemmas of Social Work Practice
Care and protection and the respect for self determination
> This could be anything from child welfare, mental health, learning disabilities etc
> This could be about the rights of people who use services to determine what services they need and want rather than what is imposed upon them
> Or anything else that you think is an ethical dilemma in practice

Session 2: The aftermath of conflict; lessons from Northern Ireland, the Bosnian War, the Ukraine
> This would also include the launch of an IFSW book on the subject

Session 3: Community Capacity Building
> This would be a session on community social work

Session 4: What kind of social work will you be doing in 10-20 years’ time? The future of the Profession.
> We are looking for contributors who have vision and can inspire people about the way forward.
> This session will include IRISS http://www.iriss.org.uk who are part of the host group and are focussed on the future

Session 5: DAY 3
The third day of the Conference are a series of specialist whole day seminars in different locations. Buses will take delegates to workplaces within an hour of Edinburgh to meet with colleagues across Scotland and share the day on a specific topic. This is being sponsored by the employers. The seminars already identified are listed below but we can arrange others if you want a topic to be covered that we have not included.
> Mental health
> Criminal Justice
> Working with Roma Families
> Needs not Deeds & child protection - the Scottish Children’s Hearing system
> Caring for an ageing population
> Social work education
> Human Rights and Social Work practice
> Substance misuse

WORKSHOP PROPOSALS
We hope by workshops being nominated by your IFSW members association we will have a programme that will attract all of our members.

We have been asked to move away from the 10 minutes presentations to concentrate on interactive workshops that will concentrate on the themes Partnership, Social Work and Solutions. They can be partnerships of practitioners, people who use services, researchers, teachers, students, politicians and policy advisers – think about who you work with and have you got something to share with colleagues about what works? There are further details on the website.

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE
The Programme Committee that includes Hakan Acar, Salome Namichishvili, Fran McDonnell, Fran Fuller and Josefine Johansson are able to help any association if required.

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Hakan Acar
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Josefine Johansson
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Fran McDonnell
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Fran Fuller
f.fuller@basw.co.uk

Please either contact them direct or contact the conference office and we will put you in touch with one of them.

CONFERENCE ORGANISERS
We have a conference office in Edinburgh, near the conference centre and are here to answer your questions. We are looking forward to hearing your proposals for plenary speakers and workshop presenters

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Johan Grant
Conference Administrator
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JOURNÉE DE LA SANTÉ
ASSOCIATION EUROPEENNE DE PROMOTION DES DROITS ET DE SOUTIEN DES PERSONNES EN SITUATION DE FRAGILITÉ

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QUI SOMMES - NOUS ?
Des professionnels de toute l’Europe issus des milieux sociaux, médicaux, juridiques, administratifs, enseignants et journalistiques, mais aussi des retraités et des usagers.

QUI SONT NOS PARTENAIRES :
Les Pouvoirs publics : Ministères, élus au niveau national et local, GIP SPSI (Groupement d’Intérêt Public Santé, Protection Sociale International), CFADS, Institutions sociales, médicales, paramédicales, de protection intervenant en faveur des personnes en situation de fragilité : Handicap, maladie, sénior, enfance fragile, exclusion...

Journée de réflexion et d’échange sur l’accès à la santé et aux soins en Europe : Quels enjeux, quelles articulations entre le sanitaire, le social et l’usager ?

Vendredi 21 novembre 2014
Salle des Conférences, 15 Rue de Chaligny, 75012 Paris, métro Reuilly Diderot

Participation :
gratuite pour les adhérents, 15 € pour les professionnels, 5 € pour les étudiants et les retraités, chèque à adresser au siège lors de l’inscription

But de cette journée : Mener une réflexion comparative entre la Belgique, la France et le Portugal sur : L’accès à la santé dans ses différentes dimensions, l’accès aux soins, l’accompagnement médico-social, entre autres pour les publics en situation de fragilité : l’articulation entre le sanitaire, le social et l’usager dans le contexte actuel
Objectif : proposer des orientations et des perspectives.

Cristina Martins, President of IFSW Europe and contact link person to France has participated in this Conference by invitation of the Association Européenne de Promotion des Droits et de Soutien des Personnes en Situation de Fragilité.

DÉROULEMENT DE LA JOURNÉE :

9h45 : Accueil des participants par Joëlle Delacôte et Marie-Henriette Etcheverry, administrateurs de l’AEPDSPSF.
10h : Introduction pour présenter la journée par Marie-Geneviève Mounier, Présidente.
10h15 : Approche synthétique sur la santé en France : Pierre de Montalembert, délégué régional adjoint (Fédération Hospitalière de France).
10h45 : Approche internationale de la protection sociale : Xavier Chambard, responsable de la coopération et de la communication du GIP SPSI.
11h15 : La santé et l’accès aux soins au Portugal : Cristina Martins, Présidente de la Fédération internationale des travailleurs sociaux, région Europe et Assistante sociale à Porto en milieu hospitalier.
11h45 : La santé et l’accès aux soins en Belgique : Liliane Cocozza Présidente de l’ESAN (European Standards Action Network ) participant à la plateforme européenne.
12h30 : La Santé et l’accès aux soins dans un contexte local, celui de Paris : Bernard JOMIER Adjoint à la Maire de Paris, chargé de la santé, du handicap et des relations avec l’AP-HP.
13h : Pause Déjeuner
15h30 : Atelier : Accès à la Santé et aux soins : problématiques et propositions, animé par Marie-Andrée Sadot, administrateur de l’AEPDSPSF avec un ou deux représentants des usagers d’ATD QUART MONDE, un représentant de ATD Quat Monde, un représentant d’un service de soins palliatifs, Marie-Christine Collard, un représentant d’un ESAT, Virginie Baudet-Visser, un représentant d’une association d’Handicapés, Jacqueline Tavert, administrateur de l’AEPDSPSF.
16H30/16H45 : Conclusion : Apport de la Journée et propositions émergentes.
On the occasion of the 30 years of the Department of Social Work and Social Policy, Faculty of Philosophy, the University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius" in Skopje, organized the International Conference: "THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERSPECTIVES IN THE SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL POLICY"

The International Conference was held on 27.11.2014 at the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje Republic of Macedonia.

The Mediterranean center for social and educational research from Rome will publish 10 papers from their conference by their scientific and organizing board, which will be published in the Mediterranean book of reviews for social and educational researches.


Hakan Acar, executive committee member of IFSW Europe and contact link person to Macedonia has participated at this Conference by invitation of the Associations of Social Workers of city of Skopje.
NORDIC CONFERENCE

More information:
http://www.confedent.fi/nordic2015/
Welcome to the 2nd Joint Nordic Conference! The event will take place in Helsinki, Finland.

The conference offers an arena for social workers and social pedagogues, educators, researchers, students and policy makers to share and discuss ideas, working methods and research findings in a Nordic light.

The main theme of the conference is Courage in Social Work. Courage is often needed to make changes. What does it take to be courageous in the field of social work? How to inspire people to find their courage?

Meet your colleagues from the Nordic countries to share and discuss issues on social work!

The conference languages will be English, Swedish and Finnish.

Conference sub-themes:
- Immigration and Globalisation
- Innovative Practices and Practice Research
- Marginalisation
- Empowerment and Community Work
- Education
- Leadership
- Power and Influence in Social Work
- Service User Involvement
- Ethics

Important dates:

15 October 2014
Abstract submission deadline

15 December 2014
Abstract acceptance information

1 April 2015
Early registration deadline

More information:
Conference website at www.nordic2015.fi
Follow us also on Facebook!

Conference venue:
Arcada University of Applied Sciences, Helsinki, Finland

Conference organizers:
Union of Professional Social Workers Talentia
Arcada University of Applied Sciences
University of Helsinki
The Finnish Society of Social Work Research
National Institute for Health and Welfare
Nordic Forum for Social Workers
Nordic Forum for Social Pedagogues

Conference Bureau:
Confedent International
nordic2015@confedent.fi
INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS IN SERBIA
VUKICA CUKALOVIC
The Chairman of the Union of Union of Associations of Social Workers to the Republic of Serbia

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SOCIAL WORKERS
“SOCIAL PROCESSES IN 21ST CENTURY”
LESKOVAC – PASHA’S FOUNTAIN
03.11.2014 – 07.11.2014

The Union of Associations of Social Workers to the Republic of Serbia organized the International Congress of Social Workers whose main topic was “Social processes in 21st century”.

These were the subtopics of the congress:

1. Social Work in valuative Contradictions,

2. Reformative Dilemmas of Contemporary Social Work,


Apart from presentation of papers, both from Serbia and abroad; exchange of good practice were carried out in an interactive way using the method of workshops, where the participants were grouped in the field of drug addiction, human trafficking, domestic violence, reproductive health, etc.

Congress participants from Serbia and abroad were offered various interesting activities: a cultural and entertaining program, visit to different touristic destinations in Serbia, visit to the Institutions of Social Protection and cities with the aim of acquainting the participants with the Serbian culture and tradition.

The papers, which were presented on the International Congress, will be integrated in the Union’s Bulletin, published and printed both in English and Serbian.

The Congress was held from 3rd to 7th November 2014, at Hotel Pasha’s Fountain, at the pleasant vacationland near the city of Leskovac. Participation fee, including accommodation and full board during the Congress, sojourn tax, welcome cocktail, special dinner, cultural and entertaining program, visits to various destinations, working materials for the Congress, was 120€ per participant.

The organization of International Congress was supported by Ministry of Labor, Employment, Veteran and Social Policy to the Republic of Serbia, and in partnership with the City of Leskovac, Center for Social Work in Leskovac, Faculty of Political Sciences to the University of Belgrade, Center for Social Work in Novi Sad, governmental, non-governmental and business sector.

All information about the Congress, with the accurate agenda, is available on the official site of the Union of Associations of Social Workers to the Republic of Serbia
www.dsrleskovac.org.sr.

We are very pleased with the great participation and successful contribution to the work during the Congress.

For more information, contact our foreign consultant:

Hristina Stojkovic
+381 66 356 763
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Yours sincerely,
The Chairman of the Union,
Vukica Cukalovic

Ian Johnston, former executive committee member of IFSW Europe and contact link person to Serbia participated at this Congress by invitation of the Union of Associations of Social Workers to the Republic of Serbia
NETWORKING VISIT & CONFERENCE IN RIGA, LATVIA

SOCIAL PLATFORM - NETWORKING VISIT & CONFERENCE IN RIGA, LATVIA
ON THE 8TH AND 9TH OF DECEMBER

In January 2015, Latvia will take over the Presidency of the EU.

Social Platform organised a civil society conference to discuss the social dimension of the Latvian EU presidency priorities. This event brought together a wide range of key stakeholders, including governmental representatives and also Latvian and EU civil society.

The Networking Meeting on the social dimension of the Latvian EU Presidency in Riga was held on the 8th of December and the Conference on the social dimension of the Latvian EU Presidency was held on the 9th of December.

Fran MacDonnell, a member of IFSW Europe’s Executive Committee, has participated at these events.
EDITOR’S NOTE
JOANA MALHEIRO
Honorary Secretary
of IFSW Europe e.V.

It has been a pleasure to join IFSW Europe e.V. as the Honorary Secretary and it has also been a pleasure to work for this newsletter with our President, Cristina Martins, and our professional designer, Maria Mónica. Even though I have only been part of IFSW Europe for a few months, I must say that it is a joy for me to work with such amazing people, who commit to this incredible job: to be a social worker and do their best to promote peace and well-being. I am learning a lot with all of you and I am totally committed to provide the best support to IFSW Europe e.V. and its members. It is an honor to be part of this team!

We hope you enjoy our newsletter and we will be waiting for your contributions for the next issue, which is planned for June 2015. In the meantime, I will be happy to share your stories and events on IFSW Europe’s new blog, Facebook page, Twitter and LinkedIn.

Please send your news or comments to IFSW Europe at: ifsw.eu@gmail.com

Thank you!

Joana Malheiro
Honorary Secretary of IFSW Europe e.V.