



The Agency / Network: IFSW Human Rights Commission
Name of the Representative: Marcin Boryczko (Poland) (appointed in May 2019)

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR IFSW EUROPE

As a Regional Human Rights Commissioner, it is important for me to inform/engage and mobilize social workers regarding human rights concerns and violations. I need your assistance to monitor the human rights in your area. Also, it is important for me to know if social workers are experiencing a denial or violation of their human rights. IFSW will respond accordingly and issue a statement and/or lobby on behalf of the social worker.

The most important and urgent problems identified for the Europe region:

- are climate crisis that is recognized as a serious risk to fundamental rights such as an adequate standard of living throughout the world. In the European context, it includes climate refugees and the obligation of every government (mostly in Europe) to protect human rights on its own territory as well as collaborate internationally to protect human rights from climate-related harms;
- huge migration and refugees fleeing their homes to find peace and adequate standards of living. In this context, there is a need for international assistance and cooperation in order to facilitate the fulfillment of human rights as far as Europe seems to be a safe and desired destination for migrations. The most urgent questions in this respect include gender-based violence, poverty among refugees, xenophobia and racial prejudice, a prolonged period of legalization procedures.

ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

In respect of human rights, I suggest certain activities:

- the organisation of a workshop at each European Social Work conference;
- creating stronger ties between regions in order to encourage collaboration regarding human rights concerns;
- strengthening collaboration in the field of human right based social work by writing research proposals or Erasmus plus joint programs;



International Federation of Social Workers

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- developing and strengthening human rights-based social work as academic field in Europe;
- creating an on-line course or series of lectures on human rights-based social work;
- creating a twitter account devoted the question of human rights in the context of social work.

CHALLENGES

The European Region is diverse geographically and politically. Social workers in each region will be facing some similar and some differing human rights concerns. Therefore, it is important for me to hear from you as to what is imperative for social workers in your country. IFSW and the Human Rights Commission can also assist you in being active at a national level. As it concerns IFSW, there is a need for strong international cooperation stemming from activities on a national level.