**Report of IFSW Europe Regional Representative/Commissioner**

**For Delegates Meeting in Oslo, 2025**

**Please complete and send this report to** **europe@ifsw.org**

**by 24th September 2025**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Your name** | **Ruth Allen – President IFSW Europe****ruthallenbusiness@gmail.com****europe@ifsw.org** |
| **Your association** | **BASW** |
| **Commission, institution or network where you represent IFSW Europe** | **CINGO – Council of Europe Conference of International NGOs** |
| **Date of report** | **24 09 2025** |
| **When did you start being the representative?** | **2021** |
| **Do you have a support person/group?** | **Theresa Hoffman** |
| **Do you wish to continue for the year 2025/26?** | **Yes – in capacity as Standing Committee member which is funded by CINGO, but we could have another IFSW rep too** |
| **If you wish to continue, do you need a new support person/group?** | **Yes – needs more than one support person** |
|  |  |
| **Please list the main events and meetings you attended between October 2024 and September 2025** | **General Assembly October 2024 and April 2025****Children’s Rights Steering Committee x2 and Strategy Midpoint Review Conference.****Meetings of the CINGO Children’s Rights Committee** |
| **Please describe other work you undertook in your role (e.g. policy work, writing, contributing to webinars etc)**  | **Elected member of the CINGO Standing Committee working on range of tasks in the running of CINGO** **Co-Chairing CINGO Children’s Rights Committee****Webinars for members of CINGO particularly re participation and reporting arrangements of the CINGO committees** |
| **What have been your main achievements in this role in the last year?****Co-Chairing and developing the CINGO Children’s Rights Committee (CRC) and increasing civil social and social work contribution to the Children’s Rights Steering Committee of CoE, including final drafting of recommendations on children’s rights in care proceedings and parental separation.****Facilitating involvement of Head of Children’s Rights Division in CoE within the General Assembly, raising profile of children’s and young people’s rights and empowerment issues in work of CINGO****Introducing Theresa Hoffman to CINGO in person as a member of the New Social Workers group****Statements on key issues particularly children’s rights through CRC – including children of Ukraine and statement on children in Gaza (new).**  |
| **What themes and opportunities should the IFSW Europe representative to this institution, commission or network focus on during the next year?****Raising the profile of social work across the work of CINGO including connecting social workers within CINGO. Introducing another representative to CINGO to strengthen social work voice.****Statements on Children’s Rights issues uploaded and shared with CINGO members and online. A statement on children in Gaza war is in process****Continue to bring interbational social work voice to CoE’s work on the rights Children of Ukraine including the impact of forced relocation to Russia.****Further joint events and other work with the Standing Committee Youth Strategy lead** **Events: joint events with the lead for Youth Participation in CINGO planned for Oct 2025 post-General Assembly, focused on young people and drug and alcohol issues, with the CoE ‘Pompidou Group’.Events:** **Webinar planned for the Children’s Rights Committee of CINGO November on care proceedings guidance****Propose webinar with the human rights network and other reps re – Human Rights, the voice of social work and the role of key institutions in Europe** |
| **If you wish to continue in your role, please list your personal objectives/aims for the next year.*** **To improve and demonstrate the impact of my advocacy for social worker within CoE and CINGO in reports/activities**
* **To introduce more IFSW members to opportunities to be directly involved in CINGO and CoE and raise the profile of social work (especially new social workers)**
* **To ensure members are provide with more updates and information about CINGO through better dissemination through IFSW E bulletins and social media.**
* **To have more powerful and consistent impact on the Standing Committee work across the whole of CoE**
* **To report to membeon the human rights and threats to democracy issues being tackled within**
 |
| **Any other information you wish to share** |