



Report of IFSW Europe Regional Representative/Commissioner

For Delegates Meeting 2024

Please send this report to europa@ifsw.org by 20th October 2024

Your name	Ruth Allen
Your association	British Association of Social Workers
Commission or Organisation where you represent IFSW Europe	CINGO - Conference of International NGOs in the Council of Europe
Date of report	19 October 2024
When did you start being the representative?	2019
Do you have a support person/group?	No
Do you wish to continue for the year 2024/25?	I will continue as an elected member of the CINGO Standing (coordinating) Committee but as I am IFSW Europe President, we need another representative and ideally a support team to ensure sufficient capacity for social work involvement and expertise in different aspects of the conference and all its activities
If you wish to continue, do you need a support person/group?	A support team would be very valuable
Please list the main events and meetings you attended between June 2023 and September 2024	General Assemblies in Oct 23, Apr 24, Oct 24; the World Forum for Democracy; the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Children's Rights; the Expert drafting group on children's rights and care proceedings; monthly (plus) meetings of the Standing



	Committee. Bi-monthly meetings of the CINGO committee on Children's Rights (as Vice President).
Please describe other work you undertook in your role (e.g. policy work, writing, contributing to webinars etc)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Representing civil society and providing expert contributions within the Council of Europe's Children's Rights Steering Committee (ongoing representation, currently focusing on impact of AI and pornography on children as key policy and law theme) - writing documents for CINGO standing committee including coordinating and authoring new three-year strategy - contributing to development of youth participation strategy - developing social rights and equalities workstreams within CINGO workplan
Please describe your main achievements in this role in the last period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In April 24, successfully standing for election for second three-year term on CINGO Standing Committee ensuring a social work voice at heart of CINGO. This involves being part of a close working committee team, coordinating CINGO and working closely with the CINGO President - Contribution on behalf of CINGO to drafting new Council of Europe recommendations on children's rights in parental separation and care proceedings - Writing successful application for new 3 year mandate for CINGO Children's Rights committee and building the membership and workplan. - Supporting and designing children's rights webinars as part of CINGO committee. - Leading on the writing of three-year (24-27) strategy for CINGO through member survey and webinar consultation, promoting focus of CINGO on



social rights, intersectional equalities perspective, rights of marginalised and most disadvantaged citizens, youth empowerment and involvement, environment and eco-social perspectives and taking action to protect NGO freedoms and defenders of human rights

- Linking work of Turkish Association in the earthquake zones with that of a fellow CINGO committee member from Turkey involved in parallel work supporting children. We are planning a CINGO human rights and democracy visit to NGOs and social workers in Turkey in 2024.

- enabling youth representation from IFSW in the General Assembly and World Forum for Democracy

If you wish to continue in your role, please list your key objectives/aims for the next year.

I will continue in my elected role in the Standing Committee until April 2027. My attendance is resourced by CINGO.

However, IFSW Europe should appoint at least one new representative to CINGO and should also appoint a support team if possible to provide more capacity for social work representation. In person attendance in Strasbourg is very beneficial to have an impact on CINGO's work and its influence in Council of Europe although remote joining is possible. Consistent attendance is required at the twice yearly, three-day General Assemblies is the minimum commitment.

I would recommend one or more members of the New Social Workers' Project are involved as representative or in the Support Group. They could then be involved in developing youth-focused activities.