



International Federation of Social Workers
New Social Worker Network
Update Report for IFSW Europe Delegates
New Social Worker Network – Annual Report 2024–2025

Dear Delegates,

On behalf of the New Social Worker Network (NSWN), we are pleased to provide this update on the Network's activities during the 2024–2025 year. This period has been the first year, focused on development and consolidation, aligning with the objectives set out in the 2024 motion presented in the Delegates Meeting in Lisbon.

Below is a summary of our main objectives and work completed in the year 2024-2025.

1. Development of Keynote Presentation – Oslo European Conference on Climate Change

One of our key contributions this year has been the preparation of a **keynote presentation for the European Conference in Oslo (May 2025)**. This keynote was designed and will be delivered by members of the Network to address the crucial intersection between **social work and climate change**, amplifying the voices of new social workers in the climate justice discourse.

- The process was collaborative, involving consultation sessions with Network members and integration of perspectives from across Europe.
- The presentation highlighted innovative practices by new social workers in responding to climate-related social issues.
- This represented the first time the NSWN took such a visible role at a European-level conference, setting a precedent for future contributions, by showcasing the knowledge, skills and talent amongst the Network.

2. Governance and Sustainability of the Network



During 2024–2025, the Network made important progress in developing structures to ensure **sustainable governance**:

- **Collaborative Working Agreement (2024):** Adopted and implemented, providing clarity on the Network's purpose, values, principles, roles, and responsibilities. This is submitted to the Delegates as a separate document.
- **Action Plan 2025/2026:** Developed in line with agreed objectives, setting out concrete goals across membership, funding, events, communications, policy paper, and engagement with the Federation. This is submitted to the Delegates as a separate document.
- **Budgeting:** An annual budget of €8,000 was proposed and agreed, with costings for events, policy paper translation, and participation in external conferences. This ensures transparent resource allocation and supports sustainability. This is submitted to the Delegates within the Action Plan document.
- **Collaborative Structures:** Introduction of defined lead roles (Membership, Funding, Events, Social Media, Policy Paper, Federation) to distribute responsibilities and strengthen accountability. This is submitted to the Delegates within the Collaborative Working Agreement document.

This governance framework ensures the NSWN is embedded within IFSW Europe's wider strategy and contributes effectively to intergenerational collaboration.

3. Preparations for the Alicante Workshop

The Network has also taken steps to strengthen its intergenerational and capacity-building agenda by preparing and delivering a **collaborative workshop in Alicante, Spain (September, 2025)**.

- The workshop was designed as a space for **emerging and experienced social workers** to co-develop strategies for empowering the next generation and engage with international exchange.



- Key aims include: promoting peer learning, enhancing leadership among new social workers, and exploring pathways for representation within IFSW Europe structures.

4. Next steps for 2025-2026

- **Membership Expansion:** Recruitment efforts are focused on expanding the Network across multiple member associations, supported by new social media channels. A poster has been developed for recruitment, which is attached as a separate document for delegates. We encourage all Delegates to nominate a New Social Worker to join the Network by emailing newsocialworkers@ifsw.org
- **Policy Paper Development:** The Network began the consultation process for a policy paper on **intergenerational collaboration in IFSW Europe**, which will be finalised during 2025–2026 and presented at the IFSW Global Conference in Nairobi, Kenya in June 2026.
- **Stronger Federation Links:** NSWN representatives are actively engaged with IFSW Europe working groups and communicate regularly with the Executive to align our work with Federation priorities.

Conclusion

The 2024–2025 year has been a period of **consolidation, visibility, and growth** for the New Social Worker Network. With the successful delivery of the Alicante workshop, planned delivery of the Oslo keynote, the establishment of sustainable governance through the Action Plan, Budget, and Collaborative Working Agreement, the NSWN is well-positioned to continue building the next generation of leadership within IFSW Europe.

We thank the Delegates and Executive for your continued support and look forward to working together in 2025–2026 to further embed the voices of new social workers across the Federation.

Submitted respectfully,

New Social Worker Network, Contact: newsocialworkers@ifsw.org