

STATEMENT BY NIKOS ZERVAS, 2ND Vice President of the Hellenic Association of Social Workers



Dear Colleagues and Delegates,

It is an honor to present my candidacy for the IFSW Europe Executive Committee at the 2026 Delegates' Meeting in Utrecht, the Netherlands.

Across Europe, social workers face common challenges, but not always under the same conditions. Our social, economic, institutional, and professional contexts can differ considerably. Meaningful representation is therefore essential. The perspectives and experiences of all parts of Europe should be heard and reflected in our strategic planning, policy advocacy, and decision-making.

Over the past year, as a member of the IFSW Europe Executive Committee, I have had the opportunity to listen, collaborate, exchange ideas, and learn from colleagues and member associations across our region. This experience has reinforced my belief that effective European cooperation begins with listening to one another, understanding our different realities, and finding common ground.

If elected, I would place particular emphasis on strengthening communication and cooperation among colleagues, ensuring that different regional perspectives are considered, and supporting initiatives that give social workers a stronger and more visible voice at the European level.

I also look forward to contributing to the preparation of the 2027 IFSW Social Work European Conference in Greece. I see this not simply as an event hosted by my country, but as an opportunity for the whole European social work community to come together—to exchange knowledge and experience, build professional connections, and strengthen our shared commitment to social justice and human dignity.

I am ready to take on the responsibilities of the position and to participate fully in the work of the Executive Committee, both online and in person, with commitment, consistency, energy, and a collaborative approach.

I do not see this candidacy simply as an opportunity to represent a country. I see it as an opportunity to listen to, work with, and contribute to all our member associations, while strengthening the connection between our European diversity and our shared professional values.

Thank you for your consideration. With your support, I look forward to continuing to contribute to our shared European social work community.

Nikos Zervas,

2nd Vice President, Hellenic Association of Social Workers

Member of the Executive Committee, IFSW Europe