

2021 End of Year Report

The International Federation of Social Workers

Imprint

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144

National social work organisations are **Members** of IFSW



5

Regions represent IFSW around the globe



5+ mio

Social Workers are represented by IFSW



13



5

Members of the Global **Executive** are responsible for the strategic government of IFSW

Commissions are advancing the impact and visibility of IFSW

IFSW President and Secretary-General's End of Year Report

«The social work profession can be proud of its achievements»



IFSW President Silvana Martinez and
IFSW Secretary General Rory Truell

Dear members of IFSW,

2021 was a journey of challenge for everyone and a year when the social work profession can be proud of its achievements. Throughout the world, National Associations of Social Work and social workers advocated, championed and fought for people's safety, community involvement in decision-making and the rights to equality, health and a good life. Many advocated for new care systems to replace those proven ineffective under the pandemic. Many took an active role in supporting refugees in their life transitions. Many successfully engaged communities who were wary of vaccines and distrusting of their governments. Some, where civil war emerged or remained, set an example of peace-development by holding their Associations together, advocating everyone's equal rights and new

shared futures. Others who were subject to military rule bravely defended the right to democracy.

In 2021 other professions also felt the need to champion change. Social work's first new set of partnerships in this year was with the global health workforces. All these global bodies recognized their members' local activities in fighting for vaccine equality, closing the gaps between health and social services, the need for governments to listen to professionals and recognize the public as the key actor in controlling the pandemic. [This coalition of social work and health](#) represented 160 million professionals (a bigger population than most countries) and made advances in increasing vaccine solidarity at the [G7](#) and [G20](#) summits. This work has also influenced the formation of a global vaccine treaty that aims for all the world's popula-

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tions to have equal access to both treatments and services.

From this development, a conversation grew to expand our partnerships with all global entities seeking a new world based on equality, sustainability and social justice. This has now become the largest global mass movement comprising unions, students, professions, UN agencies, the Commonwealth, social movements, religious faiths and more. The collective aim is clear, to co-build a new eco-social world that leaves no one behind.

A key feature of this new movement of diverse groupings is that we recognize that we cannot simply call for geopolitical change, but we must work together to lead that change. Already conversations are happening between the partner organizations: 'How do we break down the silos between health and social services, how do we work together for international compliance on labour standards, how do we involve every community in the decisions that need to be made'.

As the key initiator of this process, IFSW has had to take some risks. We stressed some relationships with other parts of the social work profession that at first wanted to work exclusively with us in a 'business as usual' cooperation. We put our reputation on the line by publicly stating that the world can and must change now. We reorganized our plans and budgets to move forward with arrangements for the global people's summit that will take place next June / July. In managing these risks, we acknowledge the steadfast commitment

and agility shown by the IFSW executive. They diligently considered options at a time of rapid change. They enabled an unprecedented process that is the best chance for global social change known in our lifetimes.

The executive representatives have also led regional processes that resulted in three regional conferences and multiple projects globally, regionally and nationally. These can be read in detail in the accompanying regional reports, but we highlight the African region's work on advancing Ubuntu practice across the world as a mechanism that builds solidarity, strength and democracy within communities. Also, the European region's focus on supporting student and graduate social workers worldwide to be a new confident voice within the profession and beyond.

2021 has also seen our new commissions spring into action. Along with the Human Rights and Ethics Commission, each of the three relatively new commissions became fully staffed in 2021 and, as you will see from their reports, have been making impact in their respective areas. While each Commission's work is equally critical to advancing social work, there are two Commissions that are pioneering new outcomes. The Indigenous Commission represents a structural change in the Federation. It marks an era of addressing social work's colonial past which contributed to shattering lives and cultures across the planet. Out of this devastation indigenous social workers have paved new and successful ways of working steeped in their

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traditional cultural heritage, philosophies and belief systems. These approaches bring a reinforced reality to our global ethics that obligates the profession to recognise the strengths, wisdom and equal participation of all peoples in their own cultural terms.

The Education Commission also has a heavy workload in 2022. Following the successful development of [global standards of social work education](#), the Commission is now tasked with responding to the many requests by educational departments for recognition that they meet the minimum standards. The Commission has been working on the development of

a peer recognition process that will be piloted in the coming weeks with the view to refinement and expansion. This development addresses the longstanding concern that there has never been an agreed worldwide measure on the basic quality of social work education. Subsequently, in many parts of the world, programme elements are missing such as practice placements, incorporating indigenous knowledge, the profession's human right focus, working in partnership with communities and so on. The peer recognition process is also being called for by departments that do not yet meet the standards in order that they can utilise the findings as an advocacy tool within their university institutions. These developments represent a major step forward for social work which will lead to new graduate confidence that they are a part of a thriving, learning international profession.

Across the regional structures, commissions and executive, 12 official statements were issued in 2021, roughly one per month. The process of development of IFSW statements is often complex. If a member's country is involved in a global concern, that member is consulted along with the regional representatives and relevant commission. Consideration is given to the potential damage that may occur to local social workers which is always a factor in contexts of war, conflict and dictatorship. At times, those considerations outweigh the potential good of an international statement resulting in no public statements which can cause frustration to outsiders to the local dynamics. The Federation is also continuously transitioning away from simple statements that call on 'others' to take action. The evolving focus and aim of IFSW statements are to highlight social work principles and action, showing what solutions we are contributing along with setting out expectations or invitations for others to respect all peoples and the environments rights.

The main global theme for 2021 was Ubuntu. This was the first time the Federation and its partners highlighted an indigenous philosophy. Initially the concept was met with some external resistance. Concerns were articulated that people outside of the African context would not understand the message and that English expressions should be used 'as it is the international language'. These concerns quickly evaporated as the [2021 World Social Work Day poster](#), featuring Ubuntu, was spontaneously translated into more than 100 lan-

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guages. Webinars, meeting and events were held in almost all countries on how Ubuntu philosophy can strengthen social work locally. The indigenous approach has also appeared for the first time in many social work educational programmes worldwide.

During this year the Federation also grew in membership and expanded its publication base. The national associations of social work in Barbados, Gambia and Suriname were successfully voted in by the other members upon completing the required professional criteria. These valued new members are symptomatic of the current growth of the profession in The Caribbean and Africa. Each of the new members, new voices, adds new understandings on the application of practice, from unique situations, to our shared learning environment. We warmly welcome the new members.

IFSW also responded to a request to host and publish the [Journal of Social Work Ethics and Values](#). The journal established in 2004 sought a new home that would provide a more global context and contribution base. Subsequently the journal has been renamed The International Journal of Social Work Ethics and Values (IJSWEV). The editorial board remains independent but now has an IFSW representative allocated by the IFSW Ethics Commission. The Federation sees this development as an opportunity to engage practitioners and a wider audience in making contributions to advancing social work ethical understanding. The IJSWEV is now one of two journals

that are associated with the Federation. As co-owner of International Social Work (ISW), published by Sage since 1959, IFSW has continued in its role in the owner's committee, working closely with the editors and publishers. During 2021 ISW featured key articles on practice under the pandemic and on Ubuntu.

Further key publications have been made jointly with the Social Work Ethics Research Group (SWERG), a global network of leading ethics researchers. Jointly with IFSW the SWERG has developed practice guidelines for social workers experiencing ethical challenges under pandemic conditions. The guidelines have been well received and reports showed that they helped boost the confidence and understandings of social workers during the pandemic.

A further long-term joint research project with Bath Spa University also progressed in 2021. The [Social Work Working Conditions Research Project](#) launched its second phase of surveying the profession's working conditions. The pilot study conducted in 2019-2020 received 3,451 complete responses from all across the world. The findings reinforced our anecdotal experience that social workers are not paid fairly when compared with commensurate roles. When asked about the priorities for improvement in social work practice, three main topics were highlighted: firstly, better pay; secondly, more recognition and respect for the role; and thirdly, having clearer laws/legislation. The findings illustrate that compared to other professions,

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social work working conditions need significant improvement. The intent of this research is to provide an evidence database that national associations can use as a reference point when advocating for better conditions.

A new cooperation also was launched between [IFSW and Monmouth University](#). The IFSW Social Work at the United Nations Initiative went live in December. This Initiative will develop courses, programmes and provide information on how social work and the UN agencies can more effectively work together in meeting their common objectives of social and sustainable development. Indeed, 2021 has seen much closer working relationships with the United Nations Agencies. Earlier in the year the UN Secretary-General's office sought a high-level meeting with IFSW as they recognised the social work approach is key to development and social workers as essential actors in advancing the SDGs. A new partnership was formed between IFSW and Local 2030 (a UN Network for localising all 17 SDGs), and throughout the year UNICEF and UNRISD have also been key partners in advancing the global people's summit.

We hope that you agree that the profession has not stumbled under the increased significant pressures of the pandemic. It has, locally, regionally and internationally advanced a more progressive agenda in carrying out the aims and objectives of the Federation. Speaking from the global perspective these successes can largely be attributed to the clear vision (as set by our members) and a corresponding trust and confidence between all parts of the Federation.

We end this report by stating our thanks to all members, friends, officials and staff of IFSW. Global cannot exist unless it is rooted in the local. Your work gives our combined global strategy credibility and makes the international profession a reality. We look forward to seeing you in the General Meeting in May and again in June in the [People's Global Summit](#) and throughout our combined journey in 2022.

Our best wishes,

Silvana and Rory

Silvana Martinez, IFSW President
Rory Truell, IFSW Secretary-General

Informe de fin de año del Presidente y Secretario General de la FITS

«El Trabajo Social puede estar orgulloso de sus logros como profesión»



Silvana Martínez, Presidenta de la FITS
Rory Truell, Secretario General de la FITS

Estimadxs miembrxs de la FITS,

2021 fue un año de desafíos para todxs, un año en el que el Trabajo Social puede estar orgulloso de sus logros como profesión. En todo el mundo, las Asociaciones Nacionales de Trabajo Social y los trabajadores y trabajadoras sociales abogaron, defendieron y lucharon por la seguridad de las personas, la participación de la comunidad en la toma de decisiones y los derechos a la igualdad, la salud y una buena vida. Muchxs abogaron por nuevos sistemas de atención para reemplazar los que han resultado ineficaces durante la pandemia. Muchxs tomaron un papel activo en el apoyo a lxs refugiadxs en sus transiciones de vida. Se lograron lazos en comunidades que desconfiaban de las vacunas y de sus gobiernos. En algunas, donde surgió o permaneció la guerra civil, se da un ejemplo de paz y desarrollo al mantener unidas a sus Asociaciones, abogando por la igualdad de derechos de todxs y nuevos futuros compartidos. En

otras, que estuvieron sujetas a un régimen militar, se defendió valientemente el derecho a la democracia.

En 2021, otras profesiones también sintieron la necesidad de impulsar el cambio. El primer nuevo conjunto de asociaciones del Trabajo Social en este año fue con la Alianza Global de la Fuerza Laboral de Salud. Estos organismos globales reconocieron las actividades locales de sus miembros en la lucha por la equidad en la vacunación, el cierre de las brechas entre los servicios sociales y de salud, la necesidad de que los gobiernos escuchen a los profesionales y reconozcan al público como el actor clave en el control de la pandemia. [Esta coalición de Trabajo Social y Salud](#) representó a 160 millones de profesionales (una población mayor que la de la mayoría de los países) y abogó por el aumento de la solidaridad en vacunación en las cumbres del [G7](#) y el [G20](#). Este trabajo también ha influido en la formación de un tratado global de vacunas que

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tiene como objetivo que todas las poblaciones del mundo tengan el mismo acceso tanto a los tratamientos como a los servicios.

A partir de este desarrollo, se inició una conversación tendiente a expandir nuestras asociaciones con todas las entidades globales que deseen un nuevo mundo basado en la igualdad, la sostenibilidad y la justicia social. Éste se ha convertido ahora en el mayor movimiento global de masas, comprendiendo sindicatos, estudiantes, profesionales, agencias de la ONU, la Commonwealth, movimientos sociales, credos religiosos y más. El objetivo colectivo es claro: co-construir un nuevo mundo ecosocial que no deje a nadie atrás.

Una característica clave de este nuevo movimiento de agrupaciones diversas es el reconocimiento de que no podemos limitarnos a pedir un cambio geopolítico sino que debemos trabajar juntos para liderar ese cambio. Ya se están produciendo conversaciones entre las organizaciones asociadas: '¿Cómo rompemos los silos entre los servicios sociales y de salud? ¿Cómo trabajamos juntos para el cumplimiento internacional de las normas laborales? ¿Cómo involucramos a todas las comunidades en las decisiones que deben tomarse?'.

Como iniciador clave de este proceso, la FITS ha tenido que asumir algunos riesgos. Pusimos en tensión algunas relaciones con otras partes de la profesión del Trabajo Social que al principio querían continuar trabajando con nosotros de forma exclusiva. Ponemos nuestra reputación en juego al afirmar públicamente

que el mundo puede y debe cambiar ahora. Reorganizamos nuestros planes y presupuestos para seguir adelante con los arreglos para la cumbre mundial de los pueblos que tendrá lugar el próximo junio/julio. En la gestión de estos riesgos, reconocemos el firme compromiso y la agilidad mostrados por el Ejecutivo de la FITS. Consideraron diligentemente las opciones en un momento de cambios rápidos. Permitieron un proceso sin precedentes que es la mejor oportunidad para el cambio social global conocido en nuestras vidas.

Los representantes ejecutivos también han liderado procesos regionales que resultaron en tres conferencias regionales y múltiples proyectos a nivel mundial, regional y nacional. Éstos se pueden leer en detalle en los informes regionales adjuntos, pero destacamos el trabajo de la región africana para promover la práctica de Ubuntu en todo el mundo como un mecanismo generador de solidaridad, fortaleza y democracia dentro de las comunidades. Además, el apoyo de la región europea a estudiantes y graduadxs de Trabajo Social en todo el mundo para que sean una nueva voz firme dentro de la profesión y más allá.

2021 también ha visto nuestras nuevas comisiones. Junto con la Comisión de Derechos Humanos y Ética, cada una de las tres comisiones relativamente nuevas se dotó de personal completo en 2021 y, como verán en sus informes, han tenido impacto en sus respectivas áreas. Si bien el trabajo de cada Comisión es igualmente fundamental para el avance del Trabajo Social, hay dos Comisiones que son pioneras

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ras en nuevos resultados. La Comisión Indígena representa un cambio estructural en la Federación. Marca el inicio de una era que aborde el pasado colonial del Trabajo Social, que contribuyó a destruir vidas y culturas en todo el planeta. A partir de esta devastación, los trabajadores y trabajadoras sociales indígenas han cimentado nuevas y exitosas formas de trabajar inmersas en su herencia cultural tradicional, filosofías y sistemas de creencias. Estos enfoques refuerzan nuestra ética global, obligan a la profesión a reconocer las fortalezas, la sabiduría y la participación igualitaria de todos los pueblos, en sus propios términos culturales.

La Comisión de Educación también tiene una gran carga de trabajo en 2022. Tras el desarrollo exitoso de los estándares globales de educación en Trabajo Social, la Comisión ahora tiene la tarea de responder a las numerosas solicitudes de los departamentos educativos para evaluar su cumplimiento de los estándares mínimos. La Comisión ha estado trabajando en el desarrollo de un proceso de evaluación por parte de pares que se pondrá a prueba en las próximas semanas con miras a su perfeccionamiento y expansión. Este desarrollo aborda la preocupación de larga data de que nunca ha habido un criterio mundial acordado sobre la calidad básica de la educación en Trabajo Social. Posteriormente, en muchas partes del mundo, faltan elementos curriculares como las prácticas, la incorporación del conocimiento indígena, el enfoque de derechos humanos, el trabajo en colaboración con las comunidades, etc. Los departamentos que aún no cumplen con los estándares tam-

bién solicitan el proceso de reconocimiento de pares para utilizar sus hallazgos como herramienta de militancia dentro de sus instituciones universitarias. Estos desarrollos representan un gran avance para el Trabajo Social, que llevará a lxs nuevxs graduadxs a confiar en que son parte de una profesión internacional próspera.

En las estructuras regionales, las comisiones y el Ejecutivo, se emitieron 12 declaraciones oficiales en 2021, aproximadamente una por mes. El proceso de desarrollo de declaraciones de la FITS es a menudo complejo. Si el país de un miembro está involucrado en una preocupación global, se consulta a ese miembro junto con los representantes regionales y la comisión pertinente. Se considera el daño potencial que puede ocurrir a los trabajadores y trabajadoras sociales locales, que siempre es un factor en contextos de guerra, conflicto y dictadura. A veces, estas consideraciones pesan más que el bien potencial de una declaración internacional, impidiendo su publicación, causando frustración a personas ajena a la dinámica local. La Federación también se aleja continuamente de declaraciones simplistas que llaman a 'otros' a tomar medidas. El enfoque evolutivo y el objetivo de las declaraciones de la FITS consiste en resaltar los principios y la acción del Trabajo Social, mostrando qué soluciones estamos aportando y expresando, a su vez, expectativas o invitaciones para que otros respeten los derechos de todos los pueblos y el medio ambiente.

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El tema principal de la Agenda Global para el 2021 fue Ubuntu. Ésta fue la primera vez que la Federación y sus socios destacaron una filosofía indígena. Inicialmente, el concepto encontró cierta resistencia externa. Se expresaron preocupaciones acerca de que las personas fuera del contexto africano no entendieran el mensaje y que las expresiones en inglés deberían usarse 'como idioma internacional'. Estas preocupaciones se evaporaron rápidamente cuando el [póster del Día Mundial del Trabajo Social de 2021](#), con Ubuntu, se tradujo espontáneamente a más de 100 idiomas. Se realizaron seminarios web, reuniones y eventos en casi todos los países sobre cómo la filosofía Ubuntu podría fortalecer el Trabajo Social a nivel local. El enfoque indígena también ha aparecido por primera vez en muchos programas educativos de Trabajo Social en todo el mundo.

Durante este año, la Federación también creció en membresía y amplió su base de publicaciones. Las asociaciones nacionales de Trabajo Social en Barbados, Gambia y Surinam fueron votadas con éxito por los demás miembros al completar los criterios profesionales requeridos. Estos valiosos nuevos miembros son sintomáticos del crecimiento actual de la profesión en el Caribe y África. Cada uno de los nuevos miembros agrega nuevas voces sobre la aplicación de la práctica, desde situaciones únicas hasta nuestro entorno de aprendizaje compartido. Damos una calurosa bienvenida a los nuevos miembros.

La FITS también respondió a una solicitud para albergar y publicar el [Journal of Social Work Ethics and Values](#). La revista,

establecida en 2004, buscó un nuevo hogar que proporcionara un contexto y una base de contribuciones más globales. Posteriormente, la revista pasó a llamarse *The International Journal of Social Work Ethics and Values* (IJSWEV). El consejo editorial sigue siendo independiente, pero ahora tiene un representante de la FITS, asignado por la Comisión de Ética de la FITS. La Federación ve este desarrollo como una oportunidad para involucrar a lxs profesionales y a una audiencia más amplia para hacer contribuciones al avance de la comprensión ética del Trabajo Social. El IJSWEV es ahora una de las dos revistas asociadas con la Federación. Como copropietaria de *International Social Work* (ISW), publicada por Sage desde 1959, la FITS ha seguido desempeñando su papel en el comité de propietarios, trabajando en estrecha colaboración con los editores. Durante 2021, ISW presentó artículos clave sobre la práctica bajo la pandemia y sobre Ubuntu.

Se han realizado otras publicaciones clave en conjunto con el *Social Work Ethics Research Group* (SWERG), una red global de investigadores líderes en ética. Junto con la FITS, SWERG ha desarrollado pautas de práctica para trabajadores y trabajadoras sociales que experimenten desafíos éticos en condiciones de pandemia. Las pautas han sido bien recibidas y los informes mostraron que ayudaron a aumentar la confianza y la comprensión de los trabajadores y trabajadoras sociales durante la pandemia.

Otro proyecto de investigación conjunto a largo plazo avanzó en 2021, con la Universidad de Bath Spa. El [Proyecto de](#)

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[Investigación de las Condiciones Laborales del Trabajo Social](#) lanzó su segunda fase de encuesta sobre las condiciones laborales de la profesión. El estudio piloto (2019-2020) recibió 3451 respuestas completas de todo el mundo. Los hallazgos reforzaron nuestra experiencia de que a los trabajadores y trabajadoras sociales no se les paga de manera justa en comparación con roles similares. Cuando se les preguntó sobre las prioridades de mejora en la práctica del Trabajo Social, se destacaron tres temas principales: en primer lugar, mejores salarios; en segundo lugar, más reconocimiento y respeto por el rol; y en tercer lugar, contar con legislaciones más claras. Los hallazgos ilustran que, en comparación con otras profesiones, las condiciones de trabajo del Trabajo Social necesitan una mejora significativa. La intención de esta investigación es proporcionar una base de datos que las asociaciones nacionales puedan usar como punto de referencia al abogar por mejores condiciones.

También se lanzó una nueva cooperación entre [la FITS y la Universidad de Monmouth](#). La iniciativa de la FITS referida Trabajo Social en las Naciones Unidas se puso en marcha en diciembre. Esta iniciativa desarrollará cursos, programas y brindará información sobre cómo el Trabajo Social y las agencias de la ONU pueden trabajar juntos de manera más efectiva para alcanzar sus objetivos comunes de desarrollo social y sostenible. De hecho, 2021 ha visto relaciones de trabajo mucho más estrechas con las agencias de las Naciones Unidas. A principios de año, la oficina del Secretario General de la ONU buscó una reunión con los altos niveles de la FITS ya que reconocieron que el enfoque

del Trabajo Social es clave para el desarrollo y que los trabajadores y trabajadoras sociales son actores esenciales en el avance de los ODS. Se formó una nueva asociación entre la FITS y Local 2030 (una red de la ONU para localizar los 17 ODS). También UNICEF y UNRISD han sido socios clave en el avance de la cumbre mundial de los pueblos.

Esperamos que estén de acuerdo en que la profesión no ha cedido frente a las crecientes presiones de la pandemia. Ha promovido, a nivel local, regional e internacional, una agenda más progresista en el cumplimiento de las metas y objetivos de la Federación. Desde una perspectiva global, estos éxitos pueden atribuirse en gran medida a la visión clara (establecida por nuestros miembros) y la correspondiente confianza entre todas las partes de la Federación.

Terminamos este informe expresando nuestro agradecimiento a todos los miembros, amigxs, funcionarixs y personal de la FITS. Lo global no puede existir a menos que esté enraizado en lo local. Su trabajo le da credibilidad a nuestra estrategia global y hace que la profesión internacional sea una realidad. Esperamos verlos en la Asamblea General en mayo y nuevamente en junio en la [Cumbre Mundial de los Pueblos](#) y a lo largo de nuestro viaje compartido en 2022.

Nuestros mejores deseos,

Silvana y Rory

Silvana Martínez, Presidenta de la FITS

Rory Truell, Secretario General de la FITS

Rapport de fin d'année du président et du secrétaire général de la FITS

«Les acteurs du travail social peuvent être fiers de leurs accomplissements»



Silvana Martinez, présidente FITS et
Rory Truell, secrétaire général FITS

Chers membres de l'IFSW,

2021 a été une année de défis pour tous, mais les acteurs du travail social peuvent être fiers de leurs accomplissements. Dans le monde entier, les associations nationales de travail social et les travailleurs sociaux ont plaidé, défendu et combattu pour la sécurité des personnes, la participation de la communauté à la prise de décision et les droits à l'égalité, à la santé et à une vie décente. Beaucoup ont plaidé en faveur de nouveaux systèmes de soins pour remplacer ceux qui se sont avérés inefficaces pendant la pandémie. Beaucoup ont joué un rôle actif en soutenant les réfugiés dans leur transition vers une nouvelle vie. Beaucoup ont réussi à mobiliser des communautés qui se méfiaient des vaccins et de leurs gouvernements. Certains, alors qu'une guerre civile éclatait dans leur pays ou se poursuivait,

ont donné l'exemple de la paix et du développement en maintenant la cohésion de leurs associations, en plaident pour l'égalité des droits de chacun et pour un nouvel avenir commun. D'autres, soumis à un régime militaire, ont courageusement défendu le droit à la démocratie.

En 2021, d'autres professions ont également ressenti le besoin de promouvoir le changement. La première nouvelle série de partenariats du travail social au cours de cette année a été conclue avec des organismes mondiaux de la santé. Tous ces organismes mondiaux ont reconnu les activités locales de leurs membres dans la lutte pour l'égalité dans l'accès aux vaccins, la réduction des écarts entre les services sociaux et de santé, la nécessité pour les gouvernements d'écouter les professionnels et de reconnaître le public comme l'acteur clé dans le contrôle de la pandémie. Cette coalition du travail social et de la santé représentait 160 millions de

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professionnels (un chiffre supérieur à la population de la plupart des pays) et a permis de réaliser des avancées en matière de solidarité vaccinale lors des sommets du [G7](#) et du [G20](#). Ce travail a également influencé la formation d'un traité mondial sur les vaccins qui vise à ce que les populations de tous les pays du monde disposent toutes d'un accès égal aux traitements et aux services.

Cette évolution a donné lieu à une conversation visant à étendre nos partenariats avec toutes les entités mondiales qui aspirent à un nouveau monde fondé sur l'égalité, la durabilité et la justice sociale. Ce mouvement est devenu le plus grand mouvement de masse mondial comprenant des syndicats, des étudiants, des professions, des agences des Nations unies, le Commonwealth, des mouvements sociaux, des confessions religieuses et bien d'autres encore. L'objectif collectif est clair : [co-construire un nouveau monde éco-social qui ne néglige personne](#).

Une caractéristique essentielle de ce nouveau mouvement de groupements divers est que nous savons que nous ne pouvons pas nous contenter de réclamer un changement géopolitique : nous devons agir ensemble pour conduire ce changement. Des conversations ont déjà lieu entre les organisations partenaires : comment briser le cloisonnement entre les services sociaux et de santé ? Comment collaborer pour assurer le respect des normes internationales du travail ? Comment impliquer chaque communauté dans les décisions qui doivent être prises ?

En tant qu'instigateur clé de ce processus, l'IFSW a dû prendre certains risques. Nous avons mis en péril certaines relations avec d'autres secteurs du travail social qui, au

départ, voulaient travailler exclusivement avec nous dans le cadre d'une coopération ordinaire. Nous avons mis notre réputation en jeu en déclarant publiquement que le monde pouvait et devait changer maintenant. Nous avons réorganisé nos plans et nos budgets pour faire avancer les préparatifs du sommet mondial des peuples qui aura lieu en juin/juillet prochain. Dans la gestion de ces risques, nous reconnaissons l'engagement ferme et l'agilité de l'équipe dirigeante d'IFSW. Les membres de cette équipe ont examiné avec diligence les options possibles en cette période d'évolution rapide. Ils ont lancé un processus sans précédent qui représente notre meilleure chance de vivre un véritable changement dans le domaine social au niveau mondial.

Les représentants de l'équipe dirigeante ont également mené des processus régionaux qui ont abouti à trois conférences régionales et à de multiples projets à l'échelle mondiale, régionale et nationale. Vous pourrez en prendre connaissance en détail dans les rapports régionaux ci-joints, mais nous soulignons le travail de la région africaine sur la promotion de la pratique Ubuntu à travers le monde comme un mécanisme qui construit la solidarité, la force et la démocratie au sein des communautés. De même, l'accent mis par la région européenne sur le soutien aux étudiants et aux diplômés dans le domaine social du monde entier pour les aider à faire entendre leur voix au sein de la profession et au-delà.

L'année 2021 a également vu nos nouvelles commissions entrer en action. Avec la Commission des droits de l'homme et de l'éthique, chacune des trois commissions relativement nouvelles a été dotée d'un personnel complet en 2021 et,

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comme vous le verrez dans leurs rapports, elles ont toute eu un impact dans leurs domaines respectifs. Bien que le travail de chaque commission soit également essentiel à l'avancement du travail social, deux commissions sont à l'avant-garde de nouveaux résultats. La Commission indigène représente un changement structurel au sein de la Fédération. Elle marque une ère de prise en compte du passé colonial du travail social qui a contribué à briser des vies et des cultures à travers le monde. De ces ravages, les travailleurs sociaux indigènes ont tiré de nouvelles méthodes de travail fructueuses, ancrées dans leur héritage culturel traditionnel, leurs philosophies et leurs systèmes de croyance. Ces approches apportent une réalité renforcée à notre éthique mondiale qui oblige la profession à reconnaître les forces, la sagesse et la participation égale de tous les peuples conformément à leur culture.

La Commission de l'éducation a également beaucoup de travail prévu pour l'année 2022. Après le développement réussi des normes globales de l'enseignement du travail social, la Commission est maintenant chargée de répondre aux nombreuses demandes des départements d'enseignement pour qu'ils soient reconnus comme répondant aux normes minimales. La Commission a travaillé à l'élaboration d'un processus de reconnaissance par les pairs qui sera mis à l'essai dans les semaines à venir en vue d'être affiné, puis généralisé.

Ce développement répond à une préoccupation de longue date, à savoir qu'il n'y a jamais eu de mesure mondiale convenue de la qualité de base de l'enseignement du travail social, en conséquence de quoi des éléments de programme font défaut dans de nombreuses régions du monde, tels que les stages pratiques, l'intégration des connaissances indigènes, l'accent mis sur

les droits de l'homme dans la profession, le travail en partenariat avec les communautés, etc. Les départements ne satisfaisant pas encore aux normes exigent également l'instauration de ce processus de reconnaissance par les pairs, car il leur permettra d'utiliser les résultats comme autant d'arguments au sein de leurs institutions universitaires. Ces développements représentent une avancée majeure pour le travail social, qui permettra aux nouveaux diplômés d'avoir l'assurance qu'ils font partie d'une profession internationale dynamique et en pleine évolution.

A travers les structures régionales, les commissions et l'exécutif, 12 déclarations officielles ont été publiées en 2021, soit environ une par mois. Le processus d'élaboration des déclarations de l'IFSW est souvent complexe. Si le pays d'un membre est impliqué dans une préoccupation mondiale, on consulte ce membre ainsi que les représentants régionaux et la commission concernée. Il est tenu compte des dommages potentiels qui pourraient être causés aux travailleurs sociaux locaux, ce qui est toujours un facteur dans les contextes de guerre, de conflit et de dictature. Parfois, ces considérations l'emportent sur les avantages potentiels d'une déclaration internationale. Aucune déclaration publique n'est alors faite, ce qui peut être source de frustration pour les personnes méconnaissant la dynamique locale. La Fédération s'éloigne aussi continuellement des simples déclarations qui appellent les « autres » à agir. L'objectif des déclarations de l'IFSW est de mettre en évidence les principes et l'action du travail social, en montrant les solutions auxquelles nous contribuons et en formulant des attentes ou des invitations pour que les autres respectent les droits de tous les peuples et de l'environnement.

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Le principal thème mondial pour 2021 était Ubuntu. C'était la première fois que la Fédération et ses partenaires mettaient en avant une philosophie indigène. Au départ, le concept a rencontré une certaine résistance externe. Certains craignaient que les personnes extérieures au contexte africain ne comprennent pas le message et que l'on utilise majoritairement des expressions anglaises, « car c'est la langue internationale ». Ces préoccupations se sont rapidement évaporées lorsque l'[affiche de la Journée mondiale du travail social 2021](#), qui mettait en scène Ubuntu, a été spontanément traduite dans plus de 100 langues. Des webinaires, des réunions et des événements ont été organisés dans presque tous les pays sur la manière dont la philosophie Ubuntu peut renforcer le travail social au niveau local. L'approche indigène est également apparue pour la première fois dans de nombreux programmes éducatifs de travail social dans le monde entier.

Au cours de cette année, la Fédération a également vu le nombre de ses membres augmenter et a été témoin de l'élargissement de sa base de publications. Les associations nationales de travail social de la Barbade, de la Gambie et du Suriname ont été admises par les autres membres après avoir rempli les critères professionnels requis. L'inclusion de ces nouveaux membres est la preuve de la croissance actuelle de la profession dans les Caraïbes et en Afrique. Chacun des nouveaux membres, en apportant de nouveaux points de vue, apporte de nouvelles compréhensions sur l'application des pratiques, à partir de situations uniques, à notre environnement d'apprentissage partagé. Nous souhaitons chaleureusement la bienvenue à ces nouveaux membres.

L'IFSW a également répondu à une demande d'accueil et de publication du [Journal of Social Work Ethics and Values](#) (Journal des valeurs et de l'éthique du travail social). Crée en 2004, cette revue cherchait un nouveau lieu d'accueil qui lui offrirait un contexte et une base de contribution plus globale. Par la suite, elle a été rebaptisée The International Journal of Social Work Ethics and Values (IJSWEV). Le comité de rédaction reste indépendant, mais compte désormais un représentant de l'IFSW désigné par la commission d'éthique de l'IFSW. La Fédération voit dans ce développement une opportunité d'engager les praticiens et un public plus large à contribuer à l'avancement de la compréhension éthique du travail social. L'IJSWEV est désormais l'une des deux revues associées à la Fédération. En tant que copropriétaire de l'International Social Work (ISW), publiée par Sage depuis 1959, la Fédération a continué à jouer son rôle au sein du comité des propriétaires, en travaillant en étroite collaboration avec les rédacteurs et les éditeurs. Au cours de l'année 2021, l'ISW a présenté des articles clés sur la pratique durant la pandémie et sur Ubuntu.

D'autres publications majeures ont été réalisées conjointement avec le Social Work Ethics Research Group (SWERG), un réseau mondial d'éminents chercheurs en éthique. En collaboration avec l'IFSW, le SWERG a élaboré des directives pratiques pour les travailleurs sociaux confrontés à des défis éthiques dans les conditions de la pandémie. Ces directives ont été bien accueillies et les rapports montrent qu'elles ont contribué à renforcer la confiance et la compréhension des travailleurs sociaux pendant la pandémie.

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Un autre projet de recherche conjoint à long terme avec l'université de Bath Spa a également progressé en 2021. Le [Projet de recherche sur les conditions de travail du travail social](#) est entré dans sa deuxième phase d'enquête sur les conditions de travail de la profession. L'étude pilote menée en 2019-2020 a reçu 3451 réponses complètes provenant du monde entier. Les résultats ont renforcé notre constat anecdotique indiquant que les travailleurs sociaux ne sont pas rémunérés équitablement par rapport à des rôles équivalents. Lorsqu'on leur a demandé quelles étaient les priorités en matière d'amélioration de la pratique du travail social, trois sujets principaux ont été mis en avant : premièrement, une meilleure rémunération ; deuxièmement, une plus grande reconnaissance et un plus grand respect de leur rôle ; et troisièmement, la clarification des lois/législations. Les résultats montrent que, par rapport à d'autres professions, les conditions de travail du travail social doivent être considérablement améliorées. L'objectif de cette recherche est de fournir une base de données probante que les associations nationales pourront utiliser comme point de référence lorsqu'elles plaideront pour une amélioration des conditions.

Une nouvelle coopération a également été lancée en décembre entre l'[IFSW et l'Université de Monmouth](#) : « Le Travail social aux Nations unies ». Cette initiative a pour but le développement de cours et de programmes et de fournir des informations sur la manière dont le travail social et les agences des Nations unies peuvent collaborer plus efficacement pour atteindre leurs objectifs communs de développement social et durable. En effet, en 2021, nous nous sommes rapprochés des agences des Nations unies. Au début de l'année, le bureau du Secrétaire général

de l'ONU a sollicité une réunion de haut niveau avec l'IFSW, car il a reconnu que l'approche du travail social est essentielle au développement et que les travailleurs sociaux sont des acteurs essentiels pour faire avancer les ODD. Un nouveau partenariat a été formé entre l'IFSW et Local 2030 (un réseau des Nations unies pour la localisation des 17 ODD). Tout au long de l'année, l'UNICEF et l'UNRISD ont également été des partenaires clés pour faire avancer le sommet mondial des peuples.

Nous espérons que vous conviendrez que la profession a réussi à faire face à la pandémie avec brio. Elle a localement, régionalement et internationalement mis en place un programme plus progressif pour atteindre les buts et objectifs de la Fédération. D'un point de vue global, ces succès peuvent être largement attribués à une vision claire (telle que définie par nos membres) et à la grande confiance qui règne entre toutes les parties de la Fédération.

Nous terminons ce rapport en adressant nos remerciements à tous les membres, amis, officiels et personnels de l'IFSW. La notion de globalité ne peut exister que si elle est enracinée au niveau local. Votre travail donne de la crédibilité à notre stratégie globale combinée et fait de la profession internationale une réalité. Nous nous réjouissons de vous voir à l'assemblée générale en mai et à nouveau en juin au [Sommet mondial des peuples](#) et tout au long des aventures qui se poursuivront en 2022.

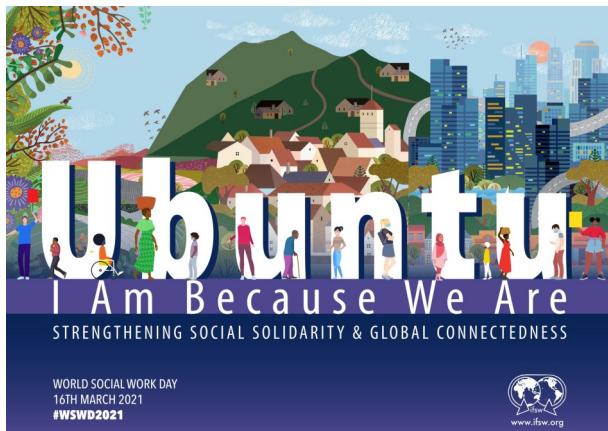
Toutes nos salutations,

Silvana et Rory

Silvana Martinez, présidente FITS
Rory Truell, secrétaire général FITS

Events

World Social Work Day



This year, World Social Work Day took place on Tuesday, 16th March 2021. Social workers around the world came together to celebrate our achievements as a profession and to highlight the theme Ubuntu: "I am Because We Are". This is the first theme of the 2020 to 2030 Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development that calls for solidarity within communities, societies, and globally. The spirit of Ubuntu highlights that all people are interconnected and that our future is dependent on recognising all humans and their environments in co-building a sustainable, fair, and socially just future.

IFSW received over 100 translations of the WSWD poster and shared information about more than 300 events, videos, and initiates from IFSW members organisations, global partners, friends, governments, and communities from around the

globe. Celebrating the spirit of Ubuntu, social work practitioners, students, academics, politicians, and service users have recognised the humanity of our fellow beings. As social work professionals, it is a privilege to be involved in individual and communal life transformation.



[Watch the celebration video here](#)

IFSW thanks all of you for being the voice of our social work profession and making WSDW 2021 one of the most successful celebrations.

Read more

[Click here to read more about celebrations around the globe.](#)

You may find a collage of the hashtag **#WSWD2021** on the next page.



#WSWD2021

Information on the Covid-19 Pandemic



In many countries social workers were and continue supporting communities that are affected or fearful of the Covid-19 Virus. Social work has an essential frontline role in the fight against the spread of the virus through supporting communities protect themselves and others through physical distancing and social solidarity.

Key functions of social work at this time included and continue to include:

- ensuring that the most vulnerable are included in planning and response.
- organizing communities to ensure that essentials such as food and clean water are available.
- advocating within social services and in policy environments that services adapt, remain open and pro-active in supporting communities and vulnerable populations.
- facilitating physical distancing and social solidarity.

- as a profession, advocating for the advancement and strengthening of health and social services as an essential protection against the virus, inequality and the consequent social and economic challenges.

Read more

Please visit our [Covid-19 info hub](#) to read more about the social work response to the pandemic.

Please note that articles of individuals may not necessarily represent the view of IFSW or its members. If you like to submit an article, please do so by sending it to global@ifsw.org.

Members

News From Members

Aotearoa New Zealand

Symposium: M ttou, , m k uri muri ake nei—For us and our children after us.

[Read the article](#)

Cyprus



Cypriot Social Workers bridging divides and healing open wounds.

[Link to the article](#)

India

The Kerala Association of Professional Social Workers Newsletter.

[Read the article](#)

Iran

Iran Conference highlights Social Work, Social Observation and Social Solidarity.

[Read the article](#)

Iran Association's Activities for World Social Work Day 2021.

[Read the article](#)

Ireland

Irish Association of Social Workers - Celebrating 50 Years in 2021.

[Read the article](#)

Uganda



Uganda Association Publishes Annual Report.

[Read the article](#)

South Korea

The Korean 15th Social Worker's day Ceremony

[Read the article](#)

Members

News From Members

Switzerland & Sierra Leone



Swiss and Sierra Leone Associations form Collaboration.

[Read the article](#)

United Kingdom

Leadership Development Opportunities with Funding.

[Read the article](#)

In memory of Terry Bamford: We invite you to join family, friends and colleagues in remembering Terry's life, his work and the impact he had.

[Read the article](#)

BASW statement on the situation in Afghanistan.

[Read the article](#)

Social workers write to Priti Patel opposing inhumane Police Bill that discriminates against Romani and Traveller families.

[Read the article](#)

United States of America

The banner features a pink ribbon graphic and the text "BREAST CANCER Awareness month". It invites people to join "#NASW's Essential Chats With Mit Oct. 22 at 2 p.m.". Below the text, it says "From Personal to Professional: Knowledge and Awareness of Breast Cancer, which strives to honor Breast Cancer Awareness Month and those who have been affected." A small photo grid shows four women: Mit Joyner, Dr. Vivian Jolley Beas, and others.

Essential chat with Mit on Breast cancer awareness.

[Read the article](#)

Find more news on our Information Hub

On the IFSW Information Hub Search, you may find more news from Members, as well as all other content of our website.

You may use filters, such as information type, topic, region, language and commission to narrow down your search. [Click here](#) to access our

Join and become an IFSW Friend today!

Anyone can join as a Friend of IFSW. Friends join to show their support for international social work and to become a world-wide community. As a Friend of IFSW you receive:

- Free online access to the journal: International Social Work (ISW) published by Sage publications. You will be able to access all the articles in the journals dating back to January 1959.
- Advance access to all IFSW publications at reduced cost.

- Discounted conference registration fees (whenever possible).
- The opportunity to create and/or participate in international, regional or local social work or social justice campaigns.
- The certificate of 'IFSW Friends Status' membership



Individual Friend
membership

\$50 for 1 year

[SIGN UP NOW](#)



Student Friend
membership

\$25 for 1 year

[SIGN UP NOW](#)



Life Friend
membership

\$600

[SIGN UP NOW](#)



Organisational
Friend membership

\$1000 for 1 year

[SIGN UP NOW](#)

Regions

IFSW Africa



Members

Botswana, Burundi, DR Congo, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Malawi, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
New member(s): none

Executive

- **Noel Muridzo**, Zimbabwe, Regional President
- **Joachim Mumba**, Zambia, Regional Vice President

Representatives

- **Antoinette Lombard**, South Africa, Education Commission
- **Charles Rutikanga**, Rwanda, Indigenous Commission
- **Charles Mbugua**, Kenya, United Nations
- **Stephano Joseph**, Malawi, Ethics Commission
- **Adetoun Oreoluwa Ogedagbe**, Nigeria, Human Rights Commission

Regions

IFSW Africa

Regional Conference

The Region held a successful Hybrid Conference, from the 23rd to 26th November 2021. The conference theme was 'Towards Ubuntu and Sustainable development: Social Work Position in Achieving SDGs. The conference attracted 750 delegates of which 600 participated through the online platform and 150 delegates physically attended the conference which was spread across two venues in Huye and Kigali - Rwanda.' The advocacy policy brief on social work legislation in Africa was one of the key conference outcomes, see IFSW global website <https://www.ifsw.org/advocacy-policy-brief-on-social-work-regulation-in-africa/>. Key partners to the conference included, Government of the Republic of Rwanda, University of Rwanda, UNICEF Rwanda, UNICEF ESARO and Hope and Homes for Children.

Activities and Achievements

- Hybrid Regional Conference
- Elections in Botswana, Zimbabwe and Malawi.
- Conferences in Nigeria and Tanzania.
- Interest to join IFSW from Mozambique and Madagascar
- Participation in the European conference

- Strategic collaboration with the British Association of Social Workers (BASW); Commonwealth Organisation of Social Workers; Children and Families International; UNICEF
- Virtual commemoration of 2021 World Social Work Day
- Webinar series dubbed the African Conversation Project which addressed a number of topical issues affecting social work practitioners in Africa amid the COVID-19 pandemic
- Education commission commenced an assessment on the adherence to the Global Education standards in training institutions sampled in Zimbabwe, South Africa and Uganda.

Planned Activities and Events

- 2022 World Social Work Day
- The People's Global Summit 2022
- African Webinar series "telling and documenting our social work practice experiences"
- Engaging and motivating members to join the Federation

News and Statements

Please [click here](#) to read the latest news and statements of the IFSW Africa Region

Régions

FITS Afrique



Pays membres de la région

Botswana, Burundi, Gambie, Ghana, Guinée, Kenya, Malawi, Maroc, Nigeria, Ouganda, RD du Congo, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tanzanie, Togo, Zambie, Zimbabwe.
Nouveaux membres cette année: aucune

- Charles Rutikanga, Rwanda, commission indigène
- Charles Mbugua, Kenya, Nations unies
- Stephano Joseph, Malawi, commission de l'éthique
- Adetoun Oreoluwa Ogedagbe, Nigeria, commission des droits humains

Membres de l'exécutif

- Noel Muridzo, Zimbabwe, président régional
- Joachim Mumba, Zambie, vice-président régional

Représentants

- Antoinette Lombard, Afrique du Sud, commission de l'éducation

Conférence régionale

La région a organisé une conférence hybride réussie du 23 au 26 novembre 2021. Le thème de la conférence était « Vers Ubuntu et le développement durable : la position du travail social dans la réalisation des ODD ». La conférence a réuni 750 délégués, dont 600 qui ont participé par le biais de la plateforme en ligne et 150 qui ont assisté physiquement à la conférence qui s'est déroulée sur deux sites, à Huye et à Kigali, au Rwanda. L'un des principaux

Régions

FITS Afrique

accompilissemens de la conférence fut la note politique de sensibilisation sur la législation du travail social en Afrique (site web mondial de l'IFSW :<https://www.ifsw.org/advocacy-policy-brief-on-social-work-regulation-in-africa/>). Les principaux partenaires de la conférence étaient le gouvernement de la République du Rwanda, l'Université du Rwanda, l'UNICEF Rwanda, l'UNICEF ESARO et Hope and Homes for Children.

Activités et réalisations

- La région fait état des activités et accomplissemens notables suivants en 2021 :
- Conférence régionale hybride
- Élections au Botswana, Zimbabwe et Malawi
- Conférences au Nigeria et en Tanzanie
- Intérêt du Mozambique et de Madagascar à rejoindre l'IFSW
- Participation à la conférence européenne
- Collaboration stratégique avec l'Association britannique des travailleurs sociaux (BASW), l'Organisation des travailleurs sociaux du Commonwealth, Children and Families International et l'UNICEF
- Commémoration virtuelle de la journée mondiale du travail social 2021

- Série de webinaires intitulée « Projet de conversation africaine » qui a abordé de nombreuses questions d'actualité touchant les praticiens du travail social en Afrique dans le contexte de la pandémie de COVID-19
- La commission de l'éducation a commencé une évaluation de l'adhésion aux normes d'éducation globale dans les institutions de formation échantillonées au Zimbabwe, en Afrique du Sud et en Ouganda

Activités et événements prévus

- Journée mondiale du travail social 2022
- Sommet mondial des peuples 2022
- Série de webinaires africaine « Raconter et documenter nos expériences de pratique du travail social »
- Engager et motiver de nouveaux membres à rejoindre la Fédération

Actualités et déclarations

Veuillez [cliquer ici](#) pour lire les dernières nouvelles et déclarations de la FITS région Afrique.

Regions

IFSW Asia and Pacific



Members

Australia; Bahrain; Bangladesh; China; Fiji; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; Iran; Japan; Jordan; Republic of Korea; Kuwait; Kyrgyzstan; Lebanon; Macau, China; Malaysia; Mongolia; Nepal; Aotearoa / New Zealand; Palestine; Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Singapore; Sri Lanka; Tajikistan; Thailand; Vietnam; Yemen.

New member(s): **Jordan**

Executive

- Regional President: **Rose Henderson**, Aotearoa New Zealand
- Regional Vice-President: **Sriganesh MV**, India

- Secretary: **Teoh Ai Hua**, Malaysia
- Treasurer: **Machiko O'Hara**, Japan
- Communications: **Gary Xia**, Australia
- Immediate Past President: **Mariko Kimura**

Representatives

- *Education Commission*: Mariko Kimura, Japan.
- *Human Rights Commission*: Raed Amira, Palestine; Luis Arevalo, Aotearoa NZ
- *Ethics Commission*: Hassan Mousavi Chelak, Iran (regional co-ordinator); Yvonne Crichton-Hill, Aotearoa NZ; Sukrita Rai, Nepal.

Regions

IFSW Asia and Pacific

- *United Nations Commission:* Kae (Wilaiporn) Kotbungkair, Thailand (Regional Commissioner); Yolanda (Zhe) Wang, China; Sug Pyo Kim, South Korea; Sebastian Cordoba, Australia; Jude Douglas, Aotearoa NZ; Suresh Pathare, India; Hamed Olamee, Iran
- *Indigenous Commission:* Carole Tana-Tepania, Aotearoa NZ, (Regional coordinator) Dr Ling How Kee, Malaysia; Yangjian (Yvonne) China; Linda Ford, Australia

Regional Delegates Meeting:

On 27 February 2021 we held our regional meeting via Zoom. This meeting would normally have been held at the same time as the IFSW General meeting and Biennial Conference but holding it at a separate time and via zoom enabled different participation by members. In the past with face to face only, many of our members had been unable to participate due to the costs and logistics of international travel. In the future we believe hybrid options should be the new normal to make the best of both options.



Regional meeting 2021 via Zoom

As this was the first regional meeting since the General meeting there were some changes in personnel with Sriganesh MV from India welcomed as the new Regional Vice-President. We thanked Irene Leung from Hong Kong, China for her work in this role previously. We also acknowledged some changes in our representation on the Ethics Commission with Teoh Ai Hua stepping down and outlined the process for replacing him on this Commission. In January we had completed the process to identify our regional representatives on the newly established Indigenous Commission. Whilst at times the work of all of the Commissions varies considerably and ebbs and flows, it is really great that we have many people from across our region willing to participate in the Commissions and through this to strongly

represent the diversity our region offers to the global work plans of the Commissions.

In addition to the usual reports from office holders, Commission representatives and member countries, we were able to discuss the plans for the regional development fund, update members on the Global Agenda themes and other global changes and developments as well as update everyone on the plans for the Regional Conference being hosted by Australia later in 2021.

The regional executive have also met virtually during this period to attend to any

Regions

IFSW Asia and Pacific

issues requiring attention and maintain our connections.



Regional Executive committee at their August meeting

Regional Conference



On 11 – 13 November our 26th joint regional conference was held virtually, hosted by Australia. Up until earlier this year it had been hoped that we could have held this as a hybrid event but as the ongoing challenges of the global pandemic continued to unfold, the hosts were forced to make the difficult decision to proceed as a fully virtual event.



Lobby area of Conference Virtual platform



Virtual Poster presentations

The overarching theme of the Conference was "Social Work and the sustainable development goals" and recognised the congruency that the United Nations sustainable development goals have with the values of the profession and the importance of the SDG's in the work that social workers undertake with the people and systems we work with.

The subthemes of this event provided 'something for everyone' through the broad array of streams and topics for all social workers across our region including the weaving of Indigenous perspectives throughout the programme. We were treated to great keynote addresses and were most fortunate to be able to have a wonderful mix of regional presentations and some global perspectives in the overall programme. Some of our regional commissions presented during the conference enabling the work of these teams to be profiled within our region.

Regions

IFSW Asia and Pacific



IFSW Asia Pacific Regional representatives for the IFSW Indigenous Commission as one of the Keynotes at the Regional Conference 13 November 2021.

My thanks to the hosts for the huge amount of work that went into hosting this event. In 2023 our next regional conference is scheduled for Iran.

At the time of writing this report the final reports and wrap up of the event have not yet been completed.



IFSW secretary general, Rory Truell promoting the upcoming People's Summit in June 2022 entitled "Co-building a new Eco-Social world"

Activities and Achievements

COVID -19

Arguably the dominant issue nationally, regionally and globally for the past year has been the very difficult and ongoing challenging circumstances social workers across our region and around the globe have faced as we continue to respond to the covid-19 pandemic. Across the region social workers have been at the forefront of the response to the health, social, educational and financial consequences of COVID-19 and the waves and variants of this virus. As a profession we have adapted the ways we work with people who use our services as well as the ways we educate our students and ourselves. Often these have involved the use of virtual technologies and we have become very accustomed to virtual meetings, classes, symposia, conferences and other events. I am sure the continued improvements of virtual platforms and the way we can evolve hybrid models will have an ongoing impact on the future of our profession and the communities we serve. I acknowledge all social workers and social work educators for the way they have continued to find ways of meeting the needs of the people requiring their services to remain so-

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lutions-focussed and find ways to continue their work.

I also acknowledge the multiple ways that across the region and globally the profession has shared their learnings and supported each other to benefit from each others experiences. These have been both formal and informal but have time and time again proven the value of the networking that the IFSW family is able to facilitate.

World Social Work Day

World Social Work Day was celebrated in March with many of our countries extending the celebrations over a longer period. Our Global Agenda Theme "Ubuntu – I am because we are" was extremely well received and promoted across the region. Many members translated the posted into their own language and some adapted the theme to connect with similar principles important to their own culture and context. I was able to connect with many members by sending virtual messages to the various events being held across the region to celebrate this time.

National Events across the region.

Many of our member countries have hosted virtual events to bring the profession

together and provide opportunities for continuing professional development. As time zones and other commitments have allowed I have been able to join some of these and for others I have been able to send message. Some of these have included Iran hosting their 3rd International Conference entitled "Social work, social observation and social solidarity" in March, and Singapore hosting their conference entitled "Building resilience and Overcoming Challenges in the face of Covid 19".

In July the China Association of Social Workers marked their 30 Year Anniversary. Unfortunately their plans for celebration were postponed due to severe flooding and the ongoing impacts of COVID. However it was great to note this milestone and send our best wishes to our colleagues in China.

In September the 3rd International forum entitled "Consolidation of CBR structures in Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan and further professionalization of training in social work using the community-based rehabilitation approach" enabled delegates to explore this aspect of our work. In October, the Philippines hosted their National Forum virtually enti-

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tled "Social Work in the Midst and Beyond the Pandemic: Pains and Gains".

I commend member Associations on these and the many other national gatherings that have been convened throughout the year to support the profession and maintain the linkages across their members in what has been another challenging year.

Planned Activities and Events

In January of next year Japan will host a seminar entitled "Social Action on the International Stage" with Priska Fleischlin as keynote speaker.

In February we will combine our Delegates meeting with a workshop to promote the revised Global Education Standards.

We also look forward to joining the IFSW General Meeting in May and the Global Summit in June.

Thank you!

Finally on behalf of the Asia Pacific Region, may we take this opportunity to sincerely thank our Global President Silvana Martinez and the IFSW Secretary General, Rory Truell for their leadership of IFSW through these unprecedented times. Despite the many challenges we have all faced, IFSW has gone from strength to strength and is now more widely recognised as a key stakeholder in many international forums. Also a huge thanks to all the team in the Global office for all that they do to keep the IFSW family connected and make the organisation function effectively and efficiently.

News and Statements

Please [click here](#) to read the latest news and statements of the IFSW Africa Region

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IFSW Europe



Members

Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Faroe Island, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kosovo, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom.

New member(s): none

The following countries are not active yet in the IFSW European activities: Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia republic of North, Monaco, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Ukraine.

Executive

- Ana Radulescu (Romania) – President
- John Brennan (Ireland) – Vice president

Members of the Executive

- Brian Auslander (Israel) – Treasurer
- Josien Hofs (Netherlands)
- Birthe Povlsen (Denmark)
- Rubén Masía Martínez (Spain)

Deputy Members

- Paola Pontarollo (Italy), First Deputy Member
- Fjolla Mucaj (Kosovo), Second Deputy Member

IFSW European Honorary Secretary

- Teodora Dobre (Romania)

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Representatives

- Representative to European Social Platform - **John Brennan** (Ireland)
- Representative to INGO / Council of Europe – **Ruth Allen** (UK)
- European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) – **Graça André** (Portugal)
- European Anti-Poverty Network – **Birthe Povlsen** (Denmark)
- United Nations, Geneva – **Swetha Rao Dhananka** (Switzerland)
- United Nations, Vienna – **Herbert Paulischin** (Austria)
- Eurochild - **Anna Deneher** (Ireland)
- International Psychogeriatric Association (IPA) - **John Brennan** (Ireland)
- IFSW Global Education Commission - **Nicolai Paulsen** (Denmark)
- IFSW Global Ethic Commissions - **Jane Shears** (United Kingdom)
- IFSW Global Human Rights - **Marcin Boryczko** (Poland)
- IFSW Global Indigenous Committee - **Margareta Uttjek** (Sweden)

Regional Conference

Regional Delegates Meeting

IFSW Europe held its Delegates Meeting online, on 8-11 October 2021. Member or-

ganisation from 28 countries were represented.

Regional Conference

The conference took place online, on 11-13 October 2021. <http://ifsw2021.eu/>

Activities and Achievements

In 2020-2021, IFSW Europe had a number of main priorities for actions:

1. Strengthened participation in key EU processes and dialogue with decision-makers

In 2020-2021, IFSW Europe was active in the following groups:

Social Platform Task Force on Social Services Paper: The drafting of the Platform's paper on Social Services, 'Quality Social Services for All', was finalised and was ratified at the Social Platform General Assembly. Given the centrality of social services to social work, we played a strong role in developing this policy paper. It was adopted by the Platform in 2021.

Social Platform Task Force on EU's Long-Term Care Report: The Task Force which was given a very short period to respond the EU Social Protection Committee draft 'Long Term Care Report'. Participated in preparing a Platform response. The SP made a written submission and made an oral presentation following publication of

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the EU Commission's final Report in June 2021.

Social Platform Task Force on Minimum Wages: This Task Force finalised the 'Social Platform position on Adequate Minimum Wages in the European Union' which was ratified earlier this year. Birthe Paulsen (Denmark) led on this topic for IFSW Europe.

IFSW Europe Social Pillar Working Group (WG): Influencing the action-plan on the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights was the core focus during the year. The IFSW Europe Working Group drafted a template for IFSW Europe's national member organisations and this work is on-going. We contributed an IFSW Europe position paper on the EU Commission's EPSR's Action Plan Consultation 'Have your say on reinforcing Social Europe'

2. Continue cooperation with European institutions and networks

We continued our cooperation with European Institutions and Networks. IFSW Europe continue to work with 6 European Institutions and Networks for which we had a team of 12 people from 7 countries.

We also had cooperation with European Social Network and Association of School of Social Workers, as well as with WHO European Center for Primary Health Care (organising an ONLINE Webinar: "Shaping the Future of PHC: What do young professionals have to say? On 23 June 2021).

3. We continue our activity at the IFSW Global

We continued our representation at the global level:

- Education Commission
- Global Human Rights Commission
- Global Permanent Committee on Ethics
- Indigenous Commission

4. Create diverse learning space where we, as the social workers network, become stronger.

Webinars:

- ONLINE MEETING: IFSW Europe - Internal Communication Webinar, 28 April 2021.

Topics:

- EU Commission's Action Plan (AP) - The European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR) - Update on other documents and actions relevant for social workers in Europe
- ONLINE MEETING: Age assessment – tools used by social workers in age determination of unaccompanied migrant children
3th March 2021; Konstantina Kranou (Greece)
- ONLINE MEETING: Adequate Minimum Wages
10th of March 2021; Birthe Povlsen and John Brennan
- ONLINE MEETING: "The Young Social Workers Agenda for the Future of Social Work" March 15, 2021. Moderator:

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Omar Mohamed. Support provided by Herbert Paulischin

- ONLINE MEETING: IFSW European webinar - IFSW Europe work at the Council of Europe's INGO, 25 May 2021. Speakers: Gerhard Ermischer - President of the Council of Europe's INGO; Ruth Allen – IFSW European Representative at Council of Europe's INGO and Member of Conference of INGOs Standing Committee.
The focus of the webinar:
 - social workers contribution to the decision-making process at the Council of Europe's INGO
 - and to the implementation of Council of Europe's INGO programmes thus ensuring their relevance to social workers and social services.
- ONLINE MEETING: Helping each other in a populist political environment 29 June 2021.
Gerry Nosowska (UK); David Jones (UK).

5. Communications - We promoted the diverse work of our members through events celebrated Work Social Work Day 2021

- WSWD 2021: 16th March 2021: Ubuntu: I am Because We are – Strengthening Social Solidarity and Global Connectedness
- About WSWD 2022: 15th March 2022: Ubuntu: I am Because We are –

Strengthening Social Solidarity and Global Connectedness

- At the European level, we celebrated in 2021, together with the partners: WEBINAR: "TIME TO DELIVER ON SOCIAL EUROPE!" 18 MARCH 2021, Social Platform
- WEBINAR: Impact of COVID-19 on the mental health of Professional Care Workers and strategies to address these needs, International Psychogeriatric Association (IPA) and Global Ageing Network, 11 March 2021
- WEBINAR: "THE YOUNG SOCIAL WORKERS AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE OF SOCIAL WORK", 15 March 2021
- Europe was extremely active with almost all countries organizing their own event. The Executive members has been invited to participate in national events. Due to COVID, these activities could take part online. Nevertheless, the existing restrictions on traveling could not stop us to meet around the continent, to share our experiences and to support each other.

6. Continue our projects at the European level

IFSW Europe is running 3 projects funded by IFSW Global:

1. IFSW European Project 2018-2021 – European Pillar of Social Rights

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2. IFSW European Project – A Social Europe Is Possible! The New Generation of Social Workers
3. Identify the threats to human rights in relation to the delivery of social services during the covid-19 pandemic and social workers response (2022-2024)

7. Publications

IFSW EUROPE POSITION PAPER ON THE EUROPEAN PILLAR OF SOCIAL RIGHTS' ACTION PLAN

<https://www.ifsw.org/ifsw-europe-position-paper-on-the-european-pillar-of-social-rights-action-plan/>

Planned Activities and Events

The priorities for 2021-2022:

1. COMMUNICATION

1.1. Increase Online Visibility - Knowledge sharing – organise webinars and publish about the activities of our member organisation

1.2. Increase Internal Communications - Increase the contribution of member organization to the activity of IFSW Europe Representatives;

1.3. Increase communication with IFSW Europe partners - Ensure continuity between IFSW Representatives and our partners;

2. FINANCE

- 2.1. Prepare applications for external funds and access external resources for specific activities;
- 2.2. Ensure efficient management of IFSW Europe finances;

3. MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- 3.1. Support member organizations to develop more active arrangements for mutual support and development, such as monthly webinars for our members to facilitate sharing and learning;
- 3.2. Develop social work professional networks for peer support and learning;

4. IFSW EUROPEAN CONFERENCE

- 4.1. Provide the necessary support to members for organizing IFSW conferences in 2023.

5. IFSW Representatives

- 5.1. Engage social workers in the work of IFSW Europe and to represent us in contact with our partners;
- 5.2. Ensure coordination between the IFSW Europe agenda and the activities of IFSW Europe representatives. To help achieve this aim, set up a facility via the Executive Committee for all Representatives to meet periodically to coordinate activities and plans.

6. NETWORKING AND LOBBYING

- 6.1. Engage with EU institutions (including the EU Commission and Parliament), UN, Council of Europe and the other networks

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in Europe to further the voice of social work;

7. THE SOCIAL WORK DAY 2022

7.1. Create and promote all over Europe common key messages within the Global Agenda theme of 2022;

8. RELATIONS WITH IFSW GLOBAL

8.1. Ensure IFSW Europe representation to the IFSW Global Commissions;

8.2. Contribute to the Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development process

8.3. Engage in the Eco-social Summit

9. POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL ACTIONS

9.1. Develop policy statements that reflect the priorities of IFSW Europe member organisations;

9.2. Develop IFSW Europe documentation/information packs on the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights to support member organisations in advocating for its full implementation.

9.3. Explore and develop positions on the growth of populism and other threats to human rights for the practice of social work and our role in promoting social justice

9.4. Identify the threats to human rights implicit in some national policies in relation to the delivery of social services during the covid-19 pandemic

9.5. Set up a consultation mechanism to define 'social services' from an IFSW Europe perspective. Definition to be brought to the next Delegates meeting for ratification.

9.6. Participate in the 2022 Poverty Watch Survey coordinated by EAPN

10. ENSURE AN EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF THE PROJECTS

10.1. IFSW European Project (2018) – European Pillar of Social Rights

10.2. IFSW European Project (2020) – A Social Europe is possible! The new generation of social workers

10.3. IFSW European Project (2022) – Identify the threats to human rights in relation to the delivery of social services during the covid-19 pandemic and social workers response

11. NEW PRIORITIES TO TAKE FURTHER

11.1. Green Social Work & Climate Change

11.2. International Collaborative Social Work Learning

11.3 Engage in the IFSW project on working conditions and to disseminate the findings with particular reference to the European context'

IFSW European Delegates Meeting decided that in 2022 we will organise a face-to-

News and Statements

Please [click here](#) to read the latest news and statements of the IFSW Europe Region

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Members

Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Grenada, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Uruguay, Suriname.

New Members: Barbados, Suriname

- **Kenia Batista** – Panama – Ethics and Elections Officer
- **Alicia Yáñez** - Chile – UN Santiago Representative
- **Iván De Jesús** – Puerto Rico – Global Agenda Coordinator
- **Marinilda Rivera** – Puerto Rico – Interim Education Commission
- **Norma Angélica Gómez Ríos** – Mexico – Human Rights Commission

Executive

- **Larry Emil Alicea** – Puerto Rico – President
- **Tania Ramos** – Brazil – Vice President

Representatives

- **Jenny Linares** – Peru – Indigenous Commission

General Meeting

- During the pandemic, the College of Puerto Rico led the organization of more than 100 government organizations and NGOs in the "Task Force Social del Pueblo", stating the need to work on social issues such as food, security,

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protection, domestic violence, education, among others.

- It also continued with the statements linked to organizational support, human rights, social justice, as well as the recognition of social work as an essential profession in the midst of socio-environmental crises.
- The Nicaragua Association promoted the strengthening of union relations in the SICA and Mesoamerican region, in search of the exchange of experiences and the development of specific binational, trinational or regional projects.
- In Mexico, the Federation works towards the national social work law, with the analysis of state laws and the support of IFSW ALC.
- El Salvador Association seeks to finish the Social Work Law project and achieve the approval of the Law.
- The Uruguay Association is teaming up with the University of the Republic - Faculty of Social Sciences/Department of Social Work- to carry out the 23rd Seminar of the Latin American Association for Teaching and Research in Social Work (ALAEITS), Uruguay being the host country.
- In Brazil, the government promotes destruction and the persecution of those who denounce these situations, transferring the burden to the work-

ers. The public University, scientific research, culture, actions in favor of human diversity have been carried out. And the Council fights daily for funds for health, education, social assistance, for guaranteed income, for the right to quarantine, for job protection and security, for housing and job stability.

- The Chile Association is working to achieve the formulation and approval of the Social Work Law.
- The Paraguay Association has made public statements, denouncing the violation of the rights of the indigenous peoples who are being violently expelled from their ancestral territories, by the large landowners, soy farmers and ranchers, protected by the government, who force these communities to move to spaces that are not suitable for their way of life: many of them even moved to the capital just to live in the public squares and beg in the streets. The association installed the commission for indigenous affairs and human rights in the guild.
- The Grenada Association fought for the recognition of social workers as professionals:: the pandemic has shown that it is an essential service, in spite of its limited resources. And there was the implementation of structured policies and procedures, mainly because

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of the increase in the abuse of very young children by men over 50 years of age and older. The Association is currently in the process of developing a code of ethics and also developing closer links with social work education.

- In Costa Rica, the College is discussing the law and the code of ethics.
- The Panama Association is discussing the deprofessionalization of social workers.
- Paraguay is discussing the deprofessionalization and psychologization of social problems. And it is also taking a stand against the expulsion of the people from their land.
- The College of Perú reported deprofessionalization, with social workers being replaced by nurses.

- International Forum on Social Work as an Essential Service in Peru.
- Support to El Salvador in the defense of the professional spaces of Social Work, its surveillance faculties and professional identities within the Social Sciences
- Participation in Forum "Challenges of Social Work in Latin America and the application of the Regulation of Law 6220/19" in Paraguay.
- Support for social workers and the Panamanian Association in their claims in the context of COVID 19.
- Support and participation in the International Conversation in the context of the National Social Work Day in Mexico under the theme Strengthening Human Relations in the Union Organization.
- Participation of the Region in the online forum of the Colombian Federation of Social Workers (FECTS) under the theme: "The union organization in social work and the professional challenges of the 2030 Agenda"
- Participation in the activities to celebrate the Puerto Rico College 80th anniversary.
- Commissioners participated in the 25th anniversary of the Social Work Program at the University of La Guajira.

Activities and Achievements

- Participation in 5 online Global Executive Meetings.
- Hosting online regional meeting with the presence of the country members on July 31st, 2021.
- Participation of the commissions in the meeting.

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- Indigenous Commissioner of the Region participated in the forum: "Ethnic World and cultural relevance of indigenous and agricultural peoples: Latin American and National Context" organized by the Colombian Federation.
- Commissioner participated in the webinar on the "Role of Social Workers in Intervention with Children and Adolescents" organized by the Association of Social Workers of Panama.
- Participation in the forum: The Law of professional practice in the framework of the political ethics project in El Salvador.
- Participation in the Conference of the University of Santo Tomás (Chile) on the 2020-2030 Global Agenda.
- Participation in the XIII National Congress of Social Work, ADASU: Professional regulation is Law. Challenges and Perspectives of Social Work in Uruguay today.
- Participation in the Seminar "Ubuntu: I Am Because We are – Strengthening Social Solidarity and Global Connectedness" with the Association of Social Work in Grenada.
- Participation in the Forum on reparative therapies and children's rights organized by the Network for the Rights of Children and Youth.
- Participation in the Social Work Forum in Panama under the theme "The Con-
- tribution of Social Work to the Population in the face of the Pandemic"
- Participation in El Salvador Congress of Social Work.
- Regional efforts to guarantee the ethical guidelines in the midst of COVID 19.
- Dissemination of the World Health Organization Recognition of Social Work as one of the health professions.
- Participation in global survey regarding working conditions (Dr. Esterla Barreto (PR) and Dr. Tânia Diniz (BR)).
- Celebration of the WSWD with the University of Mar del Plata in Argentina, in the Forum "Ubuntu and the Global Agenda"
- Letters and videos for national social work days and for WSWD.
- Dissemination of countries' activities on World Social Work Day
- Support to our organizations activities for International Women's Strike (8M, March 8th)
- Support and dissemination for the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence.
- Support to Chile in its opposition to the Mental Health Law.
- Call to action in the face of the repression of protests and murders in Colombia.

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- Participation in the Comprehensive Committee for the New CPTSPR bill in Puerto Rico
- IFSW-Latinamerican Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO) agreement

Planned Activities and Events

- Planning of the Regional Meeting in Peru (Regional Fund valid for 2022)
- Preparing for the 2022 General Meeting.
- Forum for the 2022 World Social Work Day.
- Strengthening unions in the development of social work laws in countries where they do not exist.
- Strengthening social work against deprofessionalization and precarious working conditions.
- Developing formal communications with global labor organizations to combat deprofessionalization.
- Influencing the debates of compulsory membership or association in countries where there is none.
- Developing a survey to learn about professional needs in the context of COVID.

- Promoting the visibility of social work in the media.
- Influencing the debates on the Global Agenda and education standards with Epistemologies of the South (Boaventura de Sousa Santos).
- Articulation between associations and academia.
- Promotion of social services as essential services in the countries of the region.
- Achieving memberships in non-affiliated countries.
- Working and lobbying to overcome language barriers in IFSW.
- Technical consulting forum on common issues in regional meeting.

Larry Alicea, IFSW LAC President

Tânia Ramos, IFSW LAC Vice President

News and Statements

Please [click here](#) to read the latest news and statements of the IFSW Latin America and Caribbean Region

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Países Miembros

Argentina, Barbados, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Haití, Grenada, México, Nicaragua, Panamá, Paraguay, Perú, Puerto Rico, República Dominicana, Uruguay, Suriname.

Nuevos miembros: **Barbados, Suriname**

- **Alicia Yáñez** - Chile – Representante en ONU Santiago
- **Iván De Jesús** – Puerto Rico – Coordinador Agenda Global
- **Marinilda Rivera** – Puerto Rico – Comisión Interina Educación
- **Norma Angélica Gómez Ríos** – México - Comisión Derechos Humanos

Mesa Directiva

- **Larry Emil Alicea** – Puerto Rico – Presidente
- **Tania Ramos** – Brasil – Vicepresidenta

Comisionados/as

- **Jenny Linares** – Perú – Pueblos Originarios
- **Kenia Batista** – Panamá – Ética y Oficial de Elecciones

Reunión de delegados

- Durante la pandemia el Colegio de Puerto Rico inició y lideró la organización de más de 100 organizaciones gubernamentales y ONG en lo que llamó el “Task Force Social del Pueblo” denunciando la necesidad de trabajar con los asuntos sociales como alimentación, seguridad, protección, violencias intrafamiliares, educación, entre otras.
- También continuó con los Pronunciamientos alineados al apoyo organizacional y en asuntos de derechos hu-

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manos, justicia social, así como el reconocimiento del trabajo social como esencial para reconocerse como una profesión de respuesta inicial en medio de crisis socioambientales.

- La Asociación, en Nicaragua impulsó el fortalecimiento de las relaciones gremiales en la región SICA y mesoamericana, en búsqueda del intercambio de experiencias y el desarrollo de proyectos específicos binacionales, trinacionales o regionales.
- En México, la Federación trabaja rumbo a la ley nacional de trabajo social, del análisis de las leyes estatales, con el apoyo de la FITS ALC.
- La Asociación en El Salvador busca finalizar el proyecto de Ley de Trabajo Social y lograr la aprobación de la Ley.
- La Asociación en Uruguay está integrando espacios con la Universidad de la República – Facultad de Ciencias Sociales /Departamento de Trabajo Social, conformando el equipo para el encuentro de la ALAEITS que llevará a cabo el 23º Seminario de la Asociación Latinoamericana de Enseñanza e Investigación en Trabajo Social (ALAEITS), siendo Uruguay el país anfitrión.
- En Brasil, el gobierno promueve la destrucción, transfiriendo la carga a los trabajadores y también la persecución de quienes denuncian y protestan por

estas situaciones. La Universidad pública, la investigación científica, la cultura, las acciones a favor de la diversidad humana se han llevado a cabo y la lucha del Consejo es diaria, por fondos para salud, educación, asistencia social, por garantía de ingresos, por el derecho a la cuarentena, por la protección y seguridad laboral, para la vivienda y la estabilidad laboral.

- En Chile, el Colegio está trabajando para lograr la formulación y aprobación de la Ley de Trabajo Social.
- La Asociación, en Paraguay ha realizado comunicados públicos, denunciando la violación de los derechos de los Pueblos Originarios que están siendo expulsados violentamente de sus territorios ancestrales, por los grandes terratenientes, sojeros y ganaderos, que, amparados por el gobierno, obligan a estas comunidades a trasladarse a espacios no adecuados para su forma de vida, incluso muchos de ellos se trasladan a la capital a vivir en las plazas y a mendigar en las calles. Hizo la instalación de la comisión de asuntos indígenas y derechos humanos en el gremio.
- En Granada, la Asociación hizo la lucha por el reconocimiento de los trabajadores sociales como profesionales, a pesar de que la pandemia ha demostrado que es servicio esencial, aunque con recursos limitados. Y hubo la im-

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plementación de políticas y procedimientos estructurados, principalmente porque también hubo un aumento del abuso de niños muy pequeños por hombres mayores de 50 años en adelante. Actualmente, la Asociación está en el proceso de desarrollar un código de ética y también de desarrollar vínculos más estrechos con la educación en trabajo social.

- En Costa Rica, el Colegio está haciendo la discusión de la ley y del código de ética.
- En Panamá, la Asociación está discutiendo la desprofesionalización de los y las trabajadores y trabajadoras sociales.
- Y Paraguay está discutiendo la desprofesionalización y la psicologización de los problemas sociales. Y también está tomando una posición en contra la expulsión de los pueblos de sus tierras.
- El Colegio del Perú hizo el informe de que hay desprofesionalización y están reemplazando trabajadores sociales por enfermeras.

Actividades y logros generales

- Participación en 5 reuniones virtuales del Ejecutivo Global.

- Realización del Encuentro Regional virtual con la presencia de los países miembro en 31/07/2021.
- Participación de las comisiones en la reunión.
- Foro Internacional sobre Trabajo Social como Servicio Esencial en Perú.
- Apoyo a El Salvador en la defensa de los espacios profesionales del Trabajo Social, sus facultades de vigilancia y las identidades profesionales dentro de las Ciencias Sociales
- Participación en Foro: Desafíos del Trabajo Social en América Latina y la aplicación de la Reglamentación de la ley 6220/19 en Paraguay.
- Apoyo a los/as trabajadoras sociales y Asociación Panameña en sus reclamos en el contexto del COVID 19.
- Apoyo y participación en Conversatorio Internacional en el contexto del día Nacional del Trabajo Social en México bajo el tema Fortaleciendo las Relaciones Humanas en la Organización Gremial.
- Participación de la Región en el Foro Virtual de la Federación Colombiana de Trabajadores Sociales FECTS bajo el tema: La organización gremial en trabajo social y los retos profesionales de la agenda 2030.
- Participación en las actividades de celebración del 80 aniversario del Colegio en Puerto Rico.

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- Comisionadas participaron en los 25 años del Programa de Trabajo Social en la Universidad de la Guajira.
- Comisionada Indígena de la Región participó del foro: Mundo Étnico y pertinencia cultural de los pueblos indígenas y agro: Contexto latinoamericano y Nacional organizado por la Federación Colombiana.
- Comisionado participó del Webinar sobre el Rol de los y las trabajadores/ as sociales en la intervención con la niñez y adolescencia organizado por la Asociación de trabajadores sociales de Panamá.
- Participación en el Foro: La Ley del ejercicio profesional en el marco del proyecto ético político en El Salvador.
- Participación en Conferencia de la Universidad de Santo Tomás de Chile sobre la Agenda Global 2020-2030.
- Participación en el XIII Congreso Nacional de Trabajo Social Uruguay ADASU: La reglamentación Profesional es Ley: Desafíos y Perspectivas del Trabajo Social en el Uruguay de hoy.
- Participación en el Seminario "Ubuntu: I Am Because We are – Strengthening Social Solidarity and Global Connectedness" con la Asociación de Trabajo Social en Grenada.
- Participación en el Foro Las terapias reparativas y los derechos de la niñez organizado por la Red por los Derechos de la Niñez y la Juventud.
- Participación en el Foro Trabajo Social en Panamá bajo el tema "El Aporte del Trabajo Social a la Población ante la Pandemia"
- Participación en el Congreso Nacional e internacional de Trabajo Social en El Salvador.
- Trabajo desde la región para garantizar los lineamientos éticos del Covid-19.
- Difusión del Reconocimiento de la Organización Mundial de la Salud al Trabajo Social como una de las profesiones que trabaja en la salud.
- Participación en la entrevista para el estudio sobre condiciones laborales a nivel global (Dra. Esterla Barreto (PR) y Dra. Tânia Diniz (BR)).
- Celebración del Día Mundial con la Universidad del Mar del Plata en Argentina con el Foro: Ubuntu y Agenda Global.
- Cartas y videos para los días nacionales del Trabajo Social y videos para el Día Mundial del Trabajo Social.
- Difusión de actividades de los países en el día mundial del Trabajo Social.
- Apoyo a las actividades del 8m desde nuestras organizaciones.
- Apoyo y divulgación para los 16 días de activismo contra la violencia de género.
- Apoyo a Chile en la oposición a la Ley de Salud Mental.

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FITS Latinoamericana y Caribeña

- Comunicado sobre denuncia y llamado a la acción ante la represión de las protestas y asesinatos en Colombia.
- Participación en el Comité Amplio para el Nuevo proyecto de ley del CPTSPR en Puerto Rico.
- Convenio FITS-CLACSO Región y Mundial.

Actividades y eventos planificados

- Planeamiento del Encuentro Regional en Perú (Fondo Regional vigente para el 2022)
- Preparación para la Asamblea Mundial 2022.
- Foro para el Día Mundial del Trabajo Social 2022.
- Fortalecer los gremios en el desarrollo de leyes del trabajo social en países donde no existen.
- Fortalecer el trabajo social contra la desprofesionalización y la precarización de las condiciones laborales.
- Desarrollar comunicaciones formales con la organización mundial del trabajo para combatir la desprofesionalización.

- Incidir en los debates de la colegiación o asociación compulsoria en países donde no la hay.
- Desarrollo de encuesta para conocer las necesidades profesionales en el contexto del COVID.
- Promover la visibilización del trabajo social en los medios de comunicación.
- Incidir en los debates de la agenda global y los estándares de educación con epistemologías y saberes del sur.
- Fortalecer la articulación entre asociaciones y academia.
- Promoción de los servicios sociales como servicios esenciales en los países de la región.
- Lograr membresías en países no afiliados.
- Trabajo y cabildeo para superar las barreras idiomáticas en la FITS.
- Foro de consultoría técnica en temas comunes en encuentro regional.

Novedades y Declaraciones

Haga [clic aquí](#) para leer las últimas noticias y declaraciones de la Región de América Latina y el Caribe de la FITS

Regions

IFSW North America



Members

Canada, United States of America.

Executive

- **Mildred "Mit" Joyner**, DPS, MSW, LCSW; President, IFSW-North American Region; President, National Association of Social Workers, USA (NASW-USA)
- **Joan Davis-Whelan**, MSW, RSW; Vice President, IFSW-North American Region; President, Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW)

Representatives

Education: **Dr. Gary Bailey** (US), Regional Commissioner

Ethics: **Dawn Hobdy** (US), Global Commissioner; **Kim Strom** (US), Regional Commissioner

Human Rights: **Mark Lusk** (US), Regional Commissioner

Indigenous: **Dr. Hilary Weaver** (US), Inaugural Global Commissioner

United Nations: **Michael Cronin** (US), Regional Commissioner; Representatives (New York) (all US): **Robin Mama**, **Elaine Congress**, **Anne C. Deepak**, **Hannah Burke** (intern), **Shenae Osborn** (intern)

Regions

IFSW North America

We are working to integrate Canada more fully into the commissions and into United Nations (New York) activities.



Dr. Hilary Weaver, IFSW Inaugural Indigenous Global Commissioner

The IFSW North American Region is grateful to all our commissioners and especially pleased to recognize Dr. Hilary Weaver as the new IFSW Inaugural Indigenous Global Commissioner. Dr. Weaver is a Lakota social worker residing in Haudenosaunee Territory in North America near the US-Canada border.

Regional Conference

The North America Region successfully hosted a virtual conference on March 22, 2021: "Ubuntu: Welcome to the Social work Profession." The conference enga-

ged with Social Work Students, New Social Work Professionals, and social workers in both regions.

President Mit Joyner and Vice President Joan Davis-Whelan served as the hosts. The conference attracted hundreds of participants from Canada and the U.S. and other countries. The event was hosted on Facebook Live and received over 4,600 views (as of 11/30/21).

<https://www.facebook.com/naswsocialworkers/videos/281783693558877>



Activities and Achievements

North American Initiatives - Together CASW President Joan Davis-Whelan and NASW President Mit Joyner planned a number of coordinated efforts including our FB live event "IFSW North American Regional Conference". We also met with the IFSW UN colleagues to learn more about their roles and responsibilities. More events collaborations and events are planned in the upcoming year.

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IFSW North America

SUPPORTING SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL WORKERS

CASW Membership. CASW welcomed Ontario Social Workers back to CASW with OASW being a partner, promoting a sense of unity and energy in our membership as we all work together.

National Social Work Month. The CASW National Social Work Month theme "Social Work is Essential" resonated in the everyday efforts by Social Workers, especially as we still cope in a pandemic world. CASW was able to conduct a virtual "Hill Day".



Senator Margaret Dawn Anderson (centre), CASW President Joan Davis-Whelan, Senator Margaret Dawn Anderson, and Senator Nancy Hartling, Senator Wanda Thomas Bernard

With the support of our Social Work Senators Wanda Thomas Bernard, Margaret Dawn Anderson, and Nancy Hartling, two national webinars were delivered that focused on the ideas, peoples and places that have inspired them in their careers – the giants in social work -- as well as the

individuals in our communities that have molded and mentored each Senator's professional paths within the profession. It was a memorable and unique experience for Social Workers across Canada.



Various CASW Members during National Social Work Month

37th Annual Social Work Day at the United Nations (New York): 1,900 social workers from North America participated in the live virtual event on March 16, 2021. Moderator Dr. Robin Mama noted "it was the first time it was possible to be held on the actual day of World Social Work Day." The theme was "Responses to COVID-19: Standing Together Makes Us Stronger". The recorded program (90 minutes) is at <https://www.monmouth.edu/school-of-social-work/student-resources/united-nations/>

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NASW CEO Dr Angelo McClain; Co-Host/Moderator Dr. Robin Mama; IFSW Global President Silvana Martinez

Foreign Social Worker Credentialling Assessment: CASW plays a critical role in assessing, welcoming, and supporting internationally trained social workers. As the national voice for the profession, CASW seeks to welcome and support internationally trained social workers because of

the contribution they make to labour force development, increased diversity, and representation, and enhanced social justice. A multi-year project was concluded this year which reviewed our current credentialling assessment process. CASW is committed to operating a credential assessment service that regulators and others depend on to be efficient, credible, affordable, and fair. The comprehensive review included: jurisdictional review, stakeholder engagement, applicant Interviews and survey, file reviews and review of Social Work Distance Education Programs in Canada and Analysis. Recommendations will enhance and clarify the credentialling process for social work applicants.

The IFSW Occupational/ Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Interest Group was launched this year, spearheaded by pioneering EAP social worker Dr. Dale Masi (US), with the support of Secretary General Dr. Rory Truell.

COVID AND VACCINES: The NASW Foundation and NASW-USA received major funding from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to educate social workers about vaccines and increase vaccine confidence. The goal is to engage the nation's more than 700,000 social workers in boosting COVID-19 vaccine confidence, uptake, and access, particularly among populations with low vacci-

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nation rates and higher vulnerability to severe forms of infection. The initiative is in partnership with the Health Behavior Research and Training Institute (HBRT) at The University of Texas at Austin Steve Hicks School of Social Work. NASW's 55 state/territorial chapters and specialty social work associations will also be engaged.

<https://www.socialworkers.org/News/News-Releases/ID/2359/NASW-Foundation-Partners-with-University-of-Texas-Austin-on-COVID-19-Vaccination-Grant>

Domestic Violence and COVID: NASW CEO Angelo McClain helped promote awareness of the increase in domestic violence during the COVID pandemic. <https://www.socialworkers.org/News/Social-Work-Advocates/2021-October-November/Domestic-Violence-Intensifies-During-COVID-19>

NASW Virtual Forum: Reimagining Social Work in Health”, November 2021. Two-day virtual forum focused on health care social work, equity, and health disparities. The keynote speakers were leading anti-racism expert Dr. Ibram X. Kendi and Deputy Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, Andrea Palm (a social worker). More than 185,000 US social workers work in health.

Legislative and Policy Activities and Victories



January 2021: NASW President Mit Joyner watches the Inauguration of President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris

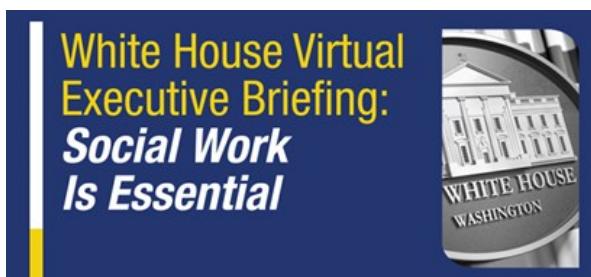
Blueprint of federal policies. NASW outlined 21 issue areas/recommendations for the Biden-Harris Administration, including COVID-19, mental and behavioral health, eliminating systemic racism, and ensuring civil and human rights for all. <https://www.socialworkers.org/Advocacy/Policy-Issues/2021-Blueprint-of-Federal-Social-Policy-Priorities>

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White House Virtual Briefing on Social Work - NASW co-hosted an exclusive executive briefing with the White House which brought together key Biden-Harris Administration officials and social work leaders in July. Administration officials provided updates on their key priorities and successes to date including COVID-19 recovery, vaccine uptake, expanding health and mental health care coverage, plans for climate change and environmental justice, and investing in the nation's infrastructure. Social work leaders outlined key priorities for action, many of which are reflected in the administration's current and planned initiatives and articulated in [NASW's 2021 Blueprint of Federal Social Policy Priorities](#).

Thousands of NASW members and others participated in the special briefing.



NASW President Mit Joyner and NASW CEO Angelo McClain speak with White House Officials at White House Social Work Briefing

CASW applauded the appointment of Canada's first federal Minister of Mental Health and Addictions in October and offered support. <https://www.casw-acts.ca/en/historic-day-canada-new-minister-mental-health-and-addictions>

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IFSW North America

Advocacy on Behalf of Social Workers and Clients: NASW advocated on numerous key issues, including: Student Loan Forgiveness, Mental Health Access, Tele-Mental Health, and Reimbursements. On-going priorities include: Affordable Care Act Integration, Child Welfare, Medicare Reimbursement, Social Worker Safety, Student Loan Forgiveness, and the Social Work Reinvestment Act. More information at <https://www.socialworkers.org/Advocacy/Policy-Issues>

Social Work Policy Statements: NASW published Social Work Speaks, which consists of updated policy statements for 2021-23. The policy statements set the parameters for NASW's positions and actions on a broad range of public policy and professional issues, including rural social work, voter rights and participation, mental health, hospice care, juvenile justice, foster care and adoption, and the rights of indigenous peoples. Social Work Speaks represents the collective thinking of thousands of social workers across all fields of practice. <https://naswpress.org/product/53653/social-work-speaks-12th-edition>

Racial Justice, Social Justice, and Advocacy

CASW has supported policy change and social justice advocacy through our efforts with uBIG (Universal Basic Income Guarantee), Permanent Changes to the Public Service Health Care Plan, and our Brief to the House of Commons' Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights: Bill C-6, an Act to Amend the Criminal Code (conversion therapy). Proudly, this year we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Association of Black Social Workers. This will allow CASW to work jointly on projects.

CASW was invited to submit a Brief to the House of Commons' Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights' Study on Elder Abuse. <https://www.casw-acts.ca/en/brief-house-commons-standing-committee-justice-and-human-rights-study-elder-abuse>

CASW marked the first official National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in Canada on September 30: a day of reflection and mourning – but also of learning, understanding, and the commitment to a better future. CASW was deeply encouraged to see Bill C-5 pass into federal law in June 2021, making September 30th an annual

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IFSW North America

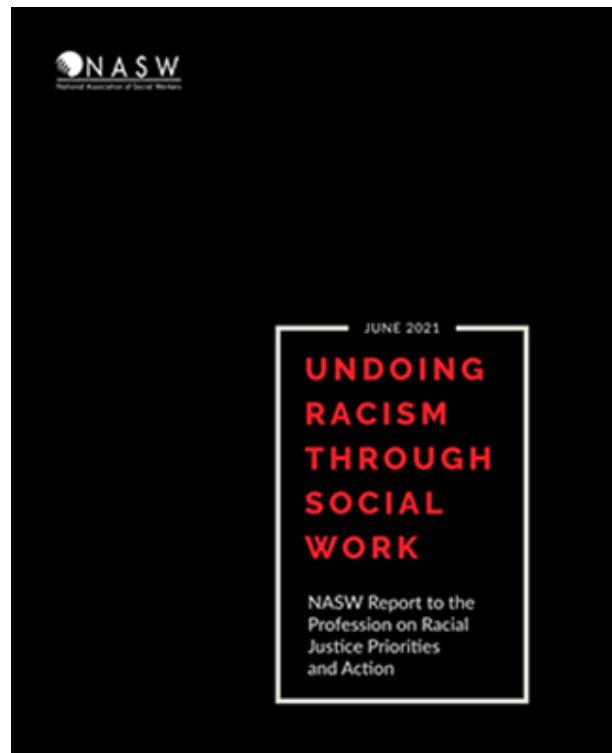
federal statutory holiday. <https://www.casw-acts.ca/en/statement-advance-first-national-day-truth-and-reconciliation-september-30-2021>

NASW continued to make **racial and social justice** a priority in 2021 and in 2022. Key activities included a virtual Townhall series, an apology for supporting policies and activities that harm people of color, and a report on racial justice priorities and action.

NASW Apology: <https://www.socialworkers.org/News/News-Releases/ID/2331/NASW-apologizes-for-racist-practices-in-American-social-work>

Juneteenth became a federal holiday in the U.S. on June 19, 2021. Juneteenth commemorates the emancipation of African-American slaves and celebrates African-American culture.

NASW Report on Racial Justice Priorities and Action: For Juneteenth (June 19), NASW held a Townhall and released the apology and the report "Undoing Racism Through Social Work: NASW Report to the Profession on Racial Justice Priorities and



Action." <https://www.socialworkers.org/Practice/Ethnicity-Race/Racial-Justice/Briefs-and-Reports>

Townhall Series on Racial Equity: NASW's series of Townhalls, which began in 2020, continued throughout 2021. Topics included White Privilege, Abolition, Eradicating AAPI Hate, and Undoing Racism.

<https://www.socialworkers.org/Practice/Ethnicity-Race/Racial-Equity/NASW-Critical-Conversations>

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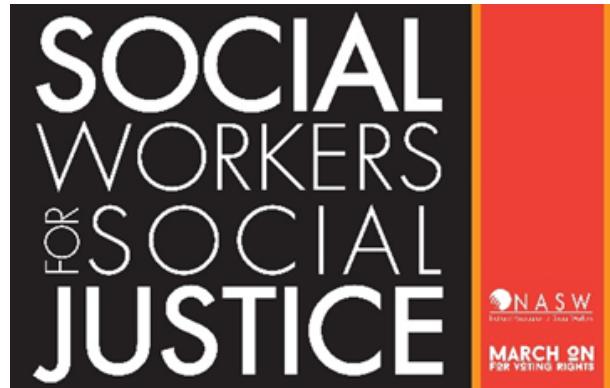
IFSW North America



NASW-USA CEO Dr. Angelo McClain and speakers at the NASW-USA Racial Justice Town-hall June 2021.

March On for Voting Rights: August (Atlanta, Miami, Houston, Phoenix and Washington, D.C.—as well as in other cities across America and virtually). NASW and social workers across the country marched to protect voting rights. Led by President Mit Joyner, NASW participated with other coalitions on the March on Washington on August 28, 2021. Social workers were among the thousands of participants. Here are President Joyner's reflections:

<https://www.socialworkers.org/News/Social-Work-Advocates/2021-October-November/NASW-and-Social-Workers-Marched-to-Protect-Voting-Rights>



President Joyner walked with social work leaders, social workers, and students in Washington, DC.

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IFSW North America



NASW President Mildred C. "Mit" Joyner, and Attorney Ben Crump who represents George Floyd and others who were unjustly murdered attend [#MarchOnforVotingRights](#) in DC.

Women's March – October (Washington, DC and across North America): Led by NASW Vice President Dr. Anthony Estreet, NASW's participation in the Women's March in Washington, DC aligned with the social work profession's fundamental ethical tenet of client self-determination. NASW's social justice focus also includes recognition of the impact of reproductive health issues on trans men and non-binary people, in addition to the impact on women. We view reproductive justice from an intersectional perspective that centers the voices of those disproportionately impacted, especially low-income women of color. Social workers participated at local marches across North America.

<https://www.facebook.com/naswsocialworkers/photos/>



How NASW Leadership Continues to Build an Inclusive Community – "Essential Chats with Mit" (a monthly virtual series) in September 2021 featured NASW President Mit Joyner and two newly appointed board members: Dr. Alice Kay Locklear and Bisrat Abebe discussed Afghanistan, the dark history of Native American Boarding Schools, Voting Rights, Critical Race Theory and Climate Change.

<https://fb.watch/8VpldkYd-8/>



Increased integration of United Nations and International Policies into National Activities: NASW-USA has undertaken governance realignment to create greater linka-

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IFSW North America

ge between the Association's international focus and the United Nations policy direction and also to better include Canada in UN activities. NASW's International Committee has been reinvigorated and will help coordinate in new ways.

IFSW Social Work at the UN Initiative – Monmouth University, USA. Monmouth University will be one of three sites (along with Thailand and Switzerland). The Monmouth program will be led by IFSW Secretary General Dr. Rory Truell and Dr. Robin Mama, Dean, School of Social Work at Monmouth University, and an Advisory Committee comprised of leaders from Canada and the US, including NASW CEO Dr. Angelo McClain.

The Grand Challenges for Social Work released its 5-year Impact Report in January 2021, highlighting accomplishments throughout the initiative and across the U.S. in its first five years of the ten-year initiative. The report acknowledges progress to-date, and goals for the remaining five years.

www.grandchallengesforsocialwork.org/

News and Statements

Please [click here](#) to read the latest news and statements of the IFSW North America Region

Planned Activities and Events

The IFSW North American Region is currently planning a virtual conference for March 29, 2022 - *Creating an Equitable North America: Social Work Honors The Elders and Welcomes New Social Justice Advocates*. The planning committee is excited the IFSW North American Region Conference will honor Indigenous populations.

- Social Work Day at the United Nations (NY) – Spring 2022 (US and Canada)
- IFSW North American Leadership Meetings (US and Canada – Spring and Fall 2022)
- World Social Work Day – March 15, 2022 – will be promoted in Canada and the US
- Social Work Month – March 2022 - will be promoted in Canada and the US. The theme for Social Work Month 2022 is "The Time is Right for Social Work."
- NASW Racial Justice Townhall – Spring 2022.
- NASW National Conference "The Time is Right for Social Work" – Washington, DC (in person and virtual), June 22-25, 2022
- The people's summit "Co-Building a New Eco-Social World: Leaving No One Behind" June 29-July 2: Canada and the US will fully promote and partici-



THE TIME IS RIGHT
FOR SOCIAL WORK

Commissions

Education Commission

The aim of the Education Commission is to create a structure for the transfer of knowledge between social work education and practice where both are informed and learning from one another. The Commission supports social work programmes and educators who experience pressures to make "concessions" on the quality of education to be able to meet the professions international standards.

[Read more about the Education Commission.](#)

Global Standards for Social Work Education

IFSW and IASSW have jointly updated the Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training.
[Read more.](#)

Commissioners

Global



Vasilios Ioakimidis
Global Commissioner

Africa Region



Antoinette Lombard
Regional Commissioner

Asia and Pacific Region



Mariko Kimura
Regional Commissioner

Europe Region



Nicolai Paulsen
Regional Commissioner

Latin America and the Caribbean Region



Marinilda Rivera Díaz
Regional Commissioner

North American Region



Gary Bailey
Regional Commissioner

Commissions

Education Commission

Implementation Strategy for the updated Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training

In 2021, the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) announced and commenced the roll-out of the Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training.

The updated Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training has been a product of the extensive global consultation that lasted for more than 18 months and included a wide range of social work academics, practitioners and experts by experience across 125 countries, represented by 5 Regional Associations and approximately 400 Universities and Further Education Organisations. In addition, members of the joint task force facilitated two international seminars involving service user representatives.

The updated Global Standards were approved by the membership of IFSW and IASSW through the General Meetings/ of the two organisations in the period July-August 2020.

The social work education and practice landscape, has changed significantly since 2004. The adoption of a new Global Definition of Social work in July 2014 and the publication of the updated Global Social Work Statement of Ethical Principles and the new Global Agenda require that the Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training document also reflects broader changes and recent developments in global social work. These developments also include social work's role in supporting bottom up development to meet the aspirations of the SDGs, ensuring countries that are new to social work have global peers to support the advancement of social work education free from colonial influences and creating platforms for Indigenous social workers to shape curricula and relevant courses.



Commissions

Education Commission

IFSW has invited its membership, national associations of social work and social work education providers to work closely towards implementing the new standards. The proposed Implementation and Mobilisation Strategy includes the following stages:

a) Roll-out of the new documentation through a targeted dissemination strategy co-ordinated by IFSW and IASSW regional organisations. All members of both organisations have received the document in early 2021. Relevant and dedicated sections in the websites of IFSW was also developed as per agreed mobilisation strategy.

<https://www.ifsw.org/global-standards-for-social-work-education-and-training/>

b) Translation of the document into a wide range of languages covering the membership of the two organisations. IFSW already took stapes to translate the document into the official languages. In addition, National and Regional Associations were invited to co-ordinate the translation process in their respective constituencies. This can be achieved through the mobilisation and recruitment of volunteers and/or professional translators. The final and official translations are approved by the National Associations and are sent to the Global Education Commission for archiving and monitoring. So far, the Global Standards have been officially translated in the following languages: Spanish, Japanese, Greek, Lithuanian and French. Unofficial translations in several languages are also available. These translations, despite their importance and

usefulness, have not been checked and approved by National Associations yet. We are currently in the process of ensuring that all translations meet the required standards.

c) Knowledge Transfer and further consultation about the implementation process including the pedagogic impact, inclusion of service users and opportunities for amplification and enhancement have also commenced within 2021. Dedicated sessions were organised in most regional conferences. Members of the original task group were invited to present the rationale/ objectives of the news standards. More specifically:

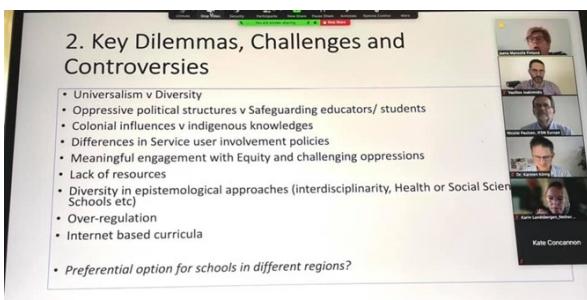
- Nicolai Paulsen and Vasilios Ioakimidis facilitated a symposium on the Global Standards as part of the IFSW-Europe conference (11/10/2021).
- Marinilda Rivera Diaz facilitated and Vasilios Ioakimidis presented as part of the Conference of the Colegio de Profesionales del Trabajo Social De Puerto Rico (12/11/21)
- Marinilda Rivera Diaz also participated as panelist on the seminar "Global Standards for Education in Social Work: Implications for the Curriculum" sponsored by the Puerto Rico National Association of Schools of Social Work (30/4/ 2021)
- Vasilios Ioakimidis co-presented, alongside Panagiotis Pentaris, about the roll-out of Global Standards in a Seminar organised by the University of Greenwich (UK).
- For the purpose of disseminating information about the Global Standard of

Commissions

Education Commission

SW Education, the Asia-Pacific region of IFSW co-organized a symposium alongside the Japanese Academic Society on SW. Mariko Kimura was one of the presenters representing as the IFSW Education Commission Asia Pacific Rep coordinated by Viktor Virag, representing APASWE and JASWE (11/7/2021)

- IFSW in cooperation with APASWE, are also organizing a workshop on social work education. The event is scheduled for February 19, 2022 and having Vasilios loakimidis will deliver a presentation on current updates and future directions.
- Vasilios loakimidis will also be presenting the Implementation Plan in an event organized by the Iranian Association of Social Workers (December 2021)



d) **The Updating of Social Work Curricula** is a complex process defined by the different regulatory and academic frameworks operating in each country. Inevitably the pace of implementing change will vary depending on the aforementioned parameters but the aspiration of the global social work community would be to see a full implementation within a period of two years from (December 2022). For purposes of monitoring and analysis, regional associa-

tions are expected to be collecting relevant information and reporting to the Global Education Commission in six-month intervals. An appropriate data collection pro-forma will be sent to regional associations.

Exploring the Implementation of the Institutional Endorsement Process

As part of the Global Standards roll-out members of the Education Commission



have started exploring the shape and character of an Institutional Endorsement Process. This discussion was triggered by individual Schools of Social Work which requested advice on the application of Global Standards by the Education Commission. To this effect Vasilios loakimidis presented to members of the Education Commission a draft document highlighting the different directions such a process could take. The Commission, in principle, agreed that the Institutional Endorsement Process is an important step forward and requested more time in order to consult

Commissions

Education Commission

with regional members about the specific mechanisms that need to be developed in order to meet the expected workflow.

Vasilios Ioakimidis and Nicolai Paulsen presented the concept of Institutional Endorsement to delegates at the IFSW-Europe conference and received positive feedback. It was noted that the process should retain the balance between being relatively light touch without being simplistic and culturally irrelevant. Feedback from this event will be further analysed by members of the Commission into 2022.

Marinilda Rivera Díaz is working with other two colleagues from the Latina America and the Caribbean region to elaborate a work plan for the implementation of the GS. As part of this process, the "Institutional Endorsement" document and the "GS Endorsement Process" were translated into Spanish version. Both documents are under review for adaptation.

Plans for 2022

As in the previous year, our Commission's main objective for 2022 is to support the implementation of the Federation's vision and key policies for the improvement of Social Work Education globally. The Education Commission has already achieved to become a permanent and inclusive plat-

form for practitioners and educators to work together in order to monitor, explore and intervene in discussions about the nature and development of social work education at a global level.

Therefore, the two main pillars of our work for 2022 will be:

- Continuation of the Global Standards roll-out. Our commission is committed to continue working closely with regional and national associations, as well as universities, in order to support the implementation of Global Standards and eventual update of social work curricula. We aim at ensuring the Standards are translated into key languages across all continents.
- Completion of the "Institutional Endorsement" process. This process will ensure that the Global Standards become a live and dynamic document that impacts positively on the lives of educators, students and users of services.

Furthermore, our commission will be proactive in promoting knowledge and good practice about social work education at global level. This will include the facilitation of seminars, conferences or other events in liaison with national associations and regions.

Vasilios Ioakimidis, On behalf of the IFSW Global Education Commission.

Commissions

Education Commission - Continued

Africa Region Progress Report

IFSW African Region Task group:

- **Antoinette Lombard**, IFSW Africa Representative on Education Commission antoinette.lombard@up.ac.za
- **Noel Muridzo**, IFSW Africa Regional President nmuridzo@gmail.com
- **Joachim Mumba**, Africa Vice Regional President joachim.mumba@ifsw.org
- **Janestic Twikirize**, University of Makerere janestic@gmail.com
- **Varosh Nadesan** (University of Johannesburg), Past President of ASASWEI, vnadesan@uj.ac.za
- **Kgomotso Jongman** (University of Botswana), President of ASSWA, Jomo2016@gmail.com / jongmank@ub.ac.za

Introduction

The task group drafted an action plan with short and long-term goals for the rolling out of the Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training in the Africa region. For 2021, we focused on exploring the alignment of schools of social work with the Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training. It was deliberately not called an evaluation or audit so that

participation was a non-threatening, self-reflection exercise.

Curriculum alignment with Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training

The Task Force developed a five-point scale (1 Strongly Disagree, 2 Disagree, 3 Neutral, 4 Agree, 5 Strongly Agree) to explore the curriculum alignment with the global standards. Four universities volunteered to do the alignment (Zimbabwe, Uganda and two universities from South Africa; one urban- and one rural-based). Universities had to score each standard and provide comments to explain the scores. Submissions were due in August 2021.

The findings were presented at an international online conference (1-3 September 2021), hosted by the Association for South African Social Work Education Institutions (ASASWEI) in collaboration with various stakeholders, including the national Department of Social Development.

IFSW and IASSW shared a two-hour workshop on the Global Standards which was scheduled for Wednesday, 1 September 2021. The programme entailed a brief overview of the Global Standards; an introduction of the work of the IFSW Africa

Commissions

Education Commission - Continued

Region on the Global Standards, and an introduction of the curriculum alignment instrument.

Representatives of the respective universities shared their experiences on the analysis in a panel discussion:

- University of Venda (South Africa): **Lobelo Mogorosi**
- University of Pretoria (South Africa): **Ntembie Bila**
- Makerere University (Uganda): **Hadijah Mwenyango**
- Midland States University (Zimbabwe): **Itai Mafa**

In brief, they were all in agreement that it was a valuable exercise to learn how their curriculums are aligned with the Global Standards and to clearly see where the gaps were. It also gave them the opportunity to explore their universities' collaboration with practitioners which emphasised the co-responsibility of social work educators and practitioners for implementing the Global Standards.

Three respondents commented on the panel's discussions which further enriched the debate. The workshop ended with a reflection on how social work practitioners and educators should collaborate in rolling out the Global Standards.

Way forward for the IFSW African Region

We have consolidated the four universities' analysis into one document; indicating both the scoring and comments of the respective universities on each global standard.

- In 2022 the Task Force will do an in-depth analysis of the consolidated alignment document as well as from the contributions and comments from the workshop to identify the progress and challenges on the Global Standards which will inform the further steps of the action plan for the Africa region.

Antoinette Lombard, IFSW Africa region representative

Commissions

Ethics Commission

The Ethics Commission is responsible for the review of the Statement of Ethical Principles, that every member of IFSW is required to adhere to, in addition to their own Code of Ethics. The Statement presents the basic ethical principles of the social work profession, offers guidance and recommends action when the work presents ethical dilemmas not only for members but for individual social workers in relation to the people with whom they work, colleagues and others in the field.

[Read more about the Ethics Commission.](#)

Commissioners

Global



Dawn Hobdy
Global Commissioner

Asia and Pacific Region



Teoh Ai Hua
Regional Commissioner



Hassan Mousavi Chelak
Regional Commissioner

Latin America and the Caribbean Region



Kenia Batista
Regional Commissioner

Latest Publications

Pandemic ethics: A resource for social work students, educators and practitioners

Practising During Pandemic Conditions: Ethical Guidance For Social Workers

Africa Region



Stephano Akuzike Joseph
Regional Commissioner

Europe Region



Jane Shears
Regional Commissioner

North American Region



Kim Strom
Regional Commissioner

Commissions

Ethics Commission

This report covers the period January 2021 – December 2021.

The report provides a summary of the activities of the Commission and is structured into three sections:

- Activities in 2021
- Workplans for 2022
- Acknowledgements and Changes in Commissioners

Activities 2021

Governance

Global Ethics Commission approved the Codes of Ethics for the Barbados Association of Professional Social Workers; The Association of Social Workers in Gambia and the Suriname Association of Social Workers.

Research

In partnership with the Social Work Ethics Research Group (SWERG) and IFSW central office, members of the Commission carried out a global survey of ethical challenges facing social workers during the early stages of the COVID pandemic .

Publications

A number of publications have been produced as a result of the research activity

including an academic article; reports; practice guide and continuing professional development resources .

Presentations

Members of the Commission participated in a range of presentations including webinars, seminars, IFSW regional conferences and media events, across different stakeholder communities. The Commissioners made use of different digital platforms to carry out sessions to both disseminate to, and learn from social worker practitioners, about how they apply the statements of ethical principles in their work, especially during such challenging times of service delivery .

Workplans for 2022

Commission meetings

The Commission aims to meet quarterly in 2022.

Co-production with colleagues

The Global Ethics Commissioners are eagerly anticipating the opportunities available to continue to work with the SWERG, as well as identifying where activities can be co-produced with other IFSW Commissions. This will be discussed at the next joint meeting on 25.1.22 .

Commissions

Ethics Commission

Research

Building on previous research activity, a draft proposal for a 'phase 2' has been developed and a small amount of funding secured to support a research assistant. The Commissioners are committed to involving practitioners in scientific conversations and practitioner research activity on professional ethics.

Publications

Based on the finding of the research there will be opportunities to develop publications and resources. This may take the form of a research and resource repository on the IFSW website and/or a special edition of the International Journal of Social Work Ethics and Values. Input into the editorial board by IFSW Commissioners will facilitate these discussions.

Presentations

Commissioners will continue to seek out national, regional and global opportunities to disseminate IFSW's and the Commission's work across the social work community.

Acknowledgements and Changes in Commissioners

Commissioners will continue to seek out national, regional and global opportunities to disseminate IFSW's and the Commission's work across the social work community.

Welcome to Stephano Akuzike Joseph (Africa), Yvonne Crichton-Hill (Asia Pacific) and Sukrita Rai (Asia Pacific).

Welcome to Kim Strom, who joins the commission as the North American commissioner. Sincere thanks to Dawn Hobdy for her leadership and commitment to the Commission. She stepped down as Global Commissioner in December 2021.

Hassan Mousavi Chelak (Asia Pacific) and Jane Shears (Europe) will act as Co-Commissioners until a substantive replacement is appointed by the IFSW Executive.

Report prepared on behalf of the Global Ethics Commission by *Jane Shears* and *Hassan Chelak*.

Commissions

Human Rights Commission

Respect for human rights is fundamental to social work and the key motivation behind setting up the Human Rights Commission. The Commission, with its regional representatives, monitors and protects as far as it can the rights of social workers who may be endangered for supporting vulnerable populations or individuals.

[Read more about the Human Rights Commission.](#)

Latest Statements

[Human Rights Day Joint Statement
By IFSW And The WFPNA](#)

[IFSW Rights Commission Highlight
Concerns For LGBTQI People](#)

[IFSW HRC Highlights Concerns On
Increasing Islamophobia](#)

Commissioners

Global



Xanthis Suarez García
Global Commissioner

Africa Region



Adetoun O. Ogedengbe
Regional Commissioner

Asia and Pacific Region



Raed Amira
Regional Commissioner



Luis Arévalo
Regional Commissioner

Europe Region



Marcin Boryczko
Regional Commissioner

Latin America and the Caribbean Region



Norma Angélica Gómez Ríos
Regional Commissioner

North American Region



Mark Lusk
Regional Commissioner

Commissions

Human Rights Commission

Respect for human rights is fundamental for Social Work and for this Human Rights Commission. The Commission, with its regional representatives, supervises and protects, as far as possible, the rights of social workers who may be in danger when supporting vulnerable populations or individuals. The Commission also works to promote human rights around the world, particularly in situations where social workers may already be involved in defending the rights of people facing discrimination or marginalization.

GLOBAL COMMISSIONER

- Xanthis Suárez García (as of June 15, 2021).
- Colleen Lundy (until February 2021)

REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS

- AFRICA: Adetoun Oreoluwa Ogedengbe / Kgomotso Jongman
- ASIA-PACIFIC: Raed Amira / Luis Arévalo
- EUROPE: Marcin Boryczko
- LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN REGION: Norma Angélica Gómez Ríos (as of July 31, 2021)
- NORTH AMERICA: Mark Lusk

GLOBAL CONTEXT AND ACTIONS

In 2021, the IFSW Human Rights Commission developed its work within a complex context of multiple socio-political crises in the different regions of the world, aggravated by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic that has revealed inequities, human rights violations and the appearance of new rights, which demand the attention of those who define and social policies for the populations and, specially, for the sectors with greater insecurity and poverty.

The issues of vulnerability to the pandemic, in terms of biosafety, unequal access to vaccines, ethical dilemmas and defense of professional status and salary, as well as that of migrations and forced displacement, natural disasters, violence against women, children, indigenous populations, afro-descendants and LGBTQIA+ communities, sexual and commercial exploitation, discrimination based on gender; the problems represented by the historical territorial disputes and the new ones generated by geopolitical reasons, nationalisms, democratic weaknesses, corruption and the effects of organized crime, which has promoted multiple forms of action of the populations, workers and social workers.

Commissions

Human Rights Commission

During 2021, IFSW members organized or joined different campaigns: 16 days of activism against Gender Violence, statements regarding the White Paper Report on the Lekki Toll Gate Massacre in Nigeria; the International Human Rights Day, the World Social Work Day (On this date, I - acting still as regional commissioner for Latin America and the Caribbean- issued a video-message); the International Women's Day or the Day of Persons with Disabilities, among others. Both the global commissioner and the regional commissioners participated in activities organized by their national and local associations and / or in regional events.

In 2021, the IFSW Human Rights Commission experienced changes in the positions of Global Commissioner and Regional Commissioner for Latin America and the Caribbean, and held four virtual meetings (January 28, May 25, July 29 and December 6, 2021). As global commissioner, I participated in two remote meetings with the Secretary General and other global commissioners (July 20 and October 5, 2021). The support of the IFSW Secretary General has been vital during this transition period. The global operating regulations of the IFSW, the duties and responsibilities of the Commission, the important dates related to Human Rights have been analyzed, considering the messages emitted by the directive levels and other commissions of the IFSW.

We see with special concern and attention the alarming and continuous increase in

Islamophobia around the world, lately accentuated by the national governments. According to surveys, mistrust towards the Muslim population exceeds 40%/60%. The Commission issued a statement at the beginning of February 2021, condemning all forms of discrimination and persecution against Muslims, asking all organizations and governments to join the fight to put an end to this abhorrent behavior. Particular concern about recent events in Afghanistan is also worth mentioning.

Likewise, the Human Rights Commission released a statement from the Asia Pacific Region, condemning the military coup in Myamar, which occurred on February 1, 2021, when their army took power -after having declared a state of emergency for a year-, arrested Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi and dozens of senior officials of the National League for Democracy (NLD), artists and journalists. IFSW Asia-Pacific expressed support to the courageous people of Myanmar in their fight for democracy, to social work colleagues from Myanmar, and called on all nations for urgent and active support to the transition back to democracy.

The Palestinian-Israel conflict continues to be very sensitive. IFSW has a public position on it, which the Commission took up again in May 2021, in the face of the events that occurred and continue to occur in the area. One of the Federation's regional Human Rights commissioners is directly affected, along with his family, so he and others in the region will continue to

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Human Rights Commission

receive attention and follow-up by the Commission in 2022.

The refugee crisis on the borders of Belarus and Poland has also been the subject of a Human Rights Commission statement, issued on November 16, 2021, by the Europe Region, drawing attention to the violation of human rights and signed conventions -such as the European Convention on Human Rights, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment- by the Polish government.

On February 22, 2021, the IFSW Human Rights Commission issued a statement highlighting its concerns for LGBTQI people, calling on both civil society and representative leaders of all nations to publicly condemn injustices and to be more inclusive.

Human Rights violations due to the excessive use of force in Colombia, despite 30 years of the signing of the Peace Accords, prompted an appeal on the situation from the IFSW President and so the Global Commissioner learned about the positioning of the Colombian Federation of Social Workers.

In Nicaragua, there are compelling reports from the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and other international human rights organizations, which are rejected by the government of Nicaragua.

Members affiliated with IFSW in Latin America and the Caribbean emphasized human rights which are violated as part of the ethical-political exercise of the profession against dictatorships and undemocratic, colonialist and patriarchal governments that do not respect cultural, ethnic and sexual diversity. Latin America did not escape from social outbreaks due to the lack of basic guarantees of rights, dissatisfaction of basic needs for coexistence and human life, a situation aggravated by the pandemic. The migratory caravans are a reflection of the crisis in several countries of the region -mainly in Central America and the Caribbean and Andean countries-, and a constant concern of the Human Rights Commission, since multiple violations of human rights, especially in the cases of unaccompanied migrant children at the US-Mexico borders, have been identified. From the North American Region, they have contributed to preparing a declaration on World Refugee Day and will organize a webinar on migrant children.

The IFSW Human Rights Commission in its complex and arduous mission has begun a process of reviewing what has been done in the last three years: around 35 or more declarations, pronouncements, documents concerning human rights have been issued. Likewise, there are issues in other commissions and estates of the IFSW, which must be reviewed and updated in accordance with the resolutions and recommendations of the last general meeting, held in 2020, taking into account the necessary adjustments that the impact of

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Human Rights Commission

the Covid-19 pandemic and the socio-political contexts that occur in the different regions require.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS PLANNED FOR 2022

The Commission intends to engage in joint work, with a systemic vision, considering that the mandates must be complementary, as well as voluntary, in effective solidarity, growing in training and updating opportunities, in social research and its dissemination, as social workers will always demand more action, more concreteness and better results for the community.

In 2022 we will identify forms and methods, following-up on interventions, with Human Rights becoming the transversal axis and backbone of Social Work. Progress will be made in defining the set of principles, guidelines and elements for timely actions, especially in conflict situations that transcend the powers of the Commission, if they deem it necessary in each of the regions.

It is imperative to generate strategic alliances regarding pronouncements and local, regional and international actions to maintain the strength of the collective work created through axes that allow promoting action to support UBUNTU, I am because we are, the motto adopted this year by the IFSW.

It would be very important to articulate strategic action between the IFSW commissions, with special interest in the United Nations Human Rights Commission, whose work and reports will be held in consideration, as well as the regional commissions of the existing integration bodies. The Commission will continue to carefully analyze the work and reports of the specialized human rights organizations at the United Nations and Inter-American levels and will participate in some of their informational or training activities.

For 2022, the Commission intends to hold at least four ordinary meetings with an informative, organizational, training and positioning and advocacy character on issues within its competence, after conducting a diagnosis on the thematic and organizational positioning of human rights, as well as participating in global and regional IFSW events. In addition, two bilateral meetings a year will be established between the global commissioner and each of the regional commissioners, with the purpose of following up on the specific actions by region and supporting the process of organization and corresponding action of their work to the extent possible and so requested.

In this context of the so-called "triple planetary crisis" -as the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights has called it- the Commission will continue to deepen its analysis and understanding of the participation of Social Work in situations of war and conflict, as well as in post-war and peace-building times, on the impact of cli-

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Human Rights Commission

mate change, pollution and environmental losses for human rights, especially the rights to adequate food, water, education, housing, health and development.

Discrimination, systemic racism, xenophobia, misogyny, hatred, white supremacy, neo-Nazi ideologies, modern slavery and other human rights violations will remain in the focus of the Commission's attention along with the impact of COVID-19 and its variants.

In 2022, the Commission will promote at least one virtual global human rights event and will support the organization of programs and events to promote awareness of human rights; promote bi-regional and inter-institutional collaboration between IFSW members and other organizations, with the aim of effectively handling cases and / or finding an echo in complaints of human rights violations. For this, it will be necessary to create and strengthen the capacities of the Commissioners and those in charge of Human Rights in each of the six geopolitical

zones, promoting and developing virtual and face-to-face training activities.

In the year 2022, new declarations will be issued on the topics that concern us and others, such as migration and forced displacement. It will be of special relevance to document violations of human rights of workers and social workers, individually and in their organizations, as well as the situation of retired professionals.

The Commission will pay attention to the working conditions of a significant sample of the unions, taking into account that there are signs of deprofessionalization in some countries and sectors. It would be necessary for the fulfillment of these purposes to hold exchanges with Schools of Social Work and other related entities.

Comisión de Derechos Humanos

El respeto de los derechos humanos es fundamental para el trabajo social y la motivación clave detrás de la creación de la Comisión de Derechos Humanos. La Comisión, con sus representantes regionales, supervisa y protege en la medida de lo posible, los derechos de los trabajadores sociales que pueden estar en peligro por apoyar a poblaciones o personas vulnerables. La Comisión también se ocupa de promover los derechos humanos en todo el mundo, en particular en situaciones en las que los trabajadores sociales ya pueden estar involucrados defendiendo los derechos de las personas que se enfrentan a la discriminación o la marginación.

Comisionada global

- **Xanthis Suárez García** (A partir del 15 de junio 2021)
- **Colleen Lundy** (Hasta febrero 2021)

Comisionados y Comisionadas regionales

- ÁFRICA: **Adetoun Oreoluwa Ogedengbe / Kgomotso Jongman**
- ASIA-PACÍFICO: **Raed Amira / Luis Arévalo**
- EUROPA: **Marcin Boryczko**
- AMÉRICA LATINA Y CARIBE: **Norma Angélica Gómez Ríos** (A partir del 31 de julio 2021)
- AMÉRICA DEL NORTE: **Mark Lusk**

CONTEXTO GLOBAL Y ACCIONES 2021

La Comisión de Derechos Humanos de la IFSW/FITS, durante el año 2021, desarrolló su labor en un complejo contexto de múltiples crisis socio-políticas en las distintas regiones del mundo, agravadas por el impacto de la pandemia del Covid-19 que ha develado las inequidades, violaciones a los derechos humanos y la aparición de nuevos derechos, que demandan de la atención tanto de quiénes definen como de quienes ejecutan políticas sociales y de protección a las poblaciones y sobre todo, a los sectores con mayores grados de inseguridad y pobreza.

Han marcado la atención e interés de las asociaciones y organizaciones afiliadas a la IFSW, los temas de la vulnerabilidad ante la pandemia, tanto a nivel de bioseguridad, acceso desigual a las vacunas, dilemas éticos y de defensa del estatus profesional y salarial, así como el de las migraciones y desplazamientos forzados, los desastres naturales, la violencia contra la mujer, la niñez y otros sectores como las poblaciones indígenas, afrodescendientes y la diversidad sexual, así como las consecuencias de las explotaciones sexuales y comerciales, discriminaciones por razones de género; los problemas que representan las disputas territoriales históricas y los nuevos generados por razones geopolíticas, nacionalismos, fragilid-

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Comisión de Derechos Humanos

ades democráticas, corrupción y efectos del crimen organizado con todas sus manifestaciones, en mayor o menor medida según las regiones y países, lo que ha impulsado múltiples formas de acción de las poblaciones y movilizaciones a trabajadoras y trabajadores sociales, a sumarse a las diversas manifestaciones de protesta y/o rechazo que lesionaron y lesionan, los consagrados derechos humanos.

Durante el 2021, miembros de la IFSW/FITS, organizaron o se sumaron a distintas campañas propias o en alianza con otros sectores, por ejemplo, a los 16 días de activismo contra la Violencia de Género, o en caso de África, que apoyaron notas de prensa acerca del Informe del Libro Blanco sobre la masacre de la puerta de peaje de Lekki en Nigeria; tuvieron amplia participación en la conmemoración del Día Internacional de los Derechos Humanos y otras fechas en las que el tema estuvo presente como en el Día Mundial del Trabajo Social, en que la Comisionada Global, en esa fecha aún, Comisionada para América Latina y el Caribe, emitió un video-mensaje con tal motivo; el Día Internacional de la Mujer o el Día de las Personas con Discapacidad. Tanto la Comisionada Global como los Comisionados y Comisionadas Regionales, participaron en actividades virtuales y en otros casos, presenciales, organizadas por sus asociaciones nacionales y locales y/o en eventos regionales.

La Comisión Global de Derechos Humanos IFSW/FITS, durante 2021, experimentó

cambios a mitad del año, en los cargos de Comisionada Global y Comisionada Regional para América Latina y Caribe; realizó cuatro reuniones virtuales (28 enero, 25 de mayo, 29 de julio y 6 de diciembre 2021) y a nivel de su Comisionada Global, participó de dos reuniones remotas con el Secretario General y otros comisionados globales (20 julio y 5 octubre 2021). Durante el período, de transición ha sido vital el apoyo del Secretario General de la IFSW/FITS a la Comisión, se ha analizado normativas de funcionamiento global de la IFSW y revisado los deberes y responsabilidades de la Comisión, así como también, se han tenido presente, fechas importantes relacionadas a los derechos humanos tanto mundiales como internacionales y considerado los mensajes globales emitidos por los niveles directivos y otras comisiones de la IFSW/FITS.

De preocupación y atención especial es el alarmante y continuo aumento de la islamofobia en todo el mundo, que últimamente los gobiernos nacionales están acentuando y según encuestas, los índices de la desconfianza hacia la población musulmana, sobrepasa el 40%-60%. La Comisión emitió un pronunciamiento a inicios de febrero 2021, en el que expresa su condena a todas las formas de discriminación y persecución contra los musulmanes y pide que todas las organizaciones y gobiernos del mundo, se unan a la lucha para poner fin a este comportamiento abominable. Cabe mencionar la preocupación especial por los acontecimientos últimos en Afganistán.

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Comisión de Derechos Humanos

Asimismo, la Comisión de Derechos Humanos, a través de una declaración desde la Región Asia Pacífico, condenó el golpe militar en Myamar, sucedido el 1º de febrero 2021, en que el ejército de dicho país, tomó el poder declarando el estado de emergencia por un año, arrestó a la Nobel de la Paz, Aung San Suu Kyi y a decenas de altos funcionarios de la Liga Nacional para la Democracia (NLD), a artistas y periodistas. IFSW Asia-Pacific, expresó apoyo al valiente pueblo de Myanmar en su lucha por la democracia, a colegas de trabajo social de Myanmar y, pidió a todas las naciones apoyo urgente y activo para la transición de regreso a la democracia a dicho país.

Muy sensible sigue siendo el conflicto Palestina-Israel, sobre el que la IFSW/FITS tiene una posición pública, y qué en mayo 2021, la Comisión retomó ante los acontecimientos ocurridos y que siguen ocurriendo en la zona. Inclusive, uno de los Comisionados Regionales de Derechos Humanos de la federación, está siendo afectado directamente junto a su familia, por lo que seguirá siendo este y otros en la región, de atención y seguimiento por parte de la Comisión en el 2022.

La crisis de refugiados en las fronteras de Bielorusia y Polonia, también ha sido motivo de una declaración especial de la Comisión de Derechos Humanos, Región Europa, emitida el 16 de noviembre 2021, la que llama la atención sobre la violación a los derechos humanos y convenciones firmadas por el gobierno polaco, como lo

son la Convención Europea de Derechos Humanos, la Convención de Naciones Unidas sobre los Derechos del Niño y la Convención contra la Tortura y Otros Tratos o Penas Crueles, Inhumanos o Degradantes.

En otro orden, la Comisión de Derechos de la IFSW, en declaración emitida el 22 de febrero 2021, destacó sus preocupaciones por las personas LGBTQI, haciendo un llamado tanto a la sociedad civil como a los líderes representativos de todas las naciones, para que se adhieran a estos principios, condene públicamente estas injusticias y se avance de forma más inclusiva.

La situación de violaciones a los Derechos Humanos, por el excesivo uso de la fuerza, en Colombia, está vigente pese a 30 años de la firma de los Acuerdos de Paz, lo que motivó un llamamiento sobre la situación de la Presidenta de la IFSW y luego la Comisionada Global, ha conocido del posicionamiento de la Federación Colombiana de Trabajadores Sociales. Otros acontecimientos de relieve son los que se dan en Nicaragua, sobre lo cual hay informes contundentes de la Alta Comisionada de Derechos Humanos de las Naciones Unidas, de la Comisión Interamericana de Derechos Humanos y otros organismos internacionales de Derechos Humanos, los que son rechazados por el gobierno de Nicaragua.

Miembros afiliados a la IFSW/FITS en América Latina y Caribe, pusieron énfasis en aquellos derechos humanos más vulnerados como parte del ejercicio ético político de la profesión, ante la existencia

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de dictaduras y gobiernos no democráticos, colonialistas y patriarcales poco respetuosos de las diversidades culturales, étnicas y sexualidades y países de la región latinoamericana, no escaparon a estallidos sociales ante la falta de garantías básicas de derechos, insatisfacción de necesidades elementales de convivencia y vida humana, situación agravada por la pandemia. Las caravanas migratorias son un reflejo de la crisis en varios países de la región, principalmente de Centroamérica y Caribe y países andinos, lo que son de preocupación constante de la Comisión de Derechos Humanos ante lo grave en que esto se ha convertido al identificarse múltiples formas de violaciones a los derechos humanos, sobre todo, en los casos de la niñez migrante no acompañada en las fronteras México-EEUU. Desde la Región del Norte de América, se ha contribuido a preparar una declaración sobre el Día Mundial del Refugiado y organizará un webinar sobre la niñez migrante.

La Comisión de Derechos Humanos de la IFSW/FITS en su compleja y ardua misión ha iniciado un proceso de revisión de lo actuado en los últimos tres años en que alrededor de unas 35 o más declaraciones, pronunciamientos, documentos con temas de derechos humanos han sido emitidos desde distintos niveles, igual, que hay temas en otras comisiones y estamentos de la IFSW, que deben ser repasados y actualizados acorde con las resoluciones y recomendaciones de la última

asamblea general, celebrada en el 2020 y tomando en cuenta los ajustes necesarios que obliga el impacto de la pandemia del Covid-19 y los contextos sociopolíticos que acontecen en las distintas regiones.

ACTIVIDADES Y EVENTOS CLAVE PLANIFICADOS PARA 2022

La Comisión se propone establecer el trabajo conjunto, con visión sistémica, considerando que los mandatos además de voluntarios, deben ser complementarios, en solidaridad efectiva, con simultaneidad de acciones que permitan aumentar el impacto que corresponde tener y crecer en las oportunidades de capacitación y actualización, en la investigación social y la difusión de su quehacer, recordando que lo intangible se vuelve adversario del buen propósito frente a la mayoría de trabajadores y trabajadoras sociales, que siempre reclamarán más acción, más concreción y mejores resultados para sí y para la colectividad.

El 2022, será año para identificar, formas y métodos, en que se dará seguimiento y tendrá intervención dada la amplitud que representan los Derechos Humanos, que a su vez se convierten en eje transversal y columna vertebral de nuestro quehacer como profesionales del Trabajo Social. Se avanzará en definir el conjunto de principios, lineamientos y elementos qué, como

Comisión de Derechos Humanos

Comisión, sobre la base de nuestras atribuciones y mandatos, deberán tomarse en cuenta para la actuación oportuna y certeza sobre todo en aquellas situaciones de conflictos que trascienden las atribuciones de la Comisión. Se definirán recomendaciones de pautas de actuación para tener en cuenta al desarrollar acciones en caso consideren necesario en cada una de las regiones y/o recomiendan intervención por parte de la Comisionada Global o autoridades principales.

Ante las realidades vistas, será imperativo generar alianzas estratégicas con respecto a la denuncia, los pronunciamientos y las acciones locales, regionales e internacionales para mantener la fortaleza del trabajo colectivo creado a través de ejes que permitan promover acción en donde se mantenga vigente, el UBUNTU, "el yo soy porque nosotros somos", lema adoptado este año por la IFSW.

Será muy importante, articular la acción estratégica entre las Comisiones globales de Derechos Humanos con la de Educación, Ética e Indígena, y con especial interés con la Comisión de Derechos Humanos de Naciones Unidas, a cuyo trabajo e informes se dará seguimiento, así como a las comisiones regionales de los órganos de integración existentes. La Comisión continuará analizando con atención a los trabajos e informes de los organismos especializados de Derechos Humanos a nivel de Naciones Unidas e Interamericanos y participará de algunas de sus actividades informativas o formativas.

La Comisión se propone para el 2022, realizar al menos cuatro reuniones ordinarias con carácter informativo organizativo, formativo y de posicionamientos e incidencia sobre temas de su competencia, previa realización de un diagnóstico sobre el posicionamiento temático y organizativo de derechos humanos, así como también participará de eventos globales y regionales de la IFSW/FITS. Además, se establecerán dos reuniones bilaterales al año entre Comisionada Global y Comisionados y Comisionadas Regionales con el propósito de dar seguimiento a las acciones específicas por región y apoyar el proceso de organización y acción correspondiente de su quehacer en la medida de lo posible y así sea solicitado.

En este contexto de la llamada "triple crisis planetaria", como le ha denominado la Alta Comisionada de Derechos Humanos de la ONU, la Comisión, seguirá ahondando en su análisis y comprensión sobre la participación del trabajo social en situaciones de guerra y conflictos, así como en tiempos de post guerra y construcción de paz, sobre el impacto del cambio climático, la contaminación y las pérdidas ambientales en los derechos humanos, especialmente en los derechos a la alimentación adecuada, al agua, la educación, la vivienda, a la salud y el desarrollo.

La discriminación, el racismo sistémico, la xenofobia, misoginia, conspiraciones de odio, supremacía blanca, ideologías neonazis, la esclavitud moderna y otras manifestaciones que violentan los derechos

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Comisión de Derechos Humanos

humanos de las poblaciones, permanecerán en el foco de la atención de la Comisión junto al impacto del Covid-19 y sus variantes,

La Comisión impulsará en el 2022 al menos un evento global virtual de derechos humanos y respaldará la organización de programas y eventos para promover la sensibilización sobre los derechos humanos; promover la colaboración birregional e interinstitucional entre los miembros de la IFSW/FITS y otras organizaciones gubernamentales y organismos no gubernamentales, con el objetivo de tramitar eficazmente casos y/o encontrar eco en las denuncias por violaciones a los derechos humanos. Para esto será necesario crear y fortalecer las capacidades de los Comisionados, Comisionadas y encargados de Derechos Humanos en cada una de las seis zonas geopolíticas promoviendo y desarrollando actividades de capacitación y entrenamiento virtual y presencial o modalidad combinada

En el año 2022, se trabajará nuevas declaraciones sobre los temas que nos ocupan y otros sobre las situaciones de Migración y desplazamientos forzados y los que se deriven del diagnóstico a realizar. Relevancia especial, cobrará en el 2022, documentar las violaciones a los derechos humanos de trabajadoras y trabajadores sociales, en lo individual como a sus organizaciones, así como ameritará seguimiento la condición y situación de profesionales ya en retiro por razones de edad o salud.

La Comisión pondrá atención en las condiciones socio-laborales de una significativa muestra del gremio, tomando en cuenta que hay indicios de desprofesionalización en algunos países y sectores; será importante para el cumplimiento de estos propósitos será necesario sostener intercambios con Escuelas de Trabajo Social y otras entidades afines.

Commissions

Indigenous Commission

The aim of the Indigenous Commission is to create a structure for utilization of the indigenous knowledge and skills in service delivery locally and globally...

[Read more about the Indigenous Commission.](#)



Latest News

[IFSW Indigenous Commissioner and Human Rights Commissioner appointed](#)

[IFSW Indigenous Committee builds Framework for the Future](#)

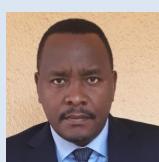
Commissioners

Global



Hilary Weaver
Global Commissioner

Africa Region



Charles Rutikanga
Regional Commissioner

Europe Region



Margaretha Uttjek
Regional Commissioner

Asia and Pacific Region



Caroline Tana-Tepania
Regional Commissioner



Linda Ford
Representative



Dr Ling How Kee
Representative



Yang Jian (Yvonne)
Representative

Latin America and the Caribbean Region



Jenny Linares
Regional Commissioner

North American Region



Hazel Berg
Regional Commissioner

Commissions

Indigenous Commission

The Indigenous Commission was formally launched by IFSW in 2021 after years of advocacy from Indigenous social workers seeking space and voice at a global level within our profession. Appointments to the Indigenous Commission were completed in June. Membership consists of nine members: Hazel Berg (from Canada representing the North American region), How Kee Ling (from Malaysia representing the Asia/Pacific region), Linda Ford (from Australia representing the Asia/Pacific region), Jenny Linares (from Peru representing the South American/Caribbean region), Charles Rutikanga (from Rwanda representing the Africa region), Carole Tana-Tepania (from Aotearoa/New Zealand lead representative for the Asia/Pacific region), Margaretha Uttjek (from Sweden representing the European region), Yvonne/Yangjian (from China representing the Asia/Pacific region), and Hilary Weaver (Global Commissioner).

The first meeting of the Indigenous Commission was held via Skype on August 20, 2021. In addition to members of the Indigenous Commission the meeting was attended by IFSW Secretary General Rory

Truell and Bernard Mayaka of the IFSW Secretariate. They each wished the Commission well in its work. Commissioners took time for introductions and getting to know each other. Establishing these relationships is an important foundation for working effectively as a group.

As a follow up to a discussion from the first meeting, a survey was developed and circulated to identify priorities from each region. Survey results were discussed at the October meeting and Commissioners continue to identify our priorities and how we will work together across regions.

As Global Indigenous Commissioner, Hilary Weaver has participated in quarterly meetings with other Global Commissioners. This provides an opportunity to facilitate collaboration across commissions. It also enables us to learn from and replicate their models, as we see fit. We also recognize that the Indigenous Commission may develop distinct ways of operation based on our values, accountabilities, priorities, and protocols as Indigenous people.

Commissions

Indigenous Commission

Identifying our processes as well as priorities for work is central to our start as a Commission. We are guided by the proverb:



Indeed, this is our time of learning to paddle together.

As we begin our work as a Commission, we have been approached by organizers of regional IFSW conferences to share our voices. Since we as a Commission have just begun our work as a unified entity, Regional Commissioners have provided Indigenous perspectives at conferences. For example, representatives were invited

to speak at the 26th Asia Pacific Regional Conference on November 13th. Carole Tana-Tepania, How Kee Ling, and Linda Ford participated in a keynote panel on the Indigenous Commission and Social Development Goals. Their presentation emphasised the importance of the inclusion of Indigenous participation, knowledge, and practices to create solutions. We look forward to our continued contribution in advancing Indigenous voices and ways of being within IFSW and throughout the regions.

As we look forward to the next year, we will continue to solidify our vision and processes as a united Commission integrating the voices of Indigenous people in the social work profession. We will identify our priorities for work and will take action accordingly. We anticipate collaborating with other Commissions and taking part in events such as the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the North American regional IFSW conference, and the People's Summit on Co-building a New Eco-Social World: Leaving No One Behind.

Hilary N. Weaver, Global Commissioner

Commissions

United Nations Commission

IFSW has been granted Special Consultative Status by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). In addition, IFSW is working with the World Health Organization (WHO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). The commission supports IFSW representatives and IFSW members to act as facilitators and bridging the gaps between community's aspirations and UN agendas. At the same time, the knowledge of the UN's work shall flow back to the IFSW board and the IFSW members with the goal to create a partnership and realising a social change.

[Read more about the UN Commission.](#)

Latest Updates

[The IFSW Statement To The UN 60th Session Of The Commission For Social Development](#)

[New Policy Paper: Social Work And The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#)

[New Social Contract Needed Says UN And Social Work Forum](#)

Commissioners and Representatives

Global



Priska Fleischlin
Global Commissioner

Africa Region



Charles Mbugua
Regional Commissioner

Asia and Pacific Region



W. Kotbungkair
Regional Commissioner



Zhe Wang
Representative



Sup Pyo Kim
Representative



Sebastian Cordoba
Representative

Commissions

United Nations Commission

Asia and Pacific Region (cont.)



Jude Douglas
Representative

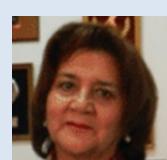


Suresh Pathare
Representative



Hamed Olamaee
Regional Commissioner

LAC Region



Alicia Yanez Merino
Regional Commissioner

Europe Region



Swetha R. Dhananka
Regional Commissioner



Bruno Keel
Representative



Klaus Kühne
Representative



Tobias Roosen
Representative



Pascal Rudin
Representative



Herbert Paulischin
Regional Commissioner

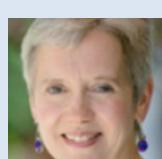


Silvia Franke
Representative

North America Region



Michael Cronin
Regional Commissioner



Robin S. Mama
Representative



Elaine Congress
Representative



Anne C. Deepak
Representative



Evelyn P. Tomaszewski
Representative



Shenae Osborn
Intern

Commissions

United Nations Commission Representatives

- 7 Representatives, UN Office in Bangkok, Thailand
- 5 Representatives, UN Headquarter in Geneva, Switzerland
- 1 Representative, UN Office in Santiago de Chile, Chile
- 1 Representative, UN Headquarter in Nairobi, Kenya
- 5 Representatives (plus 2 Interns), UN Headquarter in New York, USA
- 2 Representatives to the UN Headquarter in Vienna, Austria

A total of 21 Representatives from 12 different countries



Former Intern and now Representative Shena Osborn had already the chance to speak at the UN in New York

General Activities and Achievements

The members of the commission have worked a lot and very professionally on representing Social Work to the UN but also raising awareness on our Commission within the IFSW community.

Here are some of the main areas of work:

Statements

The following statements have been submitted to the UN:

- Statement and speech on the 5th South-East Asia Multi-Stakeholder Forum on the Implementation of Sustainable Development
- Statement on the situation in Afghanistan
- Statement on the convention on the right to development
- Statement on the 66th session Commission on the Status of Women
- Statement on the 60th session of the Commission for Social Development, New York
- Statement on the High Level Political Forum on the SDGs

Commissions

United Nations Commission



The IFSW UN Commission has also finalized a policy paper on '[The Role of Social Work and the United Nations SDGs](#)' which was adopted in March 2021.

Events

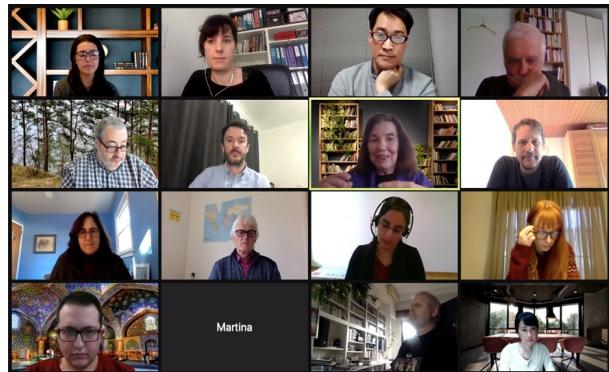
World Social Work Day events have taken place, always in cooperation with UN offices, namely in Bangkok, Geneva and New York.

Furthermore, events have taken place to promote the newly established policy paper on the regional conferences in Asia Pacific, Europe and Africa. In addition, in Asia Pacific, an event has been organised by the regional IFSW UN team on "Social workers, SDGs & the United Nations: Experiences & Reflections of the IFSW Asia Pacific UN Commission".

Besides organizing events, various events have been attended and oral contributions have been made.

Meetings

Several regional meetings have taken place alongside two global meetings, with the whole commission.



Virtual meeting of the Commission

Planned Activities and

Events



In reference to the planned phases for the Commission, we have fully reached phase two and have at times started planning the next phases

ahead of us. In doing so, we will arrange meetings within the Commission and work with the IFSW global board and secretariat. Connecting with UN Agencies and governments is very time consuming; we should therefore look forward to strong partnerships and cooperation with other NGOs.

Governance

Meet the Global Executive

Global



Silvana Martinez
President



Rory Truell
Ex Officio Member



Rose Henderson
Vice President



Victor I. Garcia-Toro
Treasurer

Africa Region



Noel Muridzo
Regional President



Joachim Mumba
Regional Vice President

Asia and Pacific Region



Rose Henderson
Regional President



Sriganesh MV
Regional Vice President

Europe Region



Ana Radulescu
Regional President



John Brennan
Regional Vice President

Latin America and the Caribbean Region



Larry Alicea Rodríguez
Regional President



Tania Maria Ramos
Regional Vice President

North America Region



Mildred Joyner
Regional President



Joan Davis-Whelan
Regional Vice President

Read more about the strategic aims
and the regulations of IFSW:

Constitution: [English](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#)

By-Laws: [English](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#)

Operations

Meet the Secretariat Team

Rory Truell

Secretary-General



rory.truell@ifsw.org

Pascal Rudin

International Operations Manager



pascal.rudin@ifsw.org

Lola Casal

International Relationship Manager



lola.casal@ifsw.org

Bernard Mayaka

Administrator



bernard.mayaka@ifsw.org

Projects and Programs

Climate Justice Program

The IFSW Climate Justice Program (CJP) is for anyone and everyone – social workers, friends, family, colleagues, companies, universities, etc. Please help us share it widely!

Aims of the CJP

Educate — ourselves and others

Advocate — for changes in policies and practices

Be the Change We Wish to See in the World — by reducing our harmful impacts that lead to climate injustices and supporting projects that create local solutions in communities most impacted by climate injustice.

[Read more on the CJP Website](#)

What is climate justice?

The climate crisis is directly connected to human activities and not merely due to normal patterns of nature. For example, people and ecosystems have endured water, land, and air contamination from industrial pollution and toxic agricultural practices, soil erosion, desertification, and species and habitat loss due to extensive deforestation, and an increase in frequency and intensity of disastrous weather patterns, such as typhoons.

IFSW Climate Justice Program



While the climate crisis impacts all of us, those who are marginalized or oppressed are experiencing it to an even greater extent, creating climate injustice for people and our planet. Much of the burden of unsustainable consumption patterns has fallen disproportionately on the most vulnerable people in the world, who typically have the smallest consumption patterns. In addition, these vulnerable people receive fewer of the benefits of the environmental resources. These collective patterns of unsustainable consumption contribute to the climate crisis, making it a global justice issue for people and the planet, this is known as climate injustice.

[**CONTRIBUTE**](#)

Projects and Programs

Final Run: MOOC on Children Moving Alone now Accounting for Covid-19



All around the world, thousands of children are travelling across and between borders as unaccompanied and separated children. Different countries may respond to the needs of these children in different ways, but the concern for children on the move is a global one. More than 20 organisations, including IFSW, ISS, UNICEF, and UNHCR, have come together to design a course for social workers and others concerned with the welfare of children.

The course equipped learners with an understanding of how to discern and respond to the needs, circumstances and wishes of unaccompanied and separated children on the move as well as those at risk of separation. This includes resources and information to support prevention of family/primary caregiver separation; pre-

vention of unnecessary placement of a child in alternative care; and, when such care is necessary, ensuring the availability of suitable alternative care.

Rory Truell, IFSW Secretary-General, highlights the role of Social Workers in this context: «*Children's Rights are universal – they do not stop at borders or in countries of transit and destination. This course really emphasises the key role of social workers in supporting, empowering and protecting children moving alone.*»

Pascal Rudin, IFSW Representative to the United Nations on Children's Rights, has been involved in the production and update of the course. He says «*Over 26,000 participants from more than 140 countries have already learnt how to offer the best possible alternative care, protection and support to the thousands of unaccompanied and separated children on the move. The course has now been adapted to include working in COVID-19 context.*»

Learners were able to share ideas and examples of practice with other learners across the world. To make it widely accessible, the course was free of charge, could be studied on one's own pace and is available in four languages: [Arabic](#), [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#).

The course started 15 February 2021
www.childrenonthemovemooc.com/

Projects and Programs

Global Survey of Working Conditions of Social Workers



The International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) and Bath Spa University Centre for Health and Cognition (in association with Ulster University Social Work Department) are launching the next stage of a long-term global research project shining a light on the everyday working environment of social workers around the world. As the project develops, more research teams will join the partnership.

Working through IFSW member organisations and social media, the full-scale global survey of social workers was launched on 9 December 2021, aiming to produce a report for the Eco-Social Summit in June 2022. It will tell the world about the reality of social work.

The survey uses standardised research tools including: the Management Standards Indicator Tool (measuring 7 areas of the workplace associated with working conditions), and the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (measuring psychological wellbeing). There are also questions about the job: social work pay

and how social work practice could be improved.

Findings from the pilot survey

The pilot study in 2019-2020 received 3,451 complete responses from all across the world – a fantastic response from a pre-covid era! Responses revealed that social workers are not paid fairly when compared with commensurate roles. When asked about the priorities for improvement in social work practice, three main topics were highlighted: firstly, better pay; secondly, more recognition and respect for the role; and thirdly, having clearer laws/legislation.

'From all this research, we can now say with confidence that social workers have some of the most difficult and challenging working environments of any profession', said Professor Jermaine Ravalier, 'which really has a negative impact on the health and wellbeing of very many social workers and undermines their ability to help others'.

All social workers are invited to complete the survey so that the 2021/22 survey can have real global impact – follow the links below.

English ([LINK HERE](#)); French ([LINK HERE](#)); Spanish ([LINK HERE](#)); Polish ([LINK HERE](#)); Latvian ([LINK HERE](#))

Projects and Programs

Establishment of the IFSW Social Work at the United Nations Initiative at Monmouth University

The establishment of the IFSW SW at the UN Initiative fulfills a need to combine international social work experience, networks, and key contacts with the global strategies of the United Nations (UN). This vision has been jointly articulated by Paul Ladd, director of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development: *"Social workers are the frontline community workers on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, active in all regions of the world, expanding opportunities and ensuring that no one is left behind. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will simply not be met without their commitment and support."*

Since the formation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a number of UN agencies are increasingly interested in success models that have been initiated and supported by social work. At the present time, there is no dedicated center that can provide advice and link together the UN or social work bodies that maximizes the opportunities to fulfill the aspirations and objectives of the SDGs. This Initiative will offer a key and high-profile role leading the necessary and essential relationships to achieving the SDGs. An approach of building partnerships between

social workers, allied disciplines, and local communities where there is a development focus, alongside the UN has been evidenced as a key requirement for sustainable development.

The International Federation of Social Workers is a membership organization of social work organizations in 143 countries from every continent of the globe, representing more than 3 million professional social workers. IFSW has had membership as a non-governmental organization with the UN since 1959 and has been granted Special Consultative Status by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the UN and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

"A number of our faculty have been active representatives of the IFSW UN Team in New York for over 20 years," said Robin Mama, dean of the School of Social Work at Monmouth University. *"Our expertise working with the United Nations made the Monmouth University School of Social Work the ideal setting for this innovative center."*

For more information on the IFSW SW at the UN Initiative, please contact Dean Robin Mama, at r mama@monmouth.edu. or go to <https://www.monmouth.edu/ifsw>.

New Policies

Social Work and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were established in 2015. With the 17 goals, the main areas for progress were identified to achieve transformational change in our world. As with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the SDGs have proven difficult to implement and gain traction. Poverty, and all the other interrelated SDGs have made little progress. The situation has worsened and some member states have struggled even more during the current COVID 19 pandemic.

The concern from the Social Work profession is that the agenda of the SDGs may get overridden in the aftermath of the pandemic, and the predicted global economic turmoil, that will significantly impact global governance in the next 5-10 years. Unfortunately, we have to expect a devastating negative impact on people and communities with whom we work together,

and the gap between the very rich and the majority already living in poverty will widen and deepen the existing inequality gap in societies, locally as well as globally. Additionally, the unfair paradox is that those who often suffer the most from global failures, mal-development and negative effects are the ones who usually contribute the least to these societal and ecological ills, and this is known as environmental injustice. This is destabilising for individuals and their communities. Such global challenges underline the need for global transformation.

This paper affirms to

- articulate the support of the UN SDGs by the IFSW
- enunciate the social work professional contribution to the UN SDGs

More Information

[Read the full policy here](#), including background information, implications and sources for further reading .

Publications

Pandemic Ethics: A Resource for Social Work Students, Educators and Practitioners



IFSW has published a new resource comprising vignettes depicting ethical challenges faced by social workers internationally during the Covid-19 pandemic. Each vignette is accompanied by a series of questions that can be used to stimulate reflection by individuals, or by groups in professional supervision/support meetings and education and training contexts. The vignettes are drawn from an international survey on ethical challenges during Covid-19.

Dawn Hobdy, IFSW Global Ethics Commissioner, said: "*This new invaluable resource will help social workers from around the globe to develop their skills in ethical analysis, as well as to gain new*

perspectives on the nature of ethical practice".

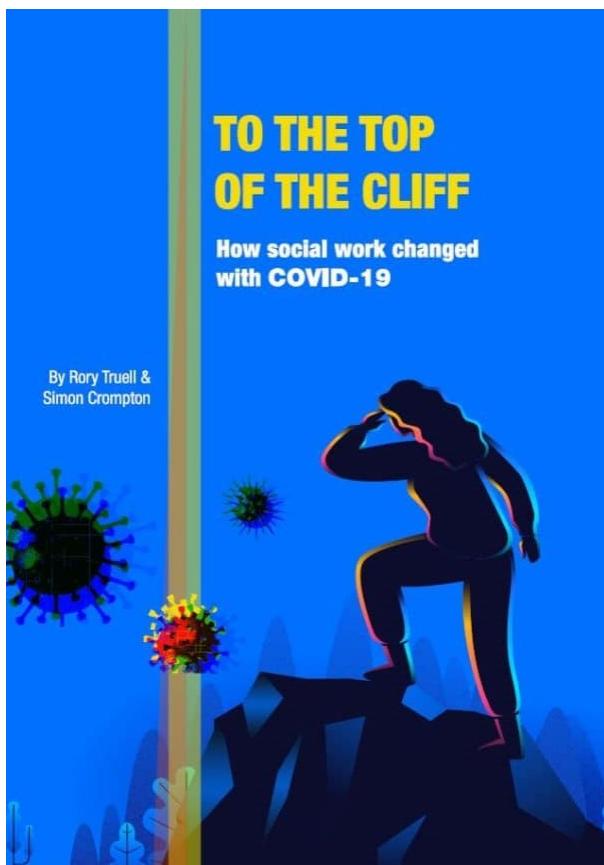
One of the core aims of this booklet is to highlight the value of taking time for slow, reflexive deliberation in contexts where social workers may feel pressure to make quick decisions and take action.

Sarah Banks, who led the research on which this resource is based upon, said: "*We are grateful to all the social workers who responded to the survey, and particularly those whose experiences form the basis of the vignettes. Their contributions make this publication a very topical and practice-relevant resource to social workers around the globe.*"

Download your free copy [here](#).

Publications

To the top of the Cliff: How Social Work Changed With Covid-19



The rise of COVID-19 prompted social workers to be creative, to think of new ways of making their services and values effective. It sparked a culture of transformation in social services, which in turn helped transform lives under the most difficult of circumstances. The old structures could no longer function and this gave social workers a form of liberation. They got back to the roots of social work – going

out into communities and supporting them to help themselves. A powerful analogy was made during the IFSW Conference in July 2020, as social workers reflected on what had happened during the past six months. The old structures had increasingly pushed social work into a crisis management role, picking up the pieces at the bottom of the cliff. Where they always should have been, it was pointed out, was at the top of the cliff, heading off disaster before it happened. This was to be achieved by working through and with communities. The pandemic had revived this kind of community based social work.

The publication serves partly as a historical archive of what has happened. We hope it will also provide inspiration, helping social workers move forward with the new global strategy in mind. It is a first outline of what the new global social work looks like, providing examples and ideas to develop further with the new goals in mind.

The social work profession will have many challenges in advancing this transformational strategy. If the profession acts together, and in partnership with the communities we serve, it will become a reality.

[Download your free copy here.](#)

Hacia la cima del acantilado: Cómo se transformó el Trabajo Social a partir de la COVID-19



La llegada de la pandemia de COVID-19 a principios de 2020 provocó un esfuerzo mundial sin precedentes por parte de los trabajadores y trabajadoras sociales para reorientar los servicios y satisfacer las necesidades de los y las clientes existentes así como de los millones de personas cuyas vidas se vieron afectadas súbitamente por el virus. Este esfuerzo se realizó en circunstancias que, a primera vista, podrían haber parecido imposibles para una profesión que se enorgullece de

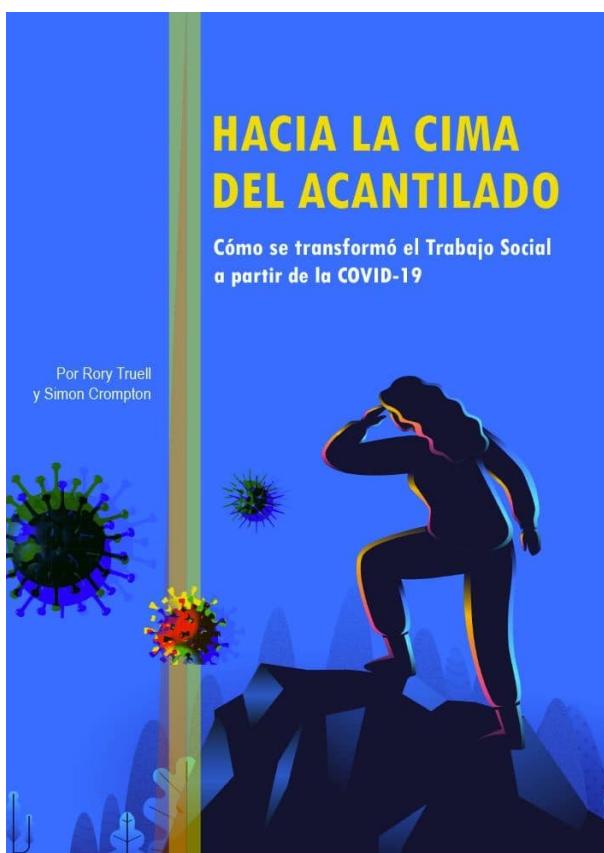
sostener como núcleo el contacto personal y la construcción de relaciones.

Sin embargo, lo que sucedió fue una notable transformación del Trabajo Social. En efecto, la pandemia provocó un cambio que marcó un nuevo rumbo para la profesión. El surgimiento de la COVID-19 impulsó a los trabajadores y trabajadoras sociales a ser creativos, a pensar en nuevas formas de hacer efectivos sus servicios y valores. Desató una cultura de transformación en los servicios sociales, que a su vez ayudó a transformar vidas en las circunstancias más difíciles. Las viejas estructuras ya no podían funcionar y esto dio a los trabajadores y trabajadoras sociales una forma de liberación. Volvieron a las raíces del Trabajo Social: salieron hacia las comunidades y las apoyaron para que se asistieran a sí mismas.

Este cuadernillo traza la transformación continua del Trabajo Social, desde los primeros brotes de COVID-19 en China en enero de 2020 hasta la nueva estrategia global para la profesión acordada en la Conferencia la FITS en julio: un conjunto de prioridades que puso de manifiesto el nuevo sentido de propósito que se desarrolla en el Trabajo Social como resultado de la COVID-19.

[Descargar el libro aquí](#)

Zurück auf die Spitze der Klippe: Wie sich Soziale Arbeit durch COVID-19 veränderte



Das Auftreten der COVID-19-Pandemie Anfang 2020 löste beispiellose globale Bemühungen von Sozialarbeitenden aus, ihre Dienste neu auszurichten - um den Bedürfnissen sowohl von bereits angebundenen Klient*innen als auch von Millionen von Menschen gerecht zu werden, deren Leben durch das Virus plötzlich in Aufruhr geraten war.

Diese Bemühungen fanden unter Umständen statt, die auf den ersten Blick unmöglich erschienen für eine Profession,

die sich röhmt, persönlichen Kontakt und Beziehungsaufbau als Kernaufgaben zu betrachten. Was jedoch geschah, war eine bemerkenswerte Transformation Sozialer Arbeit. Die Pandemie verursachte eine Veränderung, die einen neuen Kurs für die Profession setzte.

Diese Broschüre zeichnet den anhaltenden Wandel Sozialer Arbeit nach, von den ersten Ausbrüchen von COVID-19 in China im Januar 2020 bis zur neuen globalen Strategie für die Profession, die auf der IFSW-Konferenz im Juli 2020 beschlossen wurde - eine Reihe von Prioritäten, die das neue Zielbewußtsein Sozialer Arbeit, welches sich im Lichte von COVID-19 entwickelt hat, manifestieren.

Die Publikation dient zum Teil als historische Betrachtung dessen, was geschehen ist. Wir hoffen, dass sie zudem als Inspiration dient und Sozialarbeitenden dabei hilft, mit der neuen globalen Strategie im Hinterkopf voranzukommen in ihrer Arbeit. Sie ist eine erste Skizze, wie die neue globale Soziale Arbeit aussieht, und bietet Beispiele und Ideen, die mit Blick auf die neuen Ziele weiterentwickelt werden können.

[Buch downloaden](#)

Publications

Call for contributions on “The Ubuntu Practitioner: Social Work Perspectives”

To be published by IFSW in November 2022.

Editors

Bernard Mayaka - IFSW Administrator, Oluwatoni Adeleke – C.E.O Olive Community Development Initiatives, Anstance Fometu – Independent social worker, Prof Revd Adrian van Breda – University of Johannesburg and Rory Truell - IFSW Secretary-General

The International Federation of Social Workers will publish, ‘The Ubuntu Practitioner: Social Work Perspectives’ in November 2022. We are therefore calling for abstracts from authors which to contribute a book chapter. Abstracts need to be received by 15th March 2022 and the full chapter by 30th June 2022.

Ubuntu, an African philosophy has gained momentum in the global arena particularly after being highlighted in the Global Agenda (GA) of the social work profession.

Since launching the GA theme, IFSW social workers all regions of the globe have said their indigenous or traditional approaches are very similar and they too identify as Ubuntu practitioners in many ways.

The book aims to give space to professionals utilising the Ubuntu principles to share their work across the world and contribute to knowledge sharing and professional development. This is in the effort

of contributing to the promotion of indigenisation of the social work profession which is not a new agenda in the post-colonial era, faced with power dynamics and structural dilemmas, this has taken longer than expected.

Timelines

Tentative timeline Invitation (this can be reviewed by the volunteer authors with the editors) -

- January to March 15th, 2022, Abstract submission,
- April to June 2022, chapter submissions
- August 15th, 2022, Review report
- September 20th, 2022, Final submission
- November 2022, Publication of the book

Correspondences

bernard.mayaka@ifsw.org

We are seeking abstracts from all social work fields of practice as well as the stories of people’s own development in becoming an Ubuntu (or equivalent) practitioner. Abstracts and chapters can include case studies, personal narratives, reflections, poems, stories, project outcomes and research.

Publications

International Journal of Social Work

Journal

IASW, ICSW and IFSW jointly own the journal published by Sage: International Social Work. In 2019 the number of submissions increased for the fifth years running, from 159 in 2015 to more than 200 new original submissions. In 2019, the number of original submissions was 211 and the revised submissions was 165.

The rate of acceptance in 2019 was 36% (in 2018 it was 41%).

In 2019, there were 6 issues and there were 10,932 total circulation. 268,907 full-text downloads in 2019 and in 2018 there were 22,739 full-text downloads.

Geographical spread of papers is wide showing the journal has international reach. In 2019 we saw an increase in papers rom Canada, China, Estonia, Hong Kong, Nigeria, Turkey, the UK and the US, but fewer submission from Korea, Norway, and Spain.

In 2019, the number of original choices from practice papers was 40% more than in 2018.

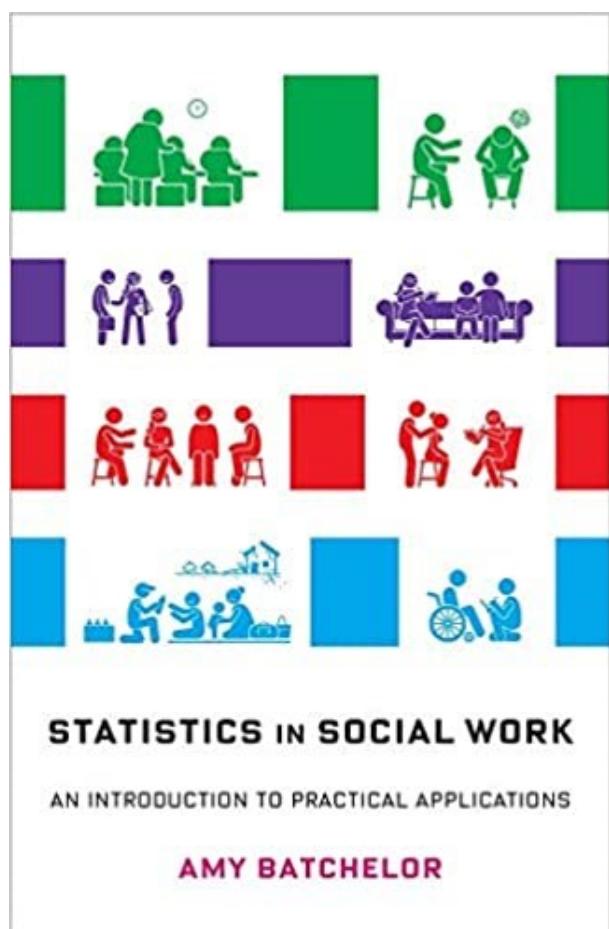
The International Social Work Prize Winner 2019 was "[Social work in East Africa: A mzungu perspective](#) by Helmut Spitzer".

[See more articles with open access.](#)

ISW Book Reviews

A new look book reviews page was launched on our website, people can also do peer reviews. You can find more information on how submit contributions to ISW book reviews [here](#).

Latest book review: [Statistics in Social Work: An Introduction to Practical Application](#)



Publications

International Journal of Social Work Values and Ethics



IFSW is delighted to be the new publisher of the International Journal of Social Work Values and Ethics. Founded in 2004 as the The Journal of Social Work Values and Ethics, the journal aims to examine the ethical and values issues that impact and are interwoven with social work practice, research, and theory development.

Rory Truell, IFSW Secretary-General, said: '*We thank the IJSWVE Board for this new partnership and we look forward to realising our joint vision in growing international dialogue and understanding on social work ethics and values*'. This focus on international dialogue and understanding has now been reflected in the new name: The International Journal of Social Work Values and Ethics.

Pascal Rudin, IFSW International Operations Manager, who oversees the operations of the journal, said: '*The journal addresses ethical and value issues that en-*

compass the full range of social problems and issues that social workers encounter. It provides the necessary historical perspectives on the development of social work values and ethics, as well as present articles providing value and ethical dilemmas stemming from state-of-the-art developments. This has never been more important than in challenging times and environments, including the current pandemic.'

Social work ethics, values and principles have been a constant feature and driving force of our global profession. What has been consistent is our values of recognising each person's humanity equally, understanding that our social relationships shape who we are, that we can also influence those social structures, and that social work is a force for a fairer and more socially just world.

The partnership between the IJSWVE Board and IFSW hopes that this journal provides a place for deepening our understanding of social work ethics and values as we face today's challenges and those of tomorrow. We look forward to your contributions.

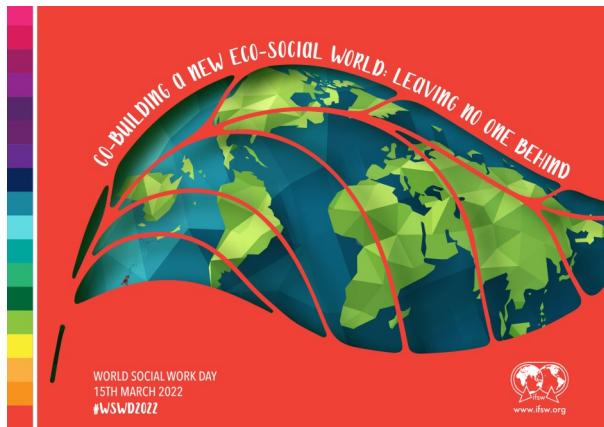
Visit the journal's website: www.jswve.org/

Read the current issue:
www.jswve.org/current-issue/

Events

Upcoming Events

World Social Work Day



The next World Social Work Day takes place on the **15th March 2022**. The theme: 'Co-building a New Eco-Social World: Leaving No One Behind' coincides with the theme of the people's summit that will take place on the 29th June to the 2nd July.

[Read more](#)

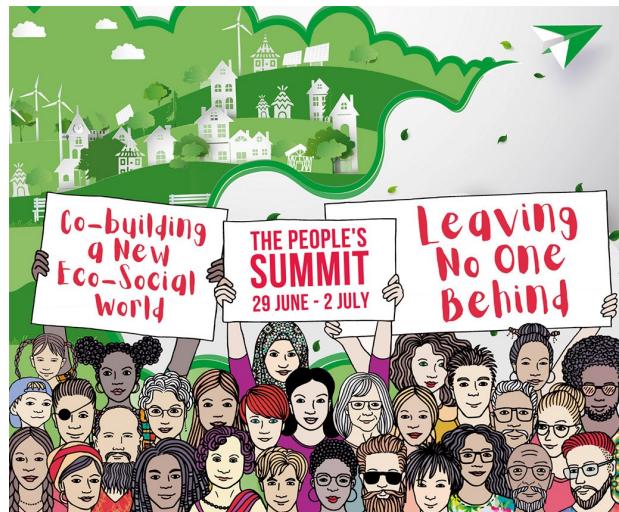
General Meeting

The IFSW 2022 General Meeting (GM) will be held as an online forum on our website on the **14th, 15th and 16th of May**. Details will be published on this page as documents become available.

The IFSW Secretariat hopes that all members organisations will actively participate in the online forum. More information about registering to participate and how the online process will work will be published early in 2022.

[Read more](#)

The People's Global Summit



The summit "Co-building a New Eco-Social World: Leaving No One Behind" will take place from 29th June to 2nd July 2022.

The people's global summit is for everyone. It brings together individuals and communities, people of lived experiences, along with global organisations to co-build a combined global conversation on the creation of globally shared values for a new eco-social world that leaves no one behind.

The vision of this people's global summit emerges from this pandemic, the climatic crisis, and the need to co-build a new eco-social world based on values that shape policies and practices to ensure sustainability and good quality life.

[Read more](#)

Read more about upcoming events here:
<https://www.ifsw.org/events/>

Statistics

Communication

Social networks are an invaluable tool to spread news and advocate for IFSW's mission. IFSW has accounts on Facebook, Twitter, Youtube and Instagram.

Our social media audience is contributing to the wider reach and in profiling the

work of the Federation regionally and internationally and allows us to strengthen the bonds with our members organizations, IFSW friends, and our partners. It also offers the opportunity to interact with our most direct target audience, our future members.



2,845,159

Pagewiews

619,078

Visitors

78

New Posts/Pages



18,665

Followers

17,125

Likes

512

Posts



20,054

Profile visitors

10,453

Followers

205

Tweets



10,668

Likes

2,125

Followers

286

Posts



8,633

Visitors

1,200

Followers

314

Mentions



37,276

Views

14,335

Subscribers

92+

Videos



39,562

Subscribers

117

News Items

52

Issues



216

Total Friends

89

Individual

106

Student



Invitation

Join the People's Global Summit!

**SUBMIT YOUR PRESENTATION FOR
NEWECOSOCIALWORLD - 15TH FEB**

www.newecosocialworld.com
@newecosocialworld @ecosocialworld
new eco-social world
#NewEcoSocialWorld



The people's summit invites everyone to share and advance their ideas and contributions to shape the Global Values Declaration for a new eco-social world. Individuals and community representatives, people of lived experiences, global organisations, students, health, social, education and economic professions, environmental campaigners, trade unions, policy makers, civil rights champions, spiritual and religious networks, and government leaders.

The summit platform provides spaces for engagement and global conversation across cultures, diverse lived experiences, professional groups, and perspectives. Most of the contributions will be pre-recorded as videos, posted on the summit website and listed in the summit proceedings.

Submitting your contribution

A summary of your contribution needs to be submitted for review and acceptance before **15th February 2022**. Summaries will be reviewed and accepted on a rolling basis.

English is the working language of the summit. However, when it is not possible to submit your summary in English, reviewers will use automatic translation. Upon acceptance of your summary, you can prepare the full presentation of your contribution to the summit in any language.

Ways to contribute

People are invited to share values of their communities' programs, social movements, indigenous rituals, culture and knowledge, academic work, personal experiences, etc. in the form of:

- Academic Presentations
- Blogs
- Dances, Songs
- Interviews
- Panel Discussions
- PechaKucha presentations
- Poetry, spoken word
- Posters
- Research Findings
- Storytelling
- Ted Talks style presentation
- Tik tok style video
- Workshops
- Other

For more information, please visit
www.newecosocialworld.com

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Thank you!

Please accept our appreciation of your continuing interest in and contribution to IFSW! Sign up to our newsletter and never miss any IFSW news!

SIGN UP

