



PROFILE AND CURRICULUM VITAE OF NOMINEE

This profile and Curriculum Vitae is an IFSW Bylaws requirement and informs voting members of your experience and abilities for the position. It also provides valuable information for the IFSW office. By completing and signing it you are agreeing to be a nominee for this position. Please ensure that the completed form is no longer than five (5) pages using a Times New Roman 12 font and with margins no smaller than 0.75 cm on each side.

IFSW Position to which you seek nomination

Regional Vice-President for Europe

Candidate's Name and Country

John Brennan, Ireland

Social Work and Other Educational Qualifications (include institution and date)

Certificate of Qualification in Social Work (CQSW), Trinity College Dublin, 1989

Bachelor of Social Studies, Trinity College Dublin, 1989

Bachelor of Arts (Health Management), Institute of Public Administration, Dublin, 1996

Master in Social Science (Social Work), University College Dublin, 2000

Professional Affiliations

The Irish Association of Social Workers (IASW)

CORU Registered Social Worker

Professional Leadership Experience over the past decade

Vice-President, IFSW Europe (2019 – to-date)

Currently an independent social worker

Social Work Manager in acute general hospital in Dublin (2009 – 2013)

National Association and Leadership Experience over the past decade

Vice-Chairperson of the Board of the IASW (2015-2021)

Chairperson of IASW's International Committee (2001-2019)
Chairperson of the IASW's Special Interest Group on Ageing (2004-2014)

Chairperson of the Local Organising Committee, SWSD Conference 2018, Dublin (2014 – 2018)

Community/Volunteer and Leadership Experience over the past decade

Chairperson of the NCPOP's (now NICPOP - National Integrated Care Programme for Older People) Inter-professional Interest Group (2015 – to-date)
IASW Representative on the National Clinical Programme for Older People in Ireland (NCPOP) (2010-2019)
Member of the National Integrated Care of Older People Programme in Ireland (2016 - to-date).

IFSW-Europe Representative to the European Social Platform (2019 – to-date).
IFSW-Europe Elections' Officer (2008-2019)

Member of the IFSW-Europe Team that worked with the European Federation of Nurses on the ICT Development 'ENS4Care' Project (2014-15).

Board member of the International Psychogeriatric Association (2019 – 2021)

Board member of the European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN) Ireland (2019- to-date)

Are you aware of the description, role and responsibilities attached to the position you wish to have within the IFSW Executive?

YES:

If the answer is YES, please respond to the following questions:

a) What are the three most important responsibilities towards IFSW:

To continue to contribute to the development of the IFSW both at a Global level and at a regional level in pursuing its goals of promoting social work, social justice and human rights

- To bring my many years of experience as a social worker within the Irish Association and the IFSW-European Region to the role on the Executive
- To take on tasks/roles as appropriate to help achieve the Executive's agenda.

To continue to actively participate in the work of the IFSW; in particular, in completing the IFSW Executive agenda so as to help ensure that projects are developed and achieved in a timely and effective manner.

To continue to help ensure that the work of IFSW is broadly disseminated amongst member organisations with the aim of supporting real engagement and collaboration with member organisations.

b) What are the three most important responsibilities towards your Region:

To bring the voice of the European region to the global level by acting as a conduit for the dialogue between the Global Executive and the Regional Executive.

To participate in the work of the Regional Executive in building a vibrant regional group of IFSW member organisations and providing opportunities for those organisations to participate meaningfully in the activities of the region. In this regard, it is most important to continue to help member organisations to build strong structures and communication channels in a spirit of collaboration and solidarity.

To help and encourage the building of new; and strengthen existing alliances/relationships with other like-minded agencies/organisations in Europe.

c) **What are the three most important responsibilities towards your national association?**

To continue to be an excellent ambassador for the Irish Association and for social work in Ireland

To continue to enhance the participation of the IASW in international affairs/IFSW activities, particularly through IFSW European regional events

To use the learning from my experiences on the IFSW Global and Regional Executives to enhance the work and profile of the IASW at home in Ireland.

Please demonstrate:

- **Commitment to the goals of IFSW as laid down in the Constitution**

My commitment has been longstanding and today, as IFSW European Vice-President, I see that the work of the IFSW has never been more important given i) Covid-19 and ii) the level of uncertainty; strife; and the political, social and economic difficulties that blight the lives of so many people and communities across the world. 'Leaving No One Behind' is more urgent than ever and IFSW can build on its contribution to ensuring this goal is achieved.

As the current IFSW Europe Vice-President and prior to that role, I have participated in many projects of the IFSW European Regional Executive. The core aims of these projects have been and are based on the need to promote social justice and human rights; fight injustices and inequities and support social workers and IFSW member organisations across Europe.

I believe that my involvement in the IFSW-European Region has supported the building of partnerships and connections (for example, the EU Social Platform, EAPN and more recently, Eurochild), joint action and advocacy work.

If given the opportunity to again be the IFSW European Regional Vice President, I would continue to pursue this effort and bring the experiences from Europe to the global table.

- **Possession of language(s) capabilities (preferably bilingual)**

I only speak English.

- **Identification with the region you represent, mainly by residence, work experiences, and knowledge of the main language(s) spoken in the region**

I have lived and worked all my life in Ireland.

- **Practical wisdom and objective interest in international affairs**

My commitment to my current role as IFSW Europe Vice-President remains strong and the experience gained in this position since 2019 will help me to continue to offer active support to the work of IFSW in Europe and globally

Because of my previous work as the liaison person for the IASW with the IFSW European Region and Global, I have been actively committed to international social work and the work of IFSW since 1991.

- **Willingness and capacity to devote time to assume work responsibilities in the Executive or Regional Committee**

I am a registered independent social worker. This gives me flexibility as to my use of time and as I have mentioned above, I have been (and continue to be) committed to international social work for nearly three decades

- **Ability, in so far as possible, to attend Executive or Regional Committee meetings**

As Regional Vice-President since 2019, I have been able to attend nearly all meetings Executive and Regional and I do not foresee this changing

- **Participation, so far as possible, as delegate of the General Meeting or attendance at IFSW Conferences**

I have attended nearly all the IFSW-Europe Regional Delegates' Meetings since 1991.

I have attended IFSW-Europe conferences in Iceland (2017), Edinburgh (2015), Turkey (2013) and before.

I have attended the IFSW Global Conferences and General Meetings in Seoul (2016), Stockholm and Geneva.

I have participated in the on-line conferences at European and Global levels during these past two years.

- **Any other information relevant to your nomination**

My country has contributed significantly to the IFSW since the foundation of the IASW in 1971. A Global President (Augusta McCabe), a European Regional President (Eilis Walsh) and a IFSW-Europe Executive Member (the late Monica Egan) came from Ireland and made important contributions to international social work. If I am honoured by being re-elected, I would like to continue to have the opportunity to contribute in an enhanced way as a member of the IFSW Regional and Global Executives.

Signature and Date:



7th March 2022