







## **Iran Association of Social Workers**

## A Summary of Actions Done for the World Month of Social Work 2024

## **Preface**

World Social Work Day (WSWD) and the month was celebrated by Iranian social workers just like many other colleagues across the world. The month was remembered in a range of activities and ceremonies in different organizations in order to advertise the theme of the year, to appreciate the states and role of social workers in the welfare system of the country, and to make a scene to express marvelous missions and visions of social work to everybody. Being approximate to the new year social workers in different organizations in all fields commemorate the occasion of SWD to thank their staff in social work departments and generally to everybody who works in the post close to this profession. Iran association of social workers was the core of several programs and involved in many others that parts of them are listed in this report. There were some others that took place without any direct participation of the association but are noted in this report to respect their active presence.

Due to the long holidays of Norooz (Persian New Year) that every year coincides with the WSWD the Association had started the programs earlier before the tempestuous and busy days leading to the new year. To design the programs and any activities for the WSWD we always keep some requirements in mind. It is important for us that:

- Programs appear in both national and local (or provincial) levels
- Encourage all organizations to organize similar events and thank their social workers
- To get international capacities engaged either by inviting prominent scholars or global social work characters to our projects or accept their invitations if it happens.
- Recognize the worth of the media when possible and use their full capacities to let people from all walks hear us.
- Not only work with governmental bodies but also have colleagues from NGOs and educational settings in the programs.
- Be as much diverse as possible

So, herewith, we thank everybody who helped us to hold all these celebrations or all of those who celebrate this day in any method within the country.

## List of actions:

To translate the WSWD 2024 of IFSW and distribute it in the widest way possible. The poster was translated immediately after the release on the federation's website. The translation version was sent to various places alongside trending virtually and widely. The poster in any versions were directly applied or inspired by many future posters related to the WSWD events. The translation was sent back to the IFSW, as well.



Along with that, the theme of the year was analyzed and introduced in a range of areas. National TV and Radio, the association's website, different groups and channels in social media such as Telegram, Instagram or internal platforms. This was also discussed in seminars and meetings among social workers and while we were invited as guests.

Example 1: BUEN VIVIR is unveiled as the World Social Work Day 2024



Example2: IFSW ethics commissioner in an interview with JameJamOnline.ir: "Selecting Federation of Social Workers' 2024 theme"



o Holding the conference of national social work day. The title of the conference was inspired by the global theme: social work and mediation: changes towards a more peaceful future). The conference

was widely reflected in the media and covered by different means across Tehran



The 38<sup>th</sup> national conference of social work was run while 36 national and international bodies in related fields contributed. There were several prominent lecturers to give speeches on the main theme of the program; social work and

mediation. From the international part we had following speakers virtually by prerecorded speeches:

- o Joachim Mumba, IFSW's president
- o Machikko O'harra, IFSW's regional president in Asia-Pacific
- o Pascal Rudin, IFSW's acting CEO
- o *Prof. Edward Kruk*, Professor of social work from University of British Colombia and the president of international council on shared parenting And in local part:
  - o Ali Kazemi, deputy of ministry of Justice
  - o Gholamabbas Torki, deputy of prosecutor-General of Iran
  - o Hosein Khodaveisi, deputy of Imam Khomeini Relief Foundation
  - o Mohammad Jamaloo, Deputy of Drug Control Headquarter
  - o *Abbasali Yazdani*, member of the board of directors of IrASW and Hassan Mousavi Chelak were also other speakers of the program talked about the national and global theme of the year.



An eight-member panel was the final section of the scientific part of the program through which a mediation, a combination of academic and field experts argued capacities and challenges for social workers to work on mediation and peace in current and future Iran.

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In the oath-taking ceremony, as a symbolic but important and exciting section of the conference, 25 graduates went to the scene to recite the social work oath to promise their commitment to the values and principles of the profession.



Finally, a number of social workers were handed appreciation letters

as representatives of distinguished colleagues of different organizations.

The program was closed by half of hour of live folk music by Shooka group and the collective picture.









- A scientific conference took place in **Mazandaran** province with cooperation with related local organizations



- Organizing a gathering in **Ghazvin** provincial office for this day



Organizing a gathering in **Lorestan** provincial office for this day



Organizing a gathering in Yazd provincial office for this day



Organizing a gathering in **Isfahan** provincial office for this day





The same event was held in Iran Medical university

A scientific discussion was organized by Tehran University on "social work and health of academic society (policies, approaches, and programs)



- WSWD was remembered by the Martyr Foundation in Mashhad city in a national level in which social workers and related managers got together. IrASW's president was the special invitee of this event.



Preparing a note by the president of the Association with regard to the WSWD to be disseminate through the web. This note was emailed to the IFSW and several national associations too. Here is the note:

"Peace" will be the common need of the global community for transformative changes. Greetings to all of you, committed social workers!

Our world is with wars and violence, so peace is the common need of our societies. Hopefully competitions and fights be turned into cooperation. We, social workers, are among the specialists who can be effective in peace building due to our various skills such as mediation, crisis intervention, resilience, communication and dialogue.

With gaining participation of people and all stakeholders e.g. government, educational and cultural entities, public and civil societies, media and international bodies, we make peace. We are the ones who reduce discrimination, promote human rights, reduce government costs and helping people with all their differences to live peacefully and in happiness with each other.

We can see the existing threats such as poverty, discrimination and unusual development of military powers and acts of violence against weak countries and people, inequality, ignoring the human rights, etc. and plan with appropriate measures to turn them into opportunities. Promotion and enhancing education are one of our most important tools to promote the culture of peace in our world. In the end, I emphasize that "peace" will be the common need of the global community for transformative changes.

Dr. Seyed Hassan Mousavi Chelak President of Iran Association of Social Workers IFSW-AP Ethics Commissioner

The specific friendly gathering of WSWD-2024 in which a limited group consisting our volunteers, social work professors and experienced and representatives from partner bodies of the association were invited. It was a chance for us to hear some precious talks over history of social work in global and national levels, the stand of international institutions in terms of global peace, the advantages of making relations with other associations, necessity of actions of social workers to make peace. An expert explained the Rumi's viewpoints in terms of peace, the environment and healthy relationships. An artwork (Ney) piece was played lively and finally a cake with a picture of the WSWD 2024 poster on it was happily split and sliced to eat.











The tradition of the association to visit social work pioneers was done some weeks ago. This time Ms. Nasrin Sane'i an experienced, former manager of social work department of the Ministry of Health who worked as supervisor and university lecturer for years was selected to host us in her home. Her memories while surrounded by a lot of her ex-coworkers and classmates were fantastic and we recorded them to remain for other descendants.





 Representative of the board took part in the regional (Eurasian) congress in Thailand







 Many other ceremonies and gatherings were held to remember the national or global day of social workers throughout the country. Following are pictures of some of them. This was a pleasure to see that social work profession and social workers are seen within the organizations and their efforts and status are respected.











