



Position Title **IFSW Main Representative to the UN /
Regional Commissioner**

Context In each region (Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, North America, Latin America) there is a United Nations Headquarters (New York) regional offices (Geneva, Nairobi and Vienna) and Economic Commission Centers (Santiago and Bangkok). For each of them, IFSW aims to be represented by a Main Representative and, if possible, a team of representatives.

Task The IFSW Main Representative to the United Nations is responsible for advancing the agreed strategies within their nominated UN location. They are expected to develop and foster partnerships with UN agencies, and to promote and develop actions and statements on relevant social work contributions. To work with the IFSW UN Commission and IFSW Regional President to create and advance a visible social work presence in the United Nations.

Description of the position

IFSW UN Commission and IFSW global board

Manage, in consultation with the IFSW UN Commissioner, the process of recruitment and accreditation for all team members.

Communicate with the IFSW UN Commissioner, the IFSW regional president and other committee members on a regular basis.

In accordance with the IFSW Constitution prepare reports on team activities as required.

IFSW members

Cooperate with the Regional IFSW Presidents and other IFSW representatives as best as possible, and also national IFSW members for the purpose of information exchange. Attend the biannual regional IFSW conferences if possible.

IFSW representative team

Take initiative to and support the IFSW representatives and leadership in preparing statements on UN issues and related matters.

Facilitate and coordinate IFSW's work across the UN sites.



Lead a process that secures a regular IFSW presence at the United Nations.

Maintain an active commitment to the global goals of IFSW.

Lead the IFSW United Nations team in the relevant UN location.

UN

Advocate for and promote social work at the UN and cooperate with other organizations.

Establish partnerships with UN Agencies so that IFSW members work jointly with UN agencies locally, nationally, regionally and globally, bridging engagement between community's aspirations, the SGDs and other UN agendas.

Build awareness within the UN agencies that enables them to utilize a social work perspective in the development agendas.

Represent IFSW in UN

Create multi-level interventions to build knowledge, information and visibility of social work within United Nations structures.

Ensure that the statements and work with the United Nations and partners are consistent with the policies of IFSW and the Global Definition of Social Work.

Requirements

The IFSW Main Representative to the United Nations must be a member of an IFSW member organization in good standing. It is recommended that candidates for Main Representative have had, at a minimum, executive level experience within their member organizations or their employment positions. An education background in Social Work is a must.

The IFSW Main Representative to the United Nations should have the time, flexibility and the background/abilities, required to carry out the duties and responsibilities of this position. It is essential that the Main Representative uses the definition of social work, the IFSW policy paper and others as a leading orientation for its leadership role.

Priska Fleischlin, IFSW UN Commissioner, 2019, *approved by the IFSW Global Board, April 2019*

This job description has been edited in January 2019 due to the newly established IFSW UN Commission and is based on the JD published in April 2018, and the previous version from 2012 that can be found under:

<http://ifsw.org/>