



JOINT MOTION FOR THE IFSW GENERAL MEETING 2026

Proposed by: Federal Council of Social Work of Brazil (CFESS) and Iran Association of Social Workers (IrASW)

Subject: Protection of Social Workers and Humanitarian Service Settings

PREAMBLE

This motion is grounded in the **Global Social Work Statement of Ethical Principles (Dublin, 2018)**. This Statement affirms our duty to challenge unjust policies without penalty, our right to safety and security at work, and our commitment to human rights, social justice, and the recognition of the inherent dignity of all people.

We, the Federal Council of Social Work of Brazil (CFESS) and the Iran Association of Social Workers (IrASW), are committed to applying these principles.

Social workers and humanitarian service settings are being targeted, and the international community must act. The tragic deaths of social workers in the exercise of their functions, in different countries, demonstrate the urgent need for global protection mechanisms.

THEREFORE, WE RESOLVE:

Part 1: Protecting Social Workers

1. IFSW **condemns** all violence, harassment, criminalization, and judicial persecution against social workers solely for exercising their professional functions.
2. IFSW **calls on** all States to implement prevention and action protocols and to guarantee institutional support in order to ensure safe working conditions for social workers.
3. IFSW **will not be indifferent** and will publicly support any social worker or national association facing threats.



4. IFSW has **entrusted** its Ethics Commission with creating a global rapid-response mechanism for threatened social workers.

Part 2: Protecting Work Environments

5. IFSW **condemns** all military attacks on social work service centers, including treatment centers, prisons, centers for children, people with disabilities, the elderly, and other humanitarian locations, which are civilian objects protected under international humanitarian law.
6. IFSW **calls on** all parties in conflict to respect and protect these humanitarian spaces.

CONCLUSION

This motion reaffirms our commitment to the **Global Social Work Statement of Ethical Principles** approved by the IFSW General Meeting in Dublin in 2018. The IFSW General Meeting is urged to adopt this policy to protect social workers and the humanitarian spaces where we serve—a fundamental step to guarantee safe working environments and to recognize the importance of Social Work as an essential profession in the defense of human rights.

Signatories:

Kelly Rodrigues Melatti

President, CFESS

Dr. Hassan Mousavi Chelak

President, IrASW, IFSW-AP Ethics Commissionaire