



European Committee for *Home-based Priority Action for the Child and the Family*

International Non-Governmental Organization founded in 1988

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Le Vésinet, March 30, 2018

To whom it may concern

Dear Sir / Madame

To avoid undue influence arising from the fact that IFSW is a member of the Conference of INGOs, I write this reference in my personal capacity and as the Vice-Chairperson of the European Committee for Home-based Priority Action of the Child and the Family – an INGO with participatory status with the Council of Europe.

I met Antonina Dashkina at the beginning of my engagement within the Conference of INGOs. At this time, Antonia started her function as a Vice-Chair of the Eradication of Poverty and Social Cohesion Committee of INGO Conference of the Council of Europe (September 2007). Already at that time, I greatly appreciated her commitment so that the situation of the most vulnerable groups be considered as the prerogatives of the Conference of INGOs and be included in the Council of Europe's political agenda. With Annelise Oeschger, then President of the Conference of INGOs, Antonina Dashkina as the President of the Russia Union of Social Workers and Social Pedagogues was a very important partner for the Council of Europe's triennial program aiming to increase the knowledge in the regions of Russia Federation on the protection of social rights under Council of Europe European Social Charter.

Since the beginning, Antonia Dashkina taken up, as her mission, to make more awareness-raising around protective instruments related to human rights, and how to use them in relation to the vulnerable groups, especially those living in poverty. In this spirit and in order to encourage the Russian policy-makers to do more, Antonina organises the events, each year, in the different regions of Russia Federation, on the occasion of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (17 October), inviting experts from abroad and from the Council of Europe as well.

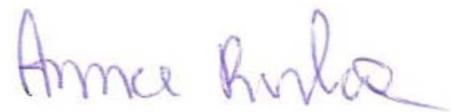
Also as the Vice President of the Conference of INGOs, Antonina Dashkina made her possible to build the bridges there, where for political, cultural or economic reasons, the breaks exist. She demonstrated leadership skills, her capacity to make a good synthesis which requires thoughtfulness, professionalism, and political savvy. Antonina Dashkina is an open person, who knows sharing with others the hope, her optimism and convictions.

If I had to tell in half a verse what Antonina Dashkina's activities make me think, is that the social work has no borders. The insight that I see behind all her efforts is the will of internationalisation of social work. As a social worker and senior lecturer, engaged in the international MA diploma, I can confirm the importance of the development of the new capacity-building training connecting social workers to the global challenges. The solidarity between the national branches under the international federation as yours is essential for the future of the profession. Today, the social work should be recognised everywhere as human rights activity and, with this approach, should advocate for those who are in need.

I can affirm that Antonina Dashkina has a necessary background to hold the position of the President of the International Federation of Social Workers.

I wish you every success in discharging your activities, while assuring you of my full support in this regard.

Anna Rurka

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Anna Rurka". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.