

World Social Work Day was celebrated in Israel earlier this month in the Knesset. Over 200 social workers took advantage of the opportunity to meet face to face with politicians and present both the professional work we do and our grievances. The day was capped by an awards ceremony where social workers were rewarded for excellence.

We then watched from the Knesset gallery as a law making it illegal to use the internet to attack and harass social workers and to expose our home addresses, phone numbers and private information passed its first reading. Finally, our president sent a message to all the country's mayors reminding them WSWD was March 18. Many social workers were surprised to find flowers and greetings from their mayors recognizing their contributions to the community. Several municipalities even treated their social workers to a luncheon and other activities having nothing to do with their daily activities.

All in all, WSWD in Israel was an overwhelming success. We were all surprised at the number of Knesset members who began speeches recognizing World Social Work Day with, "my daughter / wife / sister is a social worker."













