

## Application

**Vacant position:**  
**IFSW Treasurer**

### **Dunja Gharwal**

Nominated by IFSW member OBDS – Austrian Association of Social Work and IFSW member Yunion – Die Daseinsgewerkschaft - Austria

- Awareness of the role and responsibilities attached to the position of IFSW treasurer

Social work is mostly undervalued and underestimated by society, politicians and the economic sector. Besides the health sector the social sector is one of the most important and fastest growing sector in the world. Strong and active national associations build the basic of a successful and flourishing global federation. The International Definition of Social Work and the Ethical Principles compose the strategy and the goals of the IFSW. Ruth Stark identified three main subjects to address in her application as IFSW president:

Make sure the voice of social work can be heard on the global stage

Efficient and proper management of IFSW

Ensure good communication from the global level to the regional and national level

The main responsibility of the treasurer is to make sure the IFSW can fulfill these obligations by planning and managing the budget, having a fair and unprejudiced position, a high level of accounting and financial expertise and assertiveness.

To implement these goals, the treasurer has to be an independent person with no other regional obligations. Otherwise ethical dilemmas are inevitable.

As national treasurer deputy I reorganized the budget and the financial planning of the OBDS. I also developed new models of funding and income for the OBDS. Using cost calculation instruments and new controlling tools combined with the requirements of the global agenda and the claims of IFSW the treasurer makes sure to safe the IFSW reserve funds and deals regardful with the moneys of IFSW. The fact of speaking German and English facilitates a sophisticated dialog with the Swiss tax accountant.

- Commitment to the goals of IFSW

- Realization of the IFSW Symposium “Responding to the Refugee Crisis” on WSWD 2016 in Vienna
- Involvement in UN committees in Vienna promoting social work as human right profession
- Adaption of ethical principles and standards of social work in Austria

- Supporting members in Europe to share experience and information on social work issues in seminars and trainings
- Developing the European Social Work HUB to provide and share information, interventions and experiences for practitioners and scientists.

Living and working in Vienna/Austria I work in close relationship with other umbrella organizations and the national associations of social work in Germany and Switzerland – publishing articles in professional journals and lecturing at the University.

Socialized in a catholic country as a migrant of the third generation my family unites in-laws/relatives from Africa, Asia and Europe with different spiritual backgrounds, traditions and culture. I travelled and worked in the US, Italy and Azerbaijan.

In times of international crisis and challenges I focus on the ideal of international solidarity and strengthen the united efforts of IFSW to promote and enhance well being and the chance of a good life for every human being. The gift of birthplace is not an achievement. Therefore, we have to carry and dignify this privilege with humility and respect and agitate for human rights for everybody. Social work as human rights profession is a powerful instrument that has to become more famous and recognized all over the world. My aspiration to promote and enhance a solidly united society is my commitment to the goals of IFSW as laid down in its constitution, statements and policies.

- Capacity to devote time to assumed work responsibilities in the Executive or regional Committee

As a representative of the employees of the City of Vienna I get leave of absence by the Yunion for meetings and I am able to travel as much as required. I am willing and do consider myself capable of assuming work responsibilities in the executive original committees. I can manage my time to make sure that tasks assigned to me are duly completed in time.

So far I participated as delegate at the IFSW Conference and General Meeting in Melbourne 2014, IFSW Europe Conference Edinburgh 2015 and will attend the IFSW Europe General Meeting in Zagreb 2016 as well as the IFSW General Meeting in Seoul.

- Social Work and other Educational Qualifications

Master of Social Work, required Exam June 2016

Master thesis: Ethical Dilemma in Social Work

University of Applied Science, St. Pölten, Austria

Diploma Entrepreneurship, 2005,

WIFI, Austria

Diploma in Social Work, 1997

Academy of Social Work, St. Pölten, Austria

- Professional Affiliations

Member of OBDS

Member of Yunion

Member of Integrationhaus Vienna

Member of European Social Work HUB for Asylum Seekers and Refugees with Disabilities

▪ Professional Experience

Currently employed at the child protection department of the city of Vienna and the University of Applied Science St. Pölten.

Freelancer expert in child protection current twinning project Azerbaijan – implementing social work in public services.

Professional Social Work employment history includes child protection, mental health service, social welfare work, work with refugees and asylum seekers in non-governmental agencies and teaching social work with asylum seekers and refugees, training for trainers (Azerbaijan) as well as management of social health program for children and families (hippo therapy, social pedagogic riding and vaulting)

▪ Roles and functions

Frontline social work, crisis intervention, mediation and conciliation, emergency call service, collaboration with psychiatric clinics and facilities, budgeting, accounting, human resources issues, project management and project development, public relations and reporting, community work, networking with allied facilities as well as government departments and other stakeholders, teaching and presentation

▪ National Association Experience

Treasurer Deputy OBDS since 2014

Secretary WBDS since 2014

▪ Volunteer Experience

As a mother of four children – representative of the parents of each class since 2001

Member of the executive board of the integration house Vienna

Deputy Treasurer of the OBDS

Secretary of the OBDS Vienna

Secretary of the league of socialist academics

Founder of the European Social Work HUB for Asylum Seekers and Refugees with Disabilities

Co-Developer for a foster care project in Nairobi/Kenya

Representative of the employees of the city of Vienna – Department of Child protection and family care

Representative of the IFSW to the UN in Vienna

Vienna, May 6th 2016

