



IFSW Europe e.V. Delegates Meeting

Zagreb, Croatia

13 - 15 May 2016

Minutes

Countries being represented:

1. Armenia
2. Austria (coordinating body OBDS and younion _ Die Daseinsgewerkschaft)
3. Belgium
4. Croatia
5. Denmark (with a proxy for Faroe Islands)
6. France
7. Georgia
8. Germany
9. Iceland
10. Ireland
11. Italy
12. Israel
13. Malta
14. Norway
15. Portugal
16. Romania (coordinating body CNASR & ASproAS)
17. Spain
18. Sweden (with a proxy for Finland)
19. Switzerland
20. Turkey
21. United Kingdom

Observers:

. Moldova

Other Participants:

- Brussels Based Representative
- Representative to the European Social Platform, ENS4Care & EURORDIS
- IFSW Secretary-General
- IFSW President

Invited guests:

- President of the European Association of Schools of Social Work (EASSW)
- President of the European Social Work Research Association (ESWRA)

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Welcome and Formalities

The President, Cristina Martins, welcomed delegates and thanked the Croatian Association of Social Workers for hosting and organizing the meeting so well. She also reminded delegates that she had reached the end of her mandate and that this would be the last Delegates meeting she would chair as President of IFSW Europe.

1.1. Welcome and presentation from the Croatian Association of Social Workers

On the behalf of the Croatian Association of Social Workers, Tatjana Katkić Stanić welcomed the delegates to Zagreb and made a presentation about the development of social work in Croatia over the years.

The President declared the meeting open.

Cristina Martins then informed all delegates about the countries present, observers and others, and all presented themselves.

Cristina informed the delegates about the application for membership to IFSW from Moldova and that this year they are attending for the first time as observers. Cristina invited the President of the National Association of Social Workers to make a presentation to delegates.

The President of the National Association of Social Workers of Moldova, Mr Vadim Tarna, thanked for the opportunity to be part of IFSW Europe Delegates Meeting and made a presentation about the social problems and social work over the years in Moldova, and the activities developed by the association. He invited the delegates to attend their conference in June 2016.

Cristina informed that the application was forwarded to the Secretary General, Rory Truell, who mentioned his satisfaction to receive it and informed that it will be voted in the general meeting. Romania also expressed their appreciation to have Moldova as a member of IFSW.

Cristina then explained the structure and proceedings of the meeting.

Meeting Appointments

Appointment of Parliamentarian: The President proposed that Nicolai Paulsen (Denmark) be appointed as the meeting Parliamentarian.

Proposed: Sweden

Seconded: Austria

Carried unanimously

Appointment of Tellers: The President proposed that Tellers be provided for the meeting by Austria and UK. Georg Dimitz (Austria) and Guy Shennan (UK) were appointed as Tellers

Proposed: Georgia

Seconded: Norway

Carried unanimously

Cristina proposed that the invited guests could attend the delegates meeting as observers.

Proposed: Portugal

Seconded: Croatia

Carried unanimously

Cristina asked the Elections officer to explain the election process and to inform about voting rights, candidates and deadline for nominations.

John Brennan explained that at that time there are 3 candidates for the executive committee (Josefine Johansson – Sweden, Ana Isabel Lima Fernandez – Spain and Ioan Durnescu – Romania) and there is still 1 position vacant.

In total there are 2 posts for the executive committee for 2 years and 2 deputy posts for 1 year.

All nominations should be sent until Saturday (14th May) at 5pm.
Cristina clarified about the late nomination from Romania, which is a coordinating body, and the lack of agreement between the associations for this nomination. Ana Radulescu (ASproAS) clarified that this intention was received the day before; they do not oppose but they do not agree with such a short notice.

The elections officer, president and parliamentarian will meet later on to discuss this issue.
Cristina informed about the expressions of interest for representatives and the deadline to send applications (Saturday, 14th May at 5pm). 6 expressions of interest were received until this point of the meeting.

1.2. Presentations from the President of the European Association of Schools of Social Work and President of the European Social Work Research Association, as invited guests

The President of the European Association of Schools of Social Work, Nino Zgance, welcomed the delegates to Zagreb, presented himself and EASSW, its main goals and the main activities developed. He also mentioned the cooperation work that has started to be developed between EASSW, IFSW Europe and ESWRA as well as the tripartite meeting earlier that day. He informed that they intend to sign a MoU to cooperate in the future. He added that he is looking forward to this cooperation that will be very helpful for social work in Europe.

He also made reference to the conferences that will take place in the future and thanked Cristina Martins for inviting him for the executive meeting in Porto in January and being able to start thinking about possible ways to develop this cooperation.

The President of the European Social Work Research Association, Silvia Fargion, presented herself, her background and ESWRA, its background, the activities developed over the years, their functioning and their main aim (connect research with practitioners).

She thanked Cristina Martins and Nino Zganec for the opportunity to start this discussion for cooperation in the future and the opportunity to connect practice, education and research and stressed the importance of this communication and cooperation and the importance of this first meeting earlier that day.

Cristina explained about the meeting in the morning with these associations and the importance of this cooperation. She also mentioned that they agreed that the associations will be present on each other's conferences. All information will be shared with members.

1.3. Approval of the agenda and timetable

Cristina summarised the most important items for discussion and decision at this meeting: Amendments to the Statutes, and Bylaws and IFSW European Conference.

Tatjana Katkić Stanić was invited to provide general information about meals, coffee breaks, walking tour and drum circle as the socializing session.

The president asked if the Agenda could be approved.

Proposed: Sweden

Seconded: Germany

Carried unanimously

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Minutes of the Delegates Meeting 2015

2.1. To receive the minutes, consider any amendments and approve

The minutes of the Delegates Meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland, were circulated following the meeting and again in preparation for this meeting.

Cristina reminded that the President of IFSW, Ruth Stark, proposed some amendments and the Executive Committee of IFSW Europe accepted those changes.

The President asked if the Minutes of the 2015 Delegates meeting could be approved.

Proposed: Austria

	<i>Seconded: Romania</i> Carried unanimously
3	Matters arising from the minutes There were no matters arising.
4	<p>Presentation of the Executive Committee's written report for approval; report from the Executive Committee and presentation of a draft Work Programme for the coming period</p> <p>4.1. Presentation of Executive members' contributions to work programme - by Executive members</p> <p>4.1.1. Communication and European Social Platform, Comms - by Cristina Martins</p> <p>Cristina made a presentation on the most relevant actions developed since Edinburgh Delegates Meeting regarding the work programme 2015-2016 and regarding communication.</p> <p>Cristina Martins informed the delegates about the Executive Meeting that took place in Oporto in January where all members of the executive joined for the first time except Maria that couldn't make it due to personal matters. She also mentioned the executive meeting in Reykjavik, Iceland, in March 2016 that was combined with meetings with the Steering and Programme Committees of the IFSW European Conference 2017.</p> <p>Before that, 2 web meetings took place in 2015.</p> <p>Regarding the WSWD 2016 event in Brussels, Cristina invited Ian Johnston and Liliane Coccozza to make a brief presentation and summary of the event.</p> <p>Liliane pointed out the big opportunity for networking that this event represented.</p> <p>Ian Johnston drew delegates attention to the transcript of the proceedings which had been circulated and said that the event was very successful, acknowledging the support of Nino Zganec and EASSW and the involvement of Dale Kabašinskaitė, Josefine Johansson (as representative of the Executive Committee of IFSW Europe) and Fran McDonnell.</p> <p>He also pointed out that the most important message of the event was how to ensure more effectively the safety and wellbeing of refugees, which currently represents a big challenge.</p> <p>Regarding the communication, Cristina explained that the newsletter European Social Worker was the only item that was not developed, due to lack of time to organise the articles and put up the newsletter. However a newsletter online was published recently and a new one will be published soon, dedicating specifically to the delegates meeting. She also shared with the delegates the tasks of the communication team and what the new executive will need to have into consideration in the future. She also mentioned the joint statement made with EASSW following the attacks in Belgium and Turkey.</p> <p>Cristina reminded the members that both Joana Malheiro and the designer will also leave IFSW Europe by the time she ends her mandate.</p> <p>Joana said a few words to members and thanked the support throughout her time as IFSW Europe's Honorary Secretary.</p> <p>Cristina also informed that the executive discussed the issue of the Honorary Secretary and decided to appoint Lola Casal Sanchez as she was the runner up candidate with Joana. Lola will be appointed from the 1st July 2016 for 1 year.</p> <p>Lola Casal also said a few words to the delegates and thanked for this opportunity.</p> <p>4.1.2. The Social Work Role and Identity Project - by Salome Namicheishvili</p> <p>Salome presented the background of the project to the delegates and the work developed over the last 6 years. She reminded that in Edinburgh it was agreed to put out a new questionnaire and that the executive decided to send it out again only in 2017 as there were some other questionnaires distributed in other areas (e.g. Global Trade Agreements and Privatizations)</p> <p>She stressed the fact that the project is still important, having been used by some members to collect information.</p> <p>4.1.3. The Development of Social Work in New Social Work Countries - by Salome Namicheishvili</p> <p>Salome explained the main 2 areas of work of the project (Coordination and networking and Capacity</p>

Building) and explained the joint project funded by the EU that involved Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Moldova, to support the capacity of development of the associations in these countries. It has been very active in 2016 and they are planning a joint workshop in the conference in Iceland in 2017.

Besides, she highlighted that she had an wonderful opportunity to work with Moldovan association of social workers throughout the year, provided technical assistance, encouraged and supported them to become members of IFSW.

She also informed about the congress to be held in June focusing on social work professionalization in post-soviet countries, which has been a very dynamic process. It is obvious that the countries from the post soviet bloc share common challenges and specificities and it is vital to have an opportunity to discuss those issues. Salome is contributing to the organization of this conference on behalf of IFSW Europe, will facilitate sessions and make an address at the congress.

She also mentioned the statement developed in support of social work development in Armenia.

4.1.4. Privatization of Social Work Services - by Salome Namicheishvili and Linda de Chenu

Salome presented the background of the project, reminded that it was developed after a motion from BASW in Edinburgh on TTIP and acknowledges Linda Dechanu's support on the project. The working group was formed which comprised of Salome, Linda from BASW, Ian, Dale, John, Herbert and Ana. She mentioned that the work group created in Edinburgh contributed to the global policy development. At the European level a questionnaire has been developed to collect information from members. The data was analyzed by Linda. Linda was not able to attend the meeting so Salome presented. The results of the questionnaire were presented and Salome informed that the results will be shared with members later on.

The work group now needs to discuss future steps and elaborate the action plan around the topic. Ian Johnston made a comment about the negative impacts of global trade agreements on society development as it endangers human rights, and social justice.

4.1.5. European Network for Social Action (ENSACT) - by Josefine Johansson

Josefine made a brief presentation on the background of the European Observatory and informed that 16 countries sent good practices examples.

She also informed that she is not allowed to disclose any information at this point, as requested by IFSW Global. The regional report will be released after the joint world conference in Seoul 27-30th of June. Regarding the next observatory, it is not clear at the moment how it will work, but Ensact has decided to continue to collect good examples of social work

4.1.6. Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development - by Josefine Johansson

Josefine has no further developments to present apart the work with ENSACT on the European Observatory.

4.1.7. Network for Social Workers in Europe working with Refugees - by Maria Rúnarsdóttir

Maria reminded that this issue was raised in Edinburgh and presented the actions developed since September 2015.

She mentioned that the idea of a network for European social workers that are working with refugees has been put in practice through a blog that was created after the delegates meeting in Edinburgh. She also mentioned the event for World Social Work Day in Brussels in collaboration with EASSW and UFAS: "Working in Partnership to Promote the Rights, Dignity and Worth of Refugees in Europe" and a closed Facebook group that was created for the members of the Scandinavian Associations for Social Workers to share information and discuss different issues such as policy changes in the countries and social work responses.

She also mentioned the RAN event in Vienna on 14th April (Refugee and Migrant Crisis: Challenges for CVE policy), where over 75 experts discussed the effects of the refugee crisis on radicalisation and CVE policy. She was present as IFSW Europe representative. The aim of RAN (Radicalisation Awareness Network) is to raise awareness within the health and social care sector and helping establish an effective network of health and social care practitioners across Member States.

She also informed about the Refugee Solidarity Days in Europe organised by SWAN on the fifth of June, with the aim of getting social workers to get involved in some aspect of refugee solidarity work and

encouraged member associations to participate in the day.

4.1.8. Finances and Legal Body maintenance - by Brian Auslander

Brian started by reminding the delegates that he took the role of Treasurer in November 2015 and that the transition from Gabriele Stark-Angermeier is still an ongoing process.

One issue that is delaying the transition process is the bank account, that is currently on the German association. It would be important that the account would be held in an EU country. Both Ireland and Spain rejected the idea of holding IFSW Europe's bank account and some meetings are scheduled with the UK and Portugal in this regard.

Regarding the budget, the income was previewed to be between 20.000 to 25.000 Euros/year. Close to 90% of the fees for this 2016 were collected until this point.

Regarding the Legal Body, Brian informed that there are still issues with the registration to be discussed further on in the agenda. He also informed that Rory Truell suggested to register IFSW Europe and have the bank account in Switzerland. However, the executive has doubts regarding, for example, applications for funding.

One of the observers Silvia Fargion from ESWRA, intervened and did not recommend this possibility, due to the money transfers and the issue of the currency. Moreover, the registration in Switzerland does not allow to have bank account in any other countries.

Brian added that IFSW Europe is becoming a real voice of social work and being recognised, which is also something to be taken into consideration for this item.

4.1.9. Network for Social Workers in Europe from countries living under austerity measures - by Ana Isabel Lima

Cristina mentioned that this item has been added to the portfolio following a request from Ana Isabel Lima. It was not part of the work programme 2015-2016 approved by the Delegates Meeting in 2015. However it has now been added to the work programme 2016-2017.

Ana Lima presented the background, goals of the network and actions that can be developed within it. She reminded that this idea came up in the Edinburgh Conference, where it was realised that this issue was already being discussed by other groups (Social Platform, FRA, Human Rights), so this topic can perhaps be adapted both to the European and global levels.

She informed about the Symposium on Social Work that took place in Athens in January, where a working statement for future plans was developed, that includes the creation of a booklet, a cross borders anti-austerity social work platform and the dissemination of social work actions on social media.

The President asked if the report on the work programme could be approved by the Meeting.

Proposed: Portugal

Seconded: Germany

Approved unanimously

5

Report from the IFSW President and Secretary General (IFSW Global)

The President of IFSW, Ruth Stark, started by making a brief introduction regarding the social work profession and the interchange of knowledge and solidarity among regions.

She also mentioned the important themes of social work in austerity and refugees, and pointed out the need to reflect and review how we work in IFSW, in order to face these challenges and take the knowledge to the leaders and policy makers.

Regarding the constitution, the review started in 2013 and was followed by a mandate in 2014 for revision. The preliminary draft was presented in March 2015, a second draft in August 2015 and a third draft in December 2015. The final draft is now available since March 2016.

She also informed that any further amendments should be sent in writing, in order to be considered within the next month.

Ruth Stark also went through the current aims of IFSW and the new aims that are proposed that are divided into 4 areas that are the ones that are getting the focus at the moment.

Ruth mentioned that some people present at the meeting were already involved in this change in direction.

Ruth also informed that there have been some changes since Edinburgh. Both social work in austerity and displaced people were matters arisen in the conference in Edinburgh and considered important to tackle.

Two actions came from this conference: a symposium in Athens on austerity and a symposium on WSWD in Vienna involving people from Europe, Middle East and Africa, countries from where people flee and countries where people want to settle.

She also mentioned that they want to engage and see what Europe thinks about how they can connect with the rest of the world and make this relationship productive, as many people will not be able to attend the meeting in Seoul, so they would like to take opinions from this meeting and talk about the general direction of the interrelationship among regions.

IFSW Secretary-General, Rory Truell thanked Cristina for the invitation for the meeting and mentioned that there has been a lot of activity in Europe since the last delegates meeting.

He informed that IFSW has 9 new members, which represented a big growth, and 4 more countries will join soon. IFSW is growing mainly due to the international credibility and the visibility of what IFSW does.

He pointed out the importance of social media and gave the example of India and Nepal, that are now raising their social work profile and sharing common strategies with IFSW.

The new aims focus on developing strategies and principles and also new ways of working, building solidarity and take action in a combined way. Conferences are not going to stop, but this will be a new approach. The goal is to develop symposiums on other regions as well.

Ruth Stark invited Dunja Gharwal to speak about WSWD, who mentioned the involvement of many different countries and continents that shared the same approach of asking people what they need, which was good to see that social workers can help people in a specific way. This work and connection is still being developed.

Germany mentioned that it was impressive to see the communication between experts on social work also from Africa and Middle East, and it is important to bring people closer.

Ruth also informed that regarding the theme of refugees there are teams in Vienna, Nairobi, New York and Geneva focusing on this issue and engaging UN officials. There has also been a meeting in New York with 700 participants to look at this issue.

5.1. The Review of IFSW Constitution

Regarding the constitution, Ruth Stark opened a panel for questions to the delegates.

Denmark pointed out that an important issue is the role of social work and conditions for social workers, which has almost been left out on the new aims. They considered it concerning and informed that the Danish delegation may not support this change, which was also supported by Romania.

Ruth Stark agreed that it has been left out and mentioned that it should be looked at.

Germany mentioned the role of identity and the quality and professional standard and that it is important to point out that there is a status as a profession, to which Ruth replied that this is more linked to the policy.

Josefine Johansson mentioned that the executive committee of IFSW Europe discussed the proposed constitution and they have 3 comments and objectives to present, mainly regarding the global treasurer, the executive meetings and the procedure manual.

Regarding the global treasurer, the executive suggested to keep the position of treasurer as elected by the General Meeting instead of the proposed appointment by the global executive, to which Rory Truell replied that there is already a motion on this regards.

Regarding the executive meetings, the IFSW Europe's executive committee considers that there should be at least one more meeting, rather than just before and after the general meeting. Electronical means could be explored as well. Rory Truell replied that, in fact, meeting only once every year is not enough and suggested that a motion was discussed, to create more action in this regards. Ruth Stark explained that they have been exploring these electronical means due to the tight budget; however, there is the

issue of time zones that is not easy to manage. She also added that the last general meeting was available by live stream, meaning that the electronic means are already being looked at. Regarding the procedure manual, the executive believes that it is not appropriate to delete sections when there is not yet manuals regarding some areas; moreover, the English and Spanish constitution on the website did not match, which Ruth clarified that it has been sorted out in the meantime.

Ireland raised the issue of the changes in the articles in the global and the fact that IFSW Europe is also going to discuss this item in the meeting. They showed concern about taking out the formal articles and word changing.

Rory Truell explained that there will be some terminology difference in constitutions, which also worries him. He raised the topic of changing the name of the “member at large” to “vice president” and how people were confused with the title. There should be consistency, so perhaps the changes can be presented now to evaluate if they will be adopted before or after the meeting in Seoul.

Germany added that these changes were already discussed regarding the Legal Body for IFSW Europe and mentioned that it would be good to have the word matching if possible.

Portugal asked for a clarification on how these changes contribute to the participation and transparency in the Body, which Rory clarified that there was information missing, so this is an artificial boundary. It is important to find wording that reinforce the fact that this is a federation working together. These strategic changes are to strengthen relationships.

Denmark disagreed and mentioned that IFSW Europe has developed over the years to be a union and a partnership working on all the levels, including solidarity. They also considered it provocative to say that Europe is running their own way. There is a cooperation going on with the global.

Cristina also mentioned that the lack of funding from the global prevented IFSW Europe from taking further action at European level, to which Ruth replied that there has been no funding from the global to the regions, as they inherited a complex financial situation that they managed to overcome and support activities in other regions. Other regions have been finding funds within their own regions.

Ian Johnston added that IFSW Europe has been establishing productive partnerships with other organisations and must be able to conform to its statutes as a NGO with legal body status properly established in Europe and able to manage its own affairs. People from outside do not understand the relationship between IFSW global and Europe and he stressed that we must work together in order to show an image of unity. People need us fighting together.

Fran McDonnell also mentioned the issue of solidarity and suggested to mention internal and external partnerships, as it is not mentioned. It was agreed by Rory Truell.

Ruth Stark gave the example of the situation in Congo and the action from Cristina asking for solidarity in Europe and the link with the solidarity that is needed. Looking at the finances of IFSW, they managed to support many people.

Rory finalised by thanking the IFSW Europe executive committee for the work developed, not only for IFSW Europe but for IFSW in general.

5.2. Elections and ‘Informal IFSW European meeting’ at the IFSW General Meeting in Seoul in June 2016

Cristina informed that the regional meeting will take place on the 1st day of the general meeting in Seoul, on the 24th June and she will come back to this after the decision on the proposed amendments of statutes.

Cristina invited Ana Isabel Lima to make a brief presentation of her nomination to the role of President of IFSW Europe.

Cristina congratulated Ana Isabel on her birthday and all delegates sang Happy Birthday to Ana.

Reports from internal and external representatives of IFSW Europe e.V.

6.1. Council of Europe

Fernanda Rodrigues made a presentation on the work developed in the CoE since the last delegates meeting. She reminded about the new President of the Conference of INGO of the Council of Europe (Anna Rurka) and Vice-president (Antonina Dashkina).

Regarding the statements developed, the most important one was on the code of good practice on civil participation and the toolkit on dialogue.

Other themes under development have been the religion dimension for intercultural dialogue, eradication of poverty, peace and democracy in Ukraine, austerity measures, the Paris attacks and undesirable organisations that are unethical.

Fernanda mentioned that it is helpful that the Council of Europe is geographically close to people in Brussels who can help and finished by thanking the support of Gabriele Stark-Angermeier and Mira Antonyan.

6.2. Human Rights

Graça André was not present so the presentation was made by one member of the supporting team, Gonca Polat.

The delegates were informed about the workshop conducted in Glasgow in September 2015, focusing on networking and engagement with stakeholders and how to enable participation of partners and improve partnership. There was also a debate session on how to make the social work profession more clear and concrete at the practice level.

The team also highlighted information on specific days for human rights and published many texts to highlight them.

They also had meetings with different platforms, whose details are stated on the written report.

Graça is not applying again for the position and thanked for the work developed together with the team.

Ian Johnston also intervened and mentioned the work that has been continuing to get FRA to recognise social workers' responsibility to assist people to identify and manage the conflicting rights of different parties and acknowledge the tension that can arise between the rights of parents and children such as that which occurs when a parent is imprisoned or detained in an environment which is unsuitable for a child.

6.3. Ethics

Gabriele Stark-Angermeier, as member of the supporting team, made a presentation of the work developed since the last delegates meeting.

She informed that the work on the global level started with the revision of the global principles and the next step is to have a meeting in Seoul for this special group before the conference, to get clarity about the aims and objectives and will have a work plan from that. They had a timescale to send in some written notes. The project is led by Jorge the Ethics Commissioner, from the Latin America Region and there was a difference in thinking about whether to revise the current principles and to what extent.

Ruth Stark intervened and mentioned that there is a momentum to involve all the regions at the moment and are anticipating that after Seoul they will be able to move on with this process. NASW the North American Association of Social Workers, are also involved and every region will be engaged in the work.

6.4. European Social Platform

Ian Johnston made a presentation on the Social Platform organisation, the main issues pursued, our voice at the European Parliament, costs and expenditure for membership, the closest partners.

Ian started by stressing the importance of joining forces with others and the management of an intricate agenda along with ways to achieve more with less resources, which can be made by forging strategic partnerships with organisations who share our values and concern to change mind sets and stimulate movements for change. The issues pursued by the Social Platform necessitate thinking carefully about what social workers actually need.

He also reminded that IFSW Europe is a full member of the European Social Platform, which has 50

European networks in membership with 2800 individual members organisations, a very powerful lobbying force.

Following the 2014 delegates meeting, the Social Platform Team was established to coordinate IFSW Europe's input to the complex and demanding Platform agenda. Ian acknowledged the work of the team (comprised by the Brussels based representative, Dalé Kabašinskaitė, himself, Fran McDonnell from the UK, John Brennan from Ireland, Graça André from Portugal, Ana Radulescu from Romania, Nicolai Paulsen from Denmark and Mira Antonyan from Armenia).

Ian also mentioned the division of work, under the 3 pillars of the European social platform and the work that will be developed in the future.

Pillar 1 (Proposed Contribution to Social Platform Work Programme 2016)- work closely with members, member organisations, global level and develop closer links between our members who provide trade union Services and EPSU and Ruth Stark also mentioned the role of the US in the TTIP and mentioned that the Asia Pacific has the same problem with China (there is a policy paper to be discussed in Seoul on this matter). She also raised the issue of how to work with the colleagues to get to the change that is intended from the US government and what is the role of IFSW global. Ian suggested that Salome would take this issue to the work she has been developing with the working group.

Pillar 2 (Position Paper on the Financing of Social Services)- the Social Platform Team are keen to encourage the members to promote awareness of the Platform's work on this issue at Member State Level; they have also been working with the European Federation of Nurses (EFN) to assess the preparedness of Europe the respond to a major crisis such as an Ebola epidemic.

Pillar 3 (disseminate the work being developed on FRA) - intend to work harder to disseminate information about FRA's work to our members and assist them to more effectively challenge the abuse of fundamental rights that confronts them in their work. They also intend issuing guidance on the role of social workers with refugees with a particular focus on those situations where they face ethical dilemmas such as when they are required to carry out age assessments on undocumented minors or pursue repatriation agendas rather than the best interests of those seeking their help. This is linked to the important work that the Platform have been doing to oppose the Criminalisation of people providing humanitarian support in such circumstances.

Ian also added that Graça André has secured a sponsored place at the Fundamental Rights Platform forum that is being held in June in Vienna.

Regarding the work that is starting to be developed with the WHO, Nicolai informed about Cristina's invitation to attend a meeting of the WHO in Copenhagen (the main topic being discussed was the work together towards an effective and influential mental health workforce in Europe). There will be another meeting, still to be scheduled.

They want to address the work between professions, as well as the level of education. At present, it is agreed to have a consensus statement to address the situation of the mental health sector in Europe.

There is also a questionnaire ongoing about social work in mental health care.

It was also agreed to sign a consensus statement to plan partnerships and Cristina suggested that this can be discussed to be added to the work programme.

6.5. European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN)

Fran McDonnell made a presentation on EAPN's key strategic objectives, activities and papers sent since the last delegates meeting and future activities.

Regarding the background of IFSW Europe's work with EAPN, IFSW Europe joined the EAPN in 2012. Fran was appointed as IFSW Europe's designated representative in 2015 following Ian Johnston's election to the EAPN executive.

Focusing on the future over the next months, the intention is to challenge people to think about how we can contribute to that work.

Fran also mentioned the proposal towards a Pillar of Social Rights on the 9th September 2015. The

President of the European Commission have called for a social Triple A for Europe and for a strong social pillar to be developed in 2016.

Dale Kabašinskaitė has participated in the discussion and there are 20 domains under 3 headings to be discussed and they wish to focus on just some of them.

She also mentioned that EAPN is going through a period of change and presented the key strategic objectives of the network. She also commented on the proposals for a revised structure of EAPN, also sharing important information with members.

For the future, the goal is to continue participating in meetings and sharing information.

Every year there are task groups and this year they are developing a Position Paper on a political, economic and rights based case for Social Standards. The outcome may also be used to develop a guide, and others.

Fran has met Katherine Kelly, Chair of Policy Group, and discussed how IFSW Europe's members could contribute to the annual EU Country Specific Reports (CSR's) and be more involved. In fact, some of the members have a connection with the EAPN representative in their countries.

Fran also informed about the development of a European Minimum Income Network (EMIN). EAPN have submitted a tender to the European Commission DG for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion - A Journey for better minimum income schemes and a better Europe – Everyone on the Bus. The idea is to go to different countries to help promote a European minimum income.

Fran also suggested that members sent suggestions of improvement or missing parts of the questionnaire on the European Pillar of Social Rights.

Dale Kabašinskaitė also talked about the consultation, how it can be done and its main domains. She pointed out that this is a good opportunity to comment. Now they need to decide if they will take part of the consultation.

6.6 Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP)

Ana Radulescu and Herbert Paulischin, who grouped with Graça and Human rights team recreated the IFSW Europe's poster on charter of rights of social workers in Romania with social work students.

They made a presentation on the questionnaire developed and the main results collected until now.

After questioning the use of human rights when promoting the profession and their associations, Ana had the idea to create a questionnaire, which was reviewed by Graça. It was considered as an activity of IFSW Europe Human Rights team.

The questionnaire was translated into 17 languages, and distributed on facebook with 861 answers from 26 countries.

At present, they are still working on the questionnaire and a final report will be due in a few weeks, as soon as some data quality issues are resolved. There are some inconsistencies in what the data shows, which need further analysis.

Among the results collected, there was a difference between using human rights for ourselves as social workers (60%) and where we as social workers use human rights to advocate for better services for people using our services (90%).

Only 1 in 4 people are active in their organisations yet they want the organisation to be proactive for them.

6.7. European Organisation of Rare Diseases (EURORDIS)

Ian Johnston gave a brief presentation about the organisation and informed that he engaged with them and had joint presentations in Edinburgh and in the Nordic Conference.

IFSW Europe and Eurordis have been developing a very good relationship.

Cristina also added that they recently joined the Social Platform and IFSW Europe has a proxy for the next meeting.

6.8. ENS4Care project

Ian Johnston informed that this 2-year project ended in December 2015.

Dale Kabašinskaitė, Fran McDonnell and John Brennan were also involved.

He mentioned that he hoped that the information shared has been disseminated among the contacts.

6.9. New - H2020 Project

Ian Johnston presented the new project and the two bids that are ongoing.

In January 2016, EFN invited IFSW Europe to participate in 2 further bids for EU Funding under the Horizon Programme. Following consideration by the Executive Committee and intensive work with EFN.

The first of these is for a 2 year project concerned with the development of IT/ICT skills within the nursing and social care workforce both during professional and post qualifying training. IFSW Europe's share of the funding would be of 50.000 Euros for 2 years if the bid is successful

The second bid concerns funding for a 4 years project to develop Integrated Health and Social Care Services. IFSW' share of the funds being sought would be 200.000 Euros for 4 years if this bid is successful

Ian pointed out that these type of initiatives could enable IFSW Europe to begin to develop pppppp the capacity to do things in Brussels and that these bids are very important.

Cristina thanked for all the presentations and added that this work has been growing and new items have been included in the work programme.

She also informed about the working groups to take place during the afternoon and Josefine explained the process and timing for the work. Results are to be presented on Sunday by writing.

Regarding the semester report, Fernanda Rodrigues added that the Portuguese association will be entitled as expert to comment on the report. She also mentioned the similarities among the CoE and the work developed by the Social Platform, as well as the TTIP discussion in Seoul. In Europe there are now good and critical documents to contribute to this debate and she can provide these resources.

Cristina then acknowledged the important work done by Nicolai Paulsen and Barbara Molderings for IFSW Europe to become a legal body and joined the social platform.

Cristina then informed about a decision made by the Executive Committee at their meeting in Porto to acknowledge Ian Johnston on his hard work and contribution to IFSW Europe as representative of IFSW Europe since 2009.

The Executive awarded Ian Johnston a certificate of appreciation and a gift.

Ian thanked the Executive.

7

Consideration and amendments to the Articles and Bylaws of IFSW Europe

7.1. Proposed amendments to the Articles

Brian Auslander presented the suggestions of the executive committee of IFSW Europe to these documents.

Gabriele Stark-Angermeier informed that the German court did not accept the document, so this was the main goal of these changes, to make the document acceptable to the German court and to simplify the system in the future to update the documents.

Started by the list of names present in the document, which mentions the names of the executive members in 2009 and is not accurate.

The change proposed for Art1 is a principle change that does not affect the relation with the Global. In order to be registered as a non-profit organisation in Germany, they must be an independent organisation. In fact, that is the way IFSW Europe works currently, managing their own money and projects. The original reason to be registered was to be eligible for EU funding.

Austria added that another reason was to be able to have their own account.

Ian Johnston raised the issue of the membership criteria and compared with the Social Platform requirements (the executive must not be elected by an external body). The requirements for IFSW Europe are met, so everything should be done in accordance with the German law if that is what is required.

Austria reminded the history of the process and that this was done also to be able to apply for projects. Up to today IFSW Global is not a Legal Body, it is a network of organisations. Moreover, Germany offers the security of regulation, even though it is difficult to register. They supported the idea of continuing to register as a Legal Body.

Germany mentioned the link between IFSW Europe e.V. and IFSW Global (one country can only be member of IFSW Europe if it is also member of IFSW Global). The assembly needs to vote the changes, so that she can go to the court and submit it, as it is the procedure.

Austria reinforced the idea that the delegates meeting should empower the Executive to make these legal wording changes and decisions.

Denmark mentioned that they do not support it as it is written at the moment. They have the concern that it will only solve the issue of the German court and the issue of continuity of the Treasurer. For them, it does not seem transparent to make a decision at the moment with 3 different versions of the document, and the process would require further revision. They also raised the question of empowering only the 3 main Executive members in the current document presented with changes. For the Treasurer, we should consider if the person should be elected in the delegates meeting and also raised the question of a possible election at the current meeting.

Cristina clarified the issue of the role of the Treasurer and that the Executive decided not to do it at the moment.

Germany replied that the president, vice president and treasurer roles need to be written in a template in order to be accepted.

Austria also clarified that if the change is made now, the document would still need to go to approval of the German court, so the election process would need to follow the previous statutes.

Brian mentioned that he and John Brennan talked about the possibility of having a preamble.

Austria proposed to have 2 separate votes: one for future length of the periods and another one for the statutes as they are at that moment. They support a longer period to review the document.

Ireland showed concern about the connection with the global, as we are a region of IFSW global, so this should always be mentioned in any way.

UK also mentioned that the link with IFSW global needs to be clarified. It is not clear which parts were rejected by the German court, which Brian clarified. He mentioned the fact of making changes in a legal document and the wording, and suggested to make changes on the clauses that we know for sure that it can be done.

Denmark added that they risk establishing an European organisation different from what is established for the other regions on IFSW global.

Gabriele Stark-Angermeier also added that the issue of the tasks of delegates meeting was one of the major issues she encountered in the court, regarding the issue of elections, as it must take place at a IFSW Europe delegates meeting, without any reference to the fact that the president and member at large are elected at a Global meeting. On a practical level, the election protocol has to be translated into German, so when Cristina and Salome were elected, the entire minutes needed to be translated into German just by the fact that the election was mentioned in the document. In practical terms, the election process will remain the same, but there will be new minutes mentioning this process, and consequently reducing the number of pages to be translated.

Regarding the points g, h, I:

Brian supports the idea of having a Treasurer elected for 4 years, as well as the President and Vice-president and 3 additional members of the executive serving for 2 year terms. This is due to the fact that every time a new member is elected, they need to update the document in the German Court.

Regarding the executive committee:

For point 1, John Brennan suggested some changes in the writing to simplify the sentence.

For point 7, it was discussed the issue of signing authority only for the 3 main members of the executive.

It was decided at the delegates meeting that Brian would present a new draft the next day, incorporating the suggestions of the current discussion.

The meeting will then be asked to vote the draft as a first reading and the document will then be taken to the German court for approval.

Brian presented a new draft to the delegates the following day with the following changes:

- the reference that IFSW Europe is a member of IFSW global was moved to the item "Name and Seat"
- Regarding the "purposes and aims", editing will be done after Seoul, so that the aims are together with the global
- Regarding the election of the executive, it was kept the information that there are 6 members in the Executive

Germany made some extra suggestions in terms of the executive committee organisation, as the 3 extra executive members need to be mentioned in a separate sentence, as per court requirements.

Austria questioned why it is needed to mention that IFSW Europe is a member of IFSW global and suggested that perhaps it can be mentioned in the aims and purposes.

Denmark suggested to look at the statutes of the global and follow their wording and make the link to IFSW global in the preamble.

Austria also suggested not to mention that we depend on other statutes, as the court will not accept it.

Germany said that it is accepted if it is mentioned only that we are under an umbrella organisation.

Denmark pointed out that IFSW global is not an umbrella organisation and suggested to finalise the amendments during the next year.

Brian suggested to wait for the changes at the global meeting, followed by a period of consultation for the members and then in Iceland there will be a voting for the final changes. A work group is being formed for this task: John Brennan, Nicolai Paulsen, Gabriele Stark-Angermeier and Brian Auslander.

Germany added that the delegates meeting should accept the statutes as a work in progress, as a first reading, and then it will be brought to the German court for approval.

The President proposed to the delegates to accept the amendments on the statutes as a work in progress, to take to the German court for consideration. A new revised document will be presented to members to be voted in 2017 at the Delegates meeting in Iceland.

Proposed: Ireland

Seconded: Norway

Carried unanimously

7.2. Amendments to the Bylaws

The meeting agreed that the amendments to the Bylaws can only be voted after the approval of the statutes, which will only take effect after the court's approval. This means that a final vote can only be made in Iceland in 2017.

Regarding the amendments, they have been mainly to the elections process.

7.3. To consider any proposals for amendments to be voted on in 2017

Mentioned on the item 7.2.

The meeting proceeded with working groups to discuss the work programme 2016-2017 and reflect on the amendments to the statutes and bylaws, to report on the following day.

8

European Conferences

8.1. The IFSW European Conference 2017 in Reykjavík, Iceland, 28-30 May 2017 - by Maria Rúnarsdóttir

Maria gave a presentation on the process of organisation of the conference of 2017.

She mentioned that the contract between IFSW Europe and IASW has been signed in March, in Iceland, and presented the programme and steering committees.

She also reminded that the call for abstracts was open on the 1st April and that they decided to use the same process used for the conference in Edinburgh. The deadline is the 1st of June.

The delegates were informed about the venue, spaces for workshops, possibilities there are for presentation of abstracts (how to send them), conference organiser, website and preliminary programme.

She also added that there will be interpretation in the morning session, such as Key Note Speakers and Plenary sessions in the morning but there will not be interpretation in the workshops and /or other presentations in sessions after lunch. María also stressed that the workshops and presentations should be focused on the theme of the conference, in order to ensure that they have a quality programme.

The registration will be open in August and in September they will send notifications on abstracts; the early bird will be available until January 2017.

Romania wanted to clarify if the process of submitting abstracts should go only through the national organisations, which Maria clarified that people can also apply directly to the conference organisation, especially countries outside Europe and that there is already shown interest from USA and other countries outside Europe. Romania also asked if the deadline will be extended and Maria replied that they can agree a new deadline for those countries that need prolonged deadline; however, the current deadline should be kept for as many countries as possible. The Programme Committee will evaluate the situation after 1st of June.

Ruth Stark pointed out the deadline of the early bird in relation to the financial year. Many conferences have it ending by March, to avoid losing many registrations. Maria thanked for the suggestion and will take it into consideration.

Cristina then reported on the mail exchange with the Secretary General and IFSW President regarding the Conference theme and contract.

An email from the IFSW Secretary General Rory Truell was received by Cristina and Maria on the 22nd December 2015 with the request to see the agreement for the conference and also noticing that the theme of the conference should be according to the theme of the global agenda for the year 2017, and that the current theme of IFSW European Conference 2017 was not aligned with it. Cristina answered Rory that the agreement was not yet finalised and that the first meeting with the new executive was scheduled for January 2016 when the Conference item would be discussed.

At the Executive meeting in Porto (January 2016), María could not attend for personal reasons (her father was seriously ill and died by then) so the executive did not discuss the item, having only discussed it in March, in Iceland. The executive committee decided by then that the agreement was only to be signed by the IFSW Europe President and the President of the Icelandic Association of Social Workers. Regarding the theme, they decided to keep it, as it had been approved first when the executive decided on the bid at the executive meeting in Georgia in May 2015 and also it had been approved by the delegates meeting in 2015 as part of the work programme 2015-2016.

Austria questioned the fact that the Secretary General was not present at that moment to take part of the discussion and that the communication should be more transparent.

Cristina replied we did not discuss this when Rory was here because we were following the agenda items and we weren't aware that Rory and Ruth were coming until shortly before the meeting.

Ruth Stark said that what was asked was that the theme of the global agenda was included as a sub-theme. Also, there is a protocol stating that every event is put before the global executive and that the Secretary General becomes a signatory of the event as well.

Cristina replied that regarding the matter of the sub-theme was precisely what was answered by the executive that presented the proposal of organising a workshop on the Global Agenda theme. Cristina also mentioned that she never saw any protocol since being in the executive of IFSW Europe (2008) or since she is the president (2012). For ENSACT conferences, there was also no involvement from the global executive. She informed she consulted the former president Nicolai Paulsen that confirmed that since 2009 no contracts have been signed jointly for conferences.

Cristina also mentioned that she and Salome looked at all emails received from the global executive and that contracts of conferences in other regions have not been presented for approval by the global

executive.

Austria clarified that between 1998-2002 contracts were signed by the Secretary General, regional President and the President of the local organiser. This changed in 2007 without any discussion and decision. Now we are coming back to a point where a new regulation is needed.

Austria proposed that this regulation should be rewritten.

Cristina thanked for this insight and also mentioned that she would like to have the delegates meeting decide on future conferences.

Austria proposed that the Conference in Iceland should continue to be organised as it is (according to the executive decision) and asked the President Ruth Stark to circulate the existence draft procedures to members in order to promote a discussion and review of this process, which is something that would apply to all the regions and the whole IFSW community. This would make clear the governance of such arrangements.

The Delegates meeting supported Austria's proposal.

8.2. The IFSW European Conference 2019

Cristina informed that a call was sent out with a deadline of 2 months, ending on the 12th June 2016 and no bids were received so far but the executive was informed there will be one expression of interest from Israel very soon.

Brian gave a brief overview of their intention to host the conference in Jerusalem and also about accessibility and accommodation. He also added that only 4 European countries require Visa.

He also gave a brief presentation on social work and social services in Israel.

He also suggested that the conference can also be linked with their international conference.

Cristina reminded the proposal of the executive that the decision about the conference should be done by members this time and the aim is to announce the future conference in Iceland.

Austria suggested that they should look into having a second choice in case any problem happens regarding the stability in the region and reminded that there were some problems on the last conference in Israel. They also asked if the location can be changed to Tel Aviv, because of the symbolism of the city of Jerusalem. Brian clarified that their organisation is a non-political organisation and cannot confirm at the moment how the political situation will be at that time. As for the cooperation with Palestine, he feels that the Palestinians will not want to participate in any events in Israel. Regarding the location, there is no venue in Tel Aviv for such an event; the conference centre is in Jerusalem. He explained the life in Jerusalem.

Norway informed that they will not come to a conference in Israel due to political issues.

Cristina proposed that the bids will be sent to members and they will decide about the next conference meaning that a postal ballot should take place after the applications received.

The UK proposed that this would be discussed in Seoul. Germany supported this idea and added that then a postal ballot is sent, to give the opportunity to all, including those who could not attend the meeting.

The Parliamentarian supported this suggestion.

Ruth Stark added that there can be some changes within IFSW (the inclusion of a 6th region – Middle East – is going to be discussed in Seoul). If a postal ballot is sent, perhaps a little more time afterwards could be given, before making a final decision. Having an European conference with members of another region must also be taken into consideration. There are potentially some more complex issues that could affect the decision-making.

The President proposed that after receiving the bids these are sent to members. A discussion will then take place at the Informal European Meeting in Seoul and after that a postal ballot will take place to involve all European members. The deadline for voting will be agreed at the meeting in Seoul.

Motion: Germany
Seconded: Armenia
Abstentions: Norway and Denmark

8.3. Announcement of National Conferences

Germany will have their conference on 8-10 September in Berlin under the theme "Everything or Nothing: Connecting Theory and Practice Together". It will be about the definition of social work.

Romania will have the 8th edition of their conference in Bucharest on 8-10 July in partnership with the Austrian Association. It will be about social work practice in emergency healthcare and dealing with challenges in social work.

Austria will have their conference on 17-18 October focusing on power in social work.

Portugal will have their conference on the 10th December (International Human Rights Day) in Lisbon with a demonstration as well. In 2017, for WSWD, they are planning a national conference in Alentejo to involve colleagues from Africa.

Armenia will have their conference on 4-5 November, focusing on the challenges and opportunities for social work in Armenia. On the 4th they will celebrate the national day for social work.

Turkey will have their 1st international conference in Ankara from 21-23 November, focusing on social problems and social work.

Croatia will have their conference on 14th October in Opatija, with the theme "Family in Focus: safe family, stable society".

9 Consideration of any other proposals

9.1. Statements

No proposals were made.

9.2. Delegates Meeting 2017

Cristina reminded that the Delegates Meeting 2017 will be on 26-28 May 2017, in Reykjavik, Iceland, linked to the IFSW European Conference 2017.

For the delegates meeting 2018, France showed their interest to host it in Paris.

Cristina clarified that for the Delegates meeting in 2018 that will be decided next year in Iceland.

9.3. Other proposals

Turkey started by thanking IFSW Europe for the solidarity expressed with Turkey following several terrorist attacks in the country and the statements issued related with those.

Turkey mentioned that there have been difficulties in the country about the status of social workers. The title is not protected and many people are working under the title of social worker, even if not qualified. The process of professionalisation is ongoing and they asked if any of the countries present knew of any platforms they could use to share experiences regarding their struggle for professional laws, competencies and standards.

Austria is working for 20 years on a professional law, which should go to parliament in September.

Croatia managed to achieve a professional law in 2012 and have a chamber of social workers.

Belgium has the title protected by law since 1945 and offered their support.

The UK had the title protected in 2003 and also offered their support.

Germany has a special law, which impacts on social workers coming from other countries. There is a EU

	standard for European qualification under the Bologna process.
10	<p>Final adoption of the Work Programme 2016-2017</p> <p>The working groups presented their decisions and suggestions to the work programme:</p> <p><u>France, Turkey, Armenia and Croatia</u> On the item of communication, there is a lack of communication between the executive and the countries. They suggested to have regional meetings between the contact person and their countries in order to improve communication. They also suggested 2 levels of action to share good experience and lobby of policy makers.</p> <p><u>Romania, Germany, Austria and Moldova</u> Suggested to introduce (under the subheadings – page 1) a political action for social work and social cohesion in Europe. Regarding the work plan, they suggested to add the mandated body of IFSW Europe to the EU (allowing the introduction of new projects and enabling) and also to add a chapter of human rights and a symposium to the conference of 2017.</p> <p><u>Portugal, Italy and Social Platform team</u> Regarding visibility and voice, they suggested to add a link to the global. They also suggested to encourage members to meet with emergency services personnel to respond to natural disasters or otherwise. They also suggested to participate in the taskforce for EAPN, which Fran McDonnell will be doing. Belgium added the importance of members being more and better informed in regards to Ian Johnston's presentation of the Social Platform and suggested to present in a future meeting on this matter.</p> <p>Cristina reminded that the work programmes of the representatives are to be included in the IFSW Europe work programme as decided last year at the delegates meeting but not all have sent their proposals to the executive.</p> <p>Cristina informed that the new programme is to be voted now, but the new suggestions still need to be incorporated so she proposed that the revised document is sent later to delegates with a deadline for response.</p> <p>Cristina asked if the work programme 2016-2017 could be approved.</p> <p><i>Proposed: Romania</i> <i>Seconded: Switzerland</i> Unanimously approved</p>
11	<p>Approval of the annual accounts and the report of the auditors</p> <p>11.1. Report from the Honorary Treasurer, including the accounts for 2015</p> <p>Regarding the budget for 2016, Brian informed that it was proposed for 28.000 Euros. Over 30.000 Euros were carried over from 2015 and we have received 24.000 Euros in fees until the present moment. There were no major changes in the budget; however, there were some extra expenses in the beginning of the year due to an extra meeting for the executive committee. At present, we are waiting for new information regarding the applications to the EU with Horizon 2020.</p> <p>Brian also informed that Gabriele Stark-Angermeier agreed to continue overseeing the bookings and administer the practicalities of the bank account until the end of 2016. This is due to the fact that we would need to do 2 financial reports if the bank account is transferred during this financial year.</p> <p>Switzerland questioned about the written balance sheets and reports, to which Brian replied that he will send out a summary of the budget</p> <p>There was the issue of approving the budget by postal ballot or at the meeting in Seoul.</p>

	<p>The parliamentarian said that the future budget must be approved, so the meeting should receive a formal information from the treasurer. A postal ballot is possible and more inclusive.</p> <p>It was decided that it is not possible to approve the financial report for the budget. It shall be discussed in Seoul and then a postal ballot will take place.</p> <p>11.2. Report from the auditor</p> <p>Gabriele Stark-Angermeier presented the report of the auditor for 2015. It was correctly finished and it was according to what was planned in the budget. Cristina asked if the report of the auditor could be approved.</p> <p><i>Proposed: Denmark</i> <i>Seconded: Portugal</i> <i>Accepted unanimously</i></p>
12	<p>1. Ratification of the general and financial policies of IFSW Europe e.V.</p> <p>2. 12.1. Decision on the annual membership dues (regional fees)</p> <p>There were no proposed changes on the fees for the forthcoming year.</p> <p>12.2. Review of activities and accounts of IFSW Europe e.V.</p> <p>Cristina mentioned that IFSW Europe needs to appoint an auditor and suggested that the auditor is the same of the precedent year:</p> <p>ALPHA Concept Wilhelmstr. 147a D-42489</p> <p>Cristina proposed that the same auditor is appointed:</p> <p><i>Proposed: Austria</i> <i>Seconded: Sweden</i> Carried unanimously</p>
13	<p>Elections</p> <p>Election of members of the Executive Committee</p> <p>John Brennan, Elections Officer, reminded the 22 countries eligible to vote: and informed 6 nominations were received but Cristina informed that the candidate of Romania had withdrawn his nomination officially that morning so there was only 5 candidates.</p> <p>As Austria was running for the Executive, a new teller needed to be appointed.</p> <p>The President proposed Turkey to be appointed as Teller (Gonca Polat)</p> <p><i>Proposed: Norway</i> <i>Seconded: Denmark</i> Carried unanimously</p> <p>Each person was given a few minutes to make a presentation</p> <p>A voting took place, with a tie:</p> <p>Josefine Johansson (Sweden) – 16 Tatjana Katkić Stanić (Croatia) – 12 Manane Petrosyan (Armenia) - 6 Ana Isabel Lima (Spain) - 6</p>

Georg Dimitz (Austria) - 3

A second vote took place, with the results as follows:

- Ana Isabel Lima (Spain) – 11 1st deputy
- Manane Petrosyan (Armenia) – 10 2nd deputy

1 country voted for the wrong candidate, making it an invalid vote.

Therefore Josefine Johansson and Tatjana Katkić Stanić were elected to the executive for two years. Ana Isabel Lima is first deputy and Manane Petrosyan second deputy

Salome Namicheishvili, Member at Large for Europe interrupted unexpectedly the meeting to make a speech on behalf of the executive committee in recognition of the work of Cristina as president of IFSW Europe for the past 4 years.

She also acknowledged and thanked the work from Joana as the Honorary Secretary since 2014. Gifts were offered to Cristina and Joana and both thanked the executive and delegates.

14 Appointment of external and internal representatives of IFSW Europe e.V.

Cristina informed that there will need to be elections for the Fundamental Rights Platform position as there were 2 expressions of interest received from Ana Radulescu from Romania and Graça André from Portugal.

Both candidates were invited to do a brief nomination speech (as Graça André was not present, the speech was made by Fernanda Rodrigues – Portugal).

A vote took place, with the results as follows:

- Graça André (Portugal) – 11
- Ana Radulescu (Romania) – 9

1 country submitted an empty vote and 1 other voted wrong.

14.7. Representative of IFSW Europe e.V. to the **Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP)** Graça André (Portugal) was appointed supported by Ana Radulescu (Romania)

All the other representatives were appointed by acclamation as bellow

14.1. Representative of IFSW Europe e.V. for the **Council of Europe** – and a support team for this person Fernanda Rodrigues (Portugal) was appointed supported by Gabriele Stark-Angermeier (Germany) and Mira Antonyan (Armenia).

14.2. An IFSW European contact person to the Global **Human Rights** Commission – and a support team for this person Ana Radulescu (Romania) was appointed supported by Manane Petrosyan (Armenia)

14.3. An IFSW European contact person for the Global Permanent Committee on **Ethics** – and a support team for this person Jane Shears (UK), was re-appointed supported by Gabriele Stark-Angermeier (Germany)

14.4. IFSW Europe e.V. **Election Officer.** John Brennan (Ireland) was re-appointed.

14.5. IFSW Europe e.V. Representative to the **European Social Platform** - and a support team for this person, designated as the Social Platform Team Ian Johnston (UK) was re-appointed supported by John Brennan (Ireland). Graça André (Portugal) and Fran McDonnell (UK)

14.6. IFSW Europe e.V. Representative to the **European Anti Poverty Network (EAPN)** - and a support team for this person

Fran McDonnell (UK) was re-appointed supported by John Brennan (Ireland)

14.8. IFSW Europe e.V. Representative to the **European Organisation of Rare Diseases (EURORDIS)** - and a support team for this person

Cristina Martins (Portugal) was appointed supported by Ian Johnston (UK)

14.9. IFSW Europe e.V. Representative for the **H2020 Project** - and a support team for this person

Ian Johnston (UK) was appointed supported by Cristina Martins (Portugal)

15 Any other business

There were no other business.

Cristina thanked once more the Croatian Association for hosting the meeting, thanked Jane Shears for doing the screen notes and thanked all delegates.

She also thanked each Executive committee member and the Honorary Secretary for the experience of working with them.

Cristina made a "final speech" reflecting on the time she served as the president of IFSW Europe by performing the song "My way".

There being no other business the President formally closed the meeting at 12h10.

Cristina Martins
President
IFSW Europe e.V.

Joana Malheiro
Honorary Secretary
IFSW Europe e.V.