

## ICSW EUROPE NEWSLETTER

**2/2023**

*(Issued on 30 June 2023)*

ISSN 2411-9709

### Table of Contents

A Message from the President .....	2
ICSW Europe 2023 Scientific Seminar and ICSW Europe 2023 GA .....	3
ICSW Europe Members .....	3
A Reaction to a Letter from the President – ÖKSA Austria – SOSTE Finland .....	4
On Some Lithuanian NGOs News .....	5
Social Platform .....	6
Council of Europe .....	8
13th Session of the UN Working Group on Ageing.....	9
Publications .....	10
Conferences/Expert Meetings .....	11
Useful Links .....	11
Colophon .....	11



*Child Poverty – ICSW Europe 2023 Scientific Seminar theme  
(the picture taken of a street in Paris, May 2023)*

*author of the photo: © Jean-Michel Hôte*

## A Message from the President



In February this year I wrote a letter to our member organisations. The main purpose was to ask the members about their priority themes in the coming years until 2026 and about their expectations for ICSW in this regard.

I thank the member organisations of Switzerland, Finland, Austria and France for their contributions that gave me important advices for our work in the coming years. Trying to give a summary of the answers, our member organisations named the following priority themes:

- **Strategies against poverty:** having in mind the effects of the multiple crises in the last years that have increased inequality and social injustice, that issue includes many aspects of poverty, like for instance the organisation and financing of and the access to social assistance schemes and affordable housing;
- **A labour market strategy:** it has to include the problem of lacking qualified personnel and the difficult access of migrants and refugees to the labour market;
- **The overall situation of migrants and refugees:** the difficulties of their integration into our societies;
- **The connections between climate and social policy:** the effects of climate change on the different social groups and the concept of a climate-social policy.

Of course, all these issues are not limited to Europe. The adverse impacts of the climate crisis, geopolitical conflicts and the COVID-19 pandemic have deepened the existing inequalities worldwide. What is needed more than ever is an inclusive and sustainable economy. So it is very important that the General Assembly of the United Nations on 27 March 2023 adopted the **Recommendation “Promoting the social and solidarity economy for sustainable development”**. It calls on the member states to promote and implement national, regional and local

strategies, policies and programmes for supporting and enhancing the social and solidarity economy as a possible model for sustainable economic and social development.

The United Nations Secretary – General *António Guterres* announced the upcoming **World Social Summit in 2025**. Social and Solidarity economy will be also a central issue at this Summit.

Coming back to Europe, I welcome the **Recommendation of the Council on Adequate Minimum Income** adopted on 30 January 2023. However, a recommendation is not enough – we often see that EU soft law does not lead to a real progress because the application remains entirely voluntary by the EU Member States. A **Framework Directive on Adequate Minimum Income** is the next necessary step, one already called for by Social Platform and by the European Parliament in its resolution from March 2023. ICSW fully supports the campaign for such a Directive. I hope that the Spanish Presidency of the EU in the second half of this year will make a step forward in this direction.

Our central theme for the next time will be the problem of increasing poverty in Europe. The European Anti-Poverty Network EAPN has issued the **European Poverty Watch Report 2022** (see the article in this newsletter). The groups most at risk of poverty are Migrants, Roma, Unemployed persons, Women, Elderly, Youth and especially Children. The report says about child poverty:

*“24,4 % of children in the European Union were at risk of poverty or social exclusion in 2021 – compared with 21,1 % of adults .... This is particularly worrying as experiencing poverty as a child is likely to have life-long impacts.”*

With this background ICSW Europe will organise together with the Mykolas Romeris University in Vilnius a **Scientific Seminar on “Poverty of Children and Families”** on 30 November and 1 December 2023 in Vilnius, Lithuania (see the announcement in this newsletter). It will be a hybrid seminar where participation is possible in presence or online. I would be happy to see many of you in Vilnius.

**Max Rubisch**, President of ICSW Europe

## → The first reminder

### ICSW Europe 2023 Scientific Seminar ICSW Europe 2023 General Assembly (GA)

ICSW Europe Board is currently working on preparation of two events in 2023:

- **ICSW Europe 2023 Scientific Seminar** and
- **ICSW Europe 2023 General Assembly (GA)**

The events will take place on:

#### **ICSW Europe 2023 Scientific Seminar**

**30 November 2023** (half a day, afternoon) and  
**1 December 2023** (half a day, morning)

#### **ICSW Europe 2023 General Assembly (GA)**

**1 December 2023** (half a day, afternoon)

Venue:

**LITHUANIA**

Vilnius

Mykolo Romerio university

Training LAB

Address: Didlaukio str. 55, Vilnius, Lithuania

<https://www.mruni.eu/en/research/mru-laboratories/>



*Further information and the programme of the Scientific seminar will be sent to all ICSW Europe members in due time.*

## ICSW Europe Members

### Seminars on child poverty in the Nordic countries



International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW) Sweden is organizing a seminar on child poverty in September with a follow up with the Nordic countries in November 2023.

During the Swedish last Presidency of the European Union, ICSW Sweden initiated seminars on child poverty with the ICSW organizations in the Nordic countries. A series of seminars was developed. Now, when Sweden has the Presidency of the EU again, ICSW Sweden will sum up what has happened since the first seminar and discuss how to minimize child poverty.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of September we will head a national seminar with Swedish organizations to exchange experience on work with child poverty and discuss ideas on future work.

In November there will be held a Nordic seminar together with our sister organizations to examine Nordic experience and future acting.

**Bodil Eriksson**, ICSW Sweden

---

## ÖKSA Austria – a reaction to A Letter from the President



In the last 1/2023 ICSW Europe Newsletter we informed about the reaction of SKOS Switzerland to a short questionnaire in a Letter from the President (the Letter was sent on 28 February 2023 to all ICSW Europe members).

Later on, ÖKSA Austria reacted to a call and the organisation's statement can be read as follows:

ÖKSA's work programme for 2024 is mainly focused on three themes:

First: The **situation of refugees and migrants in aspect of work permission** is being discussed. Facing a workforce crises in many areas of the labour market new ideas and concepts how to integrate newcomers to Austria are needed.

Secondly: **How to fight and prevent poverty among children** is another theme which will be discussed in June. Although Austria is a very rich country, more than 350,000 children are in danger to grow up in poverty.

Furthermore, ÖKSA is organising a conference with the title: **Future of long term care in Austria**. The demographic change brings more and more people into the health and caring systems on the one hand; on the other hand there are not enough people who do the jobs. How can our health and care system face these multiple challenges? The main attention of the conference will be focused on this question.

Thoughts of topics for the near future which could be discussed on a broader European level are as follows:

- Effects of multiple crises on society: strategies against poverty in connection with inequality and social justice;
- Effects of the climate change: How can we achieve solidarity and cooperations to develop sustainable strategies?

- Migration and refugees: best practice of integration projects in Europe (or learn from each other world wide);
- How can social protection systems be held strong in spite of multiple crisis?
- Work force crises and the demographic change in Europe;
- Affordable housing.

ÖKSA is open to host a European conference in the year 2026.

**Irene Köhler**, ÖKSA Austria

[www.oeksa.at](http://www.oeksa.at)

## SOSTE Finland – a reaction to A Letter from the President



### What ICSW could do

In the context of the envisaged UN global social summit of 2025, ICSW is in a good position to facilitate the substantive preparation of the Social Summit Agenda. ICSW and its members have connections with like-minded governments and also with relevant UN entities and regional organisations.

Suggestions to **ICSW Europe** activities:

⇒ Organize substantive/thematic events/expert meetings in support of the forthcoming Global Social Summit. Topics could include the European perspectives on, for instance:

- Universal Social Protection
- Social inclusion
- Inequality and social justice
- Migration and refugees
- Management of social media for the common good e.g. through establishment of public (non-profit) social media platforms
- Europe's global solidarity including response to climate change, and development cooperation
- Eco-social perspective to social policies

Such events should be open also to governmental and regional entities in addition to the civil society and private sectors.



## ICSW Global

In line with the above suggestions: ICSW Global could use its regional networks to organise substantive events on regional/global basis. It would be good to start with African Region where we have several sub-regional presidencies.

SOSTE and the Finnish ICSW Committee is ready to align some of their activities to promote the materialisation of the above suggestions.

### **Kirsi Marttinen**

Senior Adviser (International Affairs)

Secretary of the Finnish ICSW Committee

[www.soste.fi](http://www.soste.fi)

### On Some Lithuanian NGOs news

It is difficult to evaluate the role of NGOs in society speaking only in an abstract way – full role of NGOs opens up in activities which considerably differ. A lot of Lithuanian NGOs were established after the restoration of Independence in Lithuania in 1990.

Established in 1993, the **Lithuanian Social Workers Association** is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. In 1998, the association initiated and created an important instrument of social work – the Code of Ethics of social workers. Now the organisation unites 16,300 members and is an active player of social policy in Lithuania. All over Lithuania it currently has 18 divisions in various regions and organisations. Vilnius division is the biggest; it has more than 800 members. The Association is paying great attention to the improvement of social work conditions as it is connected to the quality of provided services. It organised many civil actions trying to introduce the realities of social work and its problems to society.

Lithuanian social welfare association was established in 2000, when already many NGOs appeared in the social sphere. The key word of association became *cooperation*. The Association unites NGOs which work in social welfare sphere and academic society. With the help of Norwegian, Swedish, Finnish, Danish social

welfare NGOs the association organised a lot of trainings for social workers who work in NGOs as well as in municipalities providing social services. It was especially important to get knowledge in human rights, disability issues, child care, parental skills, rehabilitation of vulnerable persons, domestic violence prevention and to learn on innovations in social policy. Nowadays, the association is taking part in various projects tackling with academic and practical issues of social policy.

How are Lithuanian NGOs tackling today's difficulties searching for the new possibilities to fulfill their functions – to help people?

The **Lithuanian Society for the Care of Mentally Disordered People** was founded in 1997. It is the main and largest umbrella organisation of the non-governmental sector uniting and representing mental health persons with disabilities and their relatives in Lithuania. The main purpose of the Community is to represent individuals, with mental disabilities, to seek quality treatment and a fulfilling life, expanding psychosocial rehabilitation, employment, legal and psychological assistance and non-hospital care services in the community. Currently, more than 3,000 persons with disabilities participate in the activities of the Community. The services are organised through more than 40 legal departments, employment rooms and services established by the Community municipalities, services are provided by over 100 specialists. Together with other Lithuanian NGOs, organisation took part in the Sheltered Housing project, partially financed by EU structural funds and the Lithuanian government. It was an opportunity for a person with a mental disability, who lacks skills, knowledge, to live independently with the help of specialists. Organisation was happy managing to help 62 members of association who lived in different municipalities of Lithuania to get skills to live independently, to make decisions, to participate in the social workshops. Assistance was personalised and provided only in those areas in which it is necessary, encouraging the person to learn how to live a quality full-fledged independent life. This is a feed-back of one of project participants:

*"I am happy that I can live in an apartment independently, I can set my own agenda, I don't experience stress, I've become calmer, I'm more confident as I can do certain things myself."*

The results of 3 years pilot project are inspiring – many of participants started to live independently, rented a flat, started to work, became more self-confident.



*Sheltered Housing project*

Public enterprise **Social Support Projects** is helping to restore the work skills for socially excluded persons – ex-prisoners, ex-drug users at their **Salad bar My Guru**. During the COVID pandemic, the organisation had to stop its activities. It was very sad to say this to the workers of the bar. After hearing the news, one of the workers ex-drug user said that he is losing the will to live. Trying to help socially excluded persons, the organisation decided to start a new service – to buy a food truck to provide food services in various places of the Vilnius city. By this organisation I became an active participant of the social economy. This year when Lithuanian capital is celebrating its 700 years anniversary (first mentioned), it is presenting Tastful Stores of Vilnius by preparing food by old recipes. Especially Vilnius guests and inhabitants liked presentation and tasting of Vilnius *forshmak* (Vilnius Jewish herring pie). Their food proposal is enriched by pastry chef *Anastasija* – a war refugee from Ukraine, who opened her bakery in Ukraine a month before the Russian war. Now, nothing has left there in Nikolajev – the building was destroyed by Russian attacks during the war against Ukraine. The organisation is proud that in spite of difficulties in the period of current two years it managed to help 50 war refugees from Ukraine and 50 former ex-prisoners to learn new work skills. Vilnius residents and city guests can now get to know interesting historical food recipes, taste them, buy them, and also make them at home according to the descriptions.



*Social support projects.  
Food truck.*



*Social support projects. Degustation of Vilnius forshmak.*

**Angele Cepenaite,**  
Lithuanian National Committee of ICSW Europe



### Speak up for social rights in next State of the European Union

Social Platform addressed the Letter on social rights in next State of the European Union to the President of the European Commission – *Ursula von der Leyen*:

“Dear President von der Leyen,

### Speak up for social rights in next State of the European Union

Europeans are looking for assurances that their social rights are a priority and that more will be done at EU level to fight poverty and social exclusion. 93% of Europeans are worried about the cost of living and an ever-rising number of children and families are now living in poverty and social exclusion. These struggles must not be ignored.

Last year's State of the European Union (SOTEU) highlighted the solidarity shown by Europeans in the face of war returning to Europe. We must continue that solidarity and support civil society, social service providers, and social economy enterprises who have done so much to support those displaced by the war in Ukraine. The EU must also demonstrate that it can

provide solutions for the rising cost-of-living, high energy costs and increase in poverty and deliver for everyone who calls Europe home regardless of their residence status or background.

As the largest, leading European organisation working on social issues, Social Platform unites tens of thousands of organisations and hundreds of millions of people in all their diversity in Europe and hopes to see the following included in September's SOTEU to show that the EU is listening and responding to what Europeans want, a more social and equal Europe:

**1. An EU Directive on Adequate Minimum Income** – delivering on the European Pillar of Social Rights and its Action Plan means that we need more ambition, not less. Now more than ever, Europe needs strong, adequate minimum income schemes to protect and empower persons in vulnerable situations. Yet none of the EU Member States' minimum income schemes are set above the poverty line. Considering the limited results achieved by soft law measures in 30 years, millions of people will continue to fall through the gaps unless the EU acts. A directive on adequate minimum income is the next necessary step, one already called for by the European Parliament in its resolution from March 2023. We urge you to support a Framework Directive on Adequate Minimum Income in your SOTEU address as a crucial step forward in achieving the 2030 targets.

**2. A union of equality** – the EU proclaims itself to be a global champion for human rights and equality. However, as the rights of people within the EU and of those arriving continue to be violated, the EU needs to demonstrate its ability to safeguard the rights of all people, regardless of ethnicity, race, disability, age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, migration or residence status. The EU has developed good strategies, but to understand the situation on the ground the SOTEU must call for better and disaggregated equality data and stronger monitoring and reinforcement of existing equality strategies, Action Plans and Union law. The EU must continue to take the lead by unlocking the Equal Treatment Directive, which would ensure their synergies and impact on the diverse groups that make up our union.

**3. Supporting solidarity with people displaced by war** – as the war in Ukraine continues in its second year, the SOTEU should recognise the pivotal role civil society organisations, social service providers and social economy enterprises are playing in response to

the war and should pledge more structural investment and support for those actors. This should include inviting civil society to be part of the Solidarity Platform and ensuring access to resources under the MFF for civil society organizations across the EU. The activation of the Temporary Protection Directive has shown the EU's commitment to providing regular pathways for people displaced from Ukraine. In last year's SOTEU, you said that solidarity towards Ukrainians should be the blueprint rather than the exception – it is time for Europe to show the same solidarity to all people seeking refuge.

**4. Empowering social services and social economy** – the essential services provided by civil society, not-for-profit social service providers, and social economy actors are under threat. A lack of investment, the knock-on effect of years of austerity, and unprecedented levels of inflation mean that these sectors are suffering and underfunded, shifting the burden to informal caregivers, including family members. While the EU has promoted social economy and work integration as a business model that tackles green and digital challenges, we now need a more ambitious roll out of the Social Economy Action Plan using cohesion and other funds.

**5. A European Civil Society Strategy** – the EU must recognise the essential role of civil society in shaping healthy democracies and the increasing need to protect civic space and civil society organisations. To fill the gaps of existing policies and mainstream positive practices, we call on the EU to urgently develop a Civil Society Strategy; to ensure the protection of civil society and its structured and meaningful engagement in the policy-making process, as well as bring much-needed openness and transparency.

Finally, to be a truly inclusive SOTEU, accessibility measures including sign language interpretation, live subtitles and web accessible documents must be provided to make the address as accessible as possible to people in Europe, including people with disabilities.

Yours sincerely,

Laura de Bonfils  
Interim Secretary General of Social Platform“

*(source: Social Platform. Laura de Bonfils. [E-mail]. [cit. 2023-5-8])*



# Council of Europe



## Outcome of the annual spring session of the Conference of INGOs



The Conference of INGOs (CINGO) held its annual spring session on 24-26 April 2023, in hybrid format. An exchange of views with Secretary General *Marija Pejčinović Burić* and the adoption of the [Recommendation of the INGO Conference to the Summit of heads of state of the Council of Europe](#) meeting in Reykjavik on 16-17 May 2023 highlighted the Session.

The CINGO also adopted a [Recommendation for a Global Approach of the Rights of Refugees and Migrants and the Role of Civil Society](#) as well as a [Recommendation on the right to social protection as a human right – The need to act against the non-taking up of rights](#).

### [Agenda](#)

[ICSW Europe Representative, *Gérard Schaefer*, participated online in the session.]

*(source of the text and photo: Council of Europe-Conference of INGOs. Outcome of the annual spring session of the Conference of INGOs. [online]. [cit 2023-6-19]. Available at: <<https://www.coe.int/en/web/ingo/-/annual-spring-session-of-the-conference-of-ingos>>)*

## The Conference of INGOs at the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe in Reykjavik



The 4th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe (CoE) held on 15–16 May 2023 in Reykjavík has been the first event of that level in last 18 years. In the final outcome document, the decision makers from 46 CoE member states showed their unity for Ukraine, reconfirmed their commitment to the CoE values, declared their openness to meet current and future challenges.

The Conference of INGOs was represented by President *Gerhard Ermischer*.

The President emphasised the role of the Conference of INGOs: *“CINGO as a collective body provides an overarching view of the priorities and themes arising from the many voices of civil society. CINGO's contribution to the Council of Europe's discourse and tangible actions is rich, meaningful, and focused on shared aims. Constantly promoting the values of the Council of Europe and its bodies, we reach out to the citizens of Europe. We are your window to the Civil Society and the Citizens in Europe and beyond”*.

President *Ermischer* highlighted that CINGO should be seen as a necessary partner to enable the Council of Europe to achieve its aims including much-needed better visibility and engagement with people in all member States. CINGO is essential to fulfilling this mission: it represents and can model participatory democracy, it triangulates legal and national positions on human rights through the lens of grassroots experiences, and it can ensure that the Council of Europe's work is focused on civil society priorities.



He then expressed hope that after the Summit the member States will commit to strengthening the role of the Conference of INGOs in the Council of Europe and invest more in its development and work.

President *Ermischer* concluded his speech by urging member States to increase their contribution to the Council of Europe budget in order to ensure that its many fruitful programmes can continue and develop.



### Speech by the President of the Conference of INGOs at the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe, Reykjavik 16-17 May 2023

(source: Conference of INGOs – Newsroom. *The Conference of INGOs at the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe in Reykjavik on 16-17 May 2023.* [online]. [cit 2023-6-19]. Available on this [link](#)>)

### Information after the Summit of Heads of State in Reykjavik

Gerhard Ermischer in his letter addressed to all members of the Conference of INGOs (on 23 May 2023) stated the following (a reduced text\*):

"Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The Summit did finally take place in Reykjavik and the Conference of INGOs was present and visible – in the tight framework of a Summit which lasted less than 24 hours with limitations of space and a strict security regime. Indeed, CINGO was the only representative of Civil Society at the event and so I am grateful that the organisers ensured that all speakers could give their statement – for us, being quite at the end of a long list of member States, observer States and international organisations represented by Heads of State and high-level representatives, this was crucial. It was important that Civil Society had a voice at the Summit.  
[...]

As a novelty the speeches at the Summit were live-streamed and can be found on the CoE web site: [Summit Portal \(coe.int\)](#).

*\*Editor's note*

The general debate, including my statement quite at the end, can be found with translations into the CoE working languages here: [Original](#), [English](#), [Français](#), [Deutsch](#), [Italiano](#).

The Documents approved by the Summit can be found here: [Documents \(coe.int\)](#).  
[...]

While we can be happy with some of the results of the Summit, like the pledge to strengthen the position of the Commissioner of Human Rights or the substantial Declaration on the Right to a Healthy Environment as a Human Right, the Summit was also very much focused on solidarity with Ukraine, especially the creation of Register of Damages caused by the Russian aggression, where the CoE takes a leading role. This left very little space for our demands for a better cooperation of the CoE with Civil Society or for strengthening the role of CINGO. Therefore, after the Summit we have to continue our efforts.  
[...]

Gerhard Ermischer

(source: Gerhard Ermischer. [E-mail]. [cit. 2023-6-2]).

[Read the Reykjavik Declaration](#)

### 13th Session of the Working Group on Ageing



United Nations

Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
Social Inclusion

The Thirteenth Session of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG13) on Ageing was held from 3 to 6 April 2023 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

This year, the session was focused on the "Right to Health and Access to Health Services," "Social Inclusion," and the development of a possible international standard on the protection of the rights of older persons to "Economic Security" and the "Contribution of Older Persons to Sustainable Development."

For more information, please visit:

<https://social.un.org/ageing-working-group/thirteenthsession.shtml>

(source: United Nations. 13th Session of the Working Group on Ageing, 3-6 April 2023. [online]. [cit 2023-6-22]. Available at: <<https://social.desa.un.org/issues/ageing/news/13th-session-of-the-working-group-on-ageing-3-6-april-2023>>)

Read more about the realities for people experiencing poverty #BeyondTheData and recommendations on how to make our societies poverty-free and resilient to crises in our new Poverty Watch Report!

[Read the 2022 Poverty Watch Report](#)

(source: EAPN. EAPN EU 2022 Poverty Watch. [online]. [cit 2023-6-18]. Available at: <<https://www.eapn.eu/eapn-eu-2022-poverty-watch/>>)

## Publications

### EAPN EU 2022 Poverty Watch



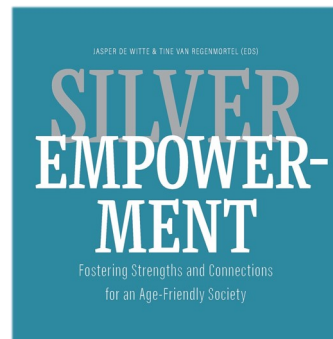
This EU Poverty Watch report captures the **main findings, messages and recommendations from 24 national Poverty Watches produced by our members.** These reports start from the reality of people experiencing poverty and the perspectives of the NGOs that work with them. They aim to monitor key trends and policy, raise

awareness about the reality for people experiencing poverty and propose concrete recommendations backed by examples.

This year, our EU Poverty Watch report focuses on the multiple relentless crises that have exacerbated poverty and inequalities: the soaring inflation and the rising cost of living, the ongoing war in Ukraine and the long-term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. These crises have exacerbated our society's pre-existing, structural and systemic deficiencies and call for strong structural responses.

EAPN recognises that these are **Unequal Times of Crises.**

### Silver Empowerment



By focusing on the strengths and connections of older persons, silver empowerment strives for an inclusive, age-friendly society that will allow everyone to grow old with dignity and

meaning. In this book, published by the Leuven University Press, leading academics from a variety of disciplines discuss ways to enhance the empowerment of older persons in practice. Covering a wide range of topics such as resilience, loneliness, community-based care, the interplay between formal and informal care, the inclusion of older persons' perspectives in research and care, and empowering policy, Silver Empowerment is of interest to academics, policy makers and practitioners interested in empowerment and care and support systems for older persons.

[Download the publication](#)

(source: Age Platform Europe. Silver Empowerment. [online]. [cit 2023-6-18]. Available at: <<https://www.age-platform.eu/publications/silver-empowerment>>)

## Conferences/Expert Meetings

## Useful Links

### The Joint conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development



Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development 2024 will be hosted in **Panama City, Panama**, from **April 4 to 7, 2024**. The SWSD2024 will be jointly hosted by International Association of Schools of Social Work, International Federation of Social Workers and International Council on Social Welfare.

The central theme of the conference is ***Respecting diversity through joint social action***.

[See the website of the conference](#)

Abstract submission deadline is **extended by 31 August 2023**.

For more details of Call for Abstract, please visit <https://swsd2024.org.pa/guia-para-resumen/>

For register, please visit <https://swsd2024.org.pa/registro/>

For any inquiries about the conference, you may contact the conference secretariat at [info@swsd2024.org.pa](mailto:info@swsd2024.org.pa)

Reykjavík Declaration: United around our values: <https://rm.coe.int/4th-summit-of-heads-of-state-and-government-of-the-council-of-europe/1680ab40c1>

SWSD 2024 Conference: <https://swsd2024.org.pa/>

## Colophon

ICSW Europe registered office is located at the municipality of Utrecht (the Netherlands).

The name of the Association is: International Council on Social Welfare Europe, abbreviated to: ICSW Europe.

The Newsletter of ICSW European Region is published quarterly. Material may be freely reproduced or cited provided the source is acknowledged. Contributions on social welfare from all sectors of the international community are welcome.

Contributions and comments can be sent to:

ICSW Europe  
Gabriela Siantova, Secretary and Editor  
E-mail: [gabriela.siantova@icsw.org](mailto:gabriela.siantova@icsw.org)

ICSW European Region:

President: Max Rubisch (Austria)  
Treasurer: Jean-Michel Hôte (France)  
Board member: Jukka Petteri Haapakoski (Finland)  
Board member: Alina Petrauskienė (Lithuania)  
Board member: Kathleen Wabrowetz (Germany)



Global Office:  
International Council on Social Welfare  
Website: <http://www.icsw.org>  
E-mail: [icsw@icsw.org](mailto:icsw@icsw.org)