2016-2018
Latin American and Caribbean Region Report

IFSW General Meeting 2018
Dublin, Ireland
Silvana Martinez, LAC Regional President
Larry Alicea, LAC Vicepresident
New Countries

New Countries in 4 years:

- Bolivia (Re-incorporation)
- El Salvador
- Perú
- Panamá

In process

- Ecuador
- Honduras
- Paraguay
- Guatemala
2 main objectives:

1. Strengthen the member organizations of the LAC Region.

2. Endorse, advise and assist in legislative matters in those member countries that do not yet have a National Legislation that regulates the exercise of the profession.
Strengthen the member organizations of the LAC Region

• Achievements:
  • We were alert to the issues that call for social work and human rights to issue pronouncements, send letters and logistically support the local organizations that work with these issues.
  • Visits and meetings with local Associations and their Boards, visits groups of social workers and students of social work in Panamá, El Salvador, Perú, Puerto Rico, Chile, Argentina, Costa Rica and other countries.
  • Logistical support and coordination of World Social Work day activities in our countries.
LIBERTAD para MARIA OVANDO
Endorse, advise and assist in legislative matters in those member countries that do not yet have a National Legislation that regulates the exercise of the profession.

Working with the Association of Social Workers of Mexico (ATSMAC) in order that Social Work is recognized as a Profession and incorporate Social Work into the General Catalog of Professions that depends on the Ministry of Public Education, since in that country it still exists as a craft job.

Work was carried out to approve the Draft Law on Professional Practice in Uruguay presented in the Parliament by the Association of Social Workers / Social Workers of Uruguay (ADASU).
Endorse, advise and assist in legislative matters in those member countries that do not yet have a National Legislation that regulates the exercise of the profession.

Worked with the Association of Social Workers of El Salvador (ATSES) in order to request derogation the subsection "ñ" of Article 24 of the Health Code that links the Social Work in the field of Health. We also accompany the actions that are being carried out in the Ministry of Education (MINED) for the purpose of Social Work being recognized as a Social Sciences Profession. October 2017.

Worked with the National Council of Social Work of Chile in order to accompany the initiatives that the Association has carried out in the Parliament of that country, for the purposes of the Social Work Profession in order that the Work Social is recognized as a profession that is qualified to intervene in the field of health and requesting not to exclude Social Workers from the Code Sanitary of that country since it entailed placing at risk the continuity of 4000 Social Workers who are working in the field of health in Chile. November 2017.
Endorse, advise and assist in legislative matters in those member countries that do not yet have a National Legislation that regulates the exercise of the profession.

• Support and logistical advice to the Association of Social Workers of Panama, in defense of the rights of Social Workers, given that the institutions of that country have not made the payment of the Salary Scale.
Other achievements of the Region:

Work is being done jointly with the Latin American Association of Social Work Teaching and Research (ALAEITS) and the Latin American and Caribbean Social Work Committee (COLACATS).

At present, there is NO conflict between the members of the Region thanks to the leadership and work of their representatives and the permanent democratization and consultation in decision making.

Press conferences were held in several countries, highlighting the IFSW and the contributions of Social Work in the topics of the Global Agenda and the social problems that affect each country.