

2016

33rd Annual Social Work Day at the United Nations



*Refugees and Displaced
Persons: Ensuring Dignity and
Worth*

April 4, 2016

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Conference Room 4,

United Nations, NY

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Program

- 10:00 am **Welcome**
A Word about our Program
Shirley Gatenio-Gabel, Co-Chair SW Day, IASSW
Robin Mama, Co-Chair SW Day, IFSW

Video welcome from Vimla Nadakarni, President IASSW
- 10:15 **Welcome to the United Nations and Intro**
Ninette Kelly
Director, New York Office
UN Office of the High Commission on Refugees
- 10:45 His Excellency Deputy Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of
Afghanistan
Ambassador Nazifullah Salarzai
- 11:00 Guglielmo Schinina
International Organization for Migration
Head, Mental Health, Psychosocial Response & Intercultural Communications
Global
- 11:20 Patricia Talisse,
MSW Student at Fordham University from Aleppo, Syria
- 11:30 **Wrap-Up**
Ruth Stark, President, International Federation of Social Workers

Question and Answer Period

Social Work Day Planning Committee

IFSW: Michael Cronin, Main Representative
Elaine Congress
Robin Mama
Philip Gnaedig, Social Work Intern, Fordham University
Monica Kristen, Social Work Intern, Monmouth University

IASSW: Shirley Gatenio-Gabel
Carol Cohen
Martha Bragin
Arianna Schindle, Social Work Student, Hunter College-CUNY
Kadiatou Sidibe, Social Work Student, Adelphi University

**Speakers Biographies
(Alphabetical order)**



Ninette Kelley, Director, UNHCR's Liaison Office in New York

Ninette Kelley is the Director of UNHCR's Liaison Office in New York since August 1st 2015. She joined UNHCR in 2002 and has served in several senior management positions both at Headquarters and in the field. Prior to her assignment in New York, Kelley served five years as UNHCR's Representative in Lebanon, leading one of the most complex refugee operations in the history of UNHCR.

Before joining UNHCR, Kelley served for 8 years with the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) of Canada as a member of the Convention Refugee Determination Division (CRDD) and of the Immigration Appeal Division from June 1994 to June 2002. Between 1988 and 1990, Kelley held various policy and consultative roles with international

humanitarian agencies including the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) and the International Working Group on Refugee Women, Geneva. In addition, she served as the Executive Director of the Working Group on Refugee Resettlement (WGRR), Toronto from 1985 until 1988. She has authored two books, *The Making of the Mosaic: The History of Canadian Immigration Policy*, University of Toronto Press, 2nd edition, October 2010 (with Michael Trebilcock) and *Working with Refugee Women: A Practical Guide*, and published articles in the areas of human rights law, citizenship, refugee protection, gender related persecution and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom. She holds an L.L.B from the University of Western Ontario and a B.A. in History and Economics from Queen's University in Ontario, Canada.



Deputy Permanent Representative, Ambassador Nazifullah Salarzai

Ambassador Nazifullah Salarzai (born December 1, 1978) is the Deputy Permanent Representative at the Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the United Nations.

He has served as a Director of Policy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan. Mr. Salarzai was the first Spokesperson to H.E. President Ashraf Ghani during the first quarter of the National Unity Government's transition. He has over seven years of experience handling communications for UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA).

He graduated from Balkh Medical University in 2002. He is married with two sons and one daughter.



Guglielmo Schinina, MA, MSc, is Head of Mental Health, Psychosocial Response and Intercultural Communication at the International Organization for Migration and co directs the Summer School in Psychosocial Interventions in Migration, Emergency and Displacement at the Scuola Sant'Anna in Pisa. In his career he has managed psychosocial support programs and has conducted MHPSS trainings in more than 40 Countries in Europe, Africa, Asia the Middle East and the Caribbean. His personal and academic research focusses on integrated MHPSS supports in emergencies and Social Theatre for community mobilization.

Ruth Stark, MSc, CQSW, MBE
President
International Federation of Social Workers - (IFSW)



After 'trying out' whether or not to be a Social Worker in the early 1970's in Lichfield and Edinburgh Ruth qualified as a Social Worker in Birmingham in 1976. Initially a Probation Officer in Stockton on Tees she moved to Edinburgh in 1978 and worked in various areas of social work – children and families, criminal justice, mental health, adoption & fostering. In 1996 she gained her MSc in Advanced Social Work in Criminal Justice with research into the *Aftermath Of Sexual Offending In The Family- 20 Years On*. Latterly she was manager of SASW, part of BASW for 15 years.

Alongside her career in Scotland Ruth became involved in IFSW in 1989, organising the 1991 IFSW European Conference in Glasgow, the last time it was in the UK. This was just after the Berlin Wall came down and there were had 30 eastern European delegates for the first time at an IFSW event.

An interest in Human Rights issues led to responsibility in this field at IFSW European level and in 2008 she became the Convenor of IFSW Global Human Rights Commissioner. In July 2014 she was elected President of IFSW.

Still a practitioner doing independent reports for children and people facing deportation Ruth is passionate about making sure peoples' voices are heard by policy makers and those in positions of governance. Frontline social workers and people who use services have the most important stories to tell about what really works in making a positive difference in peoples' lives.



Patricia Talisse is an MSW candidate at Fordham University's graduate program in social work. She completed her undergraduate degree at Aleppo University where I majored in Counseling Psychology. Patricia is a Youth Representative to the United Nations for Close the Gap, an international non-profit that focuses on providing technology to the developing world. During her undergraduate career, she volunteered extensively both as a Girl Scout leader and with the Jesuit Refugee Services, where she helped Iraqi refugees adapt to life in Syria and organized activities for refugee youth and children.