



## CITATION

# Honorary Fellow Award – Inga-Britt Lindström

Inga-Britt Lindström was nominated for this award based on her exceptional impact on the profession of occupational therapy within the WFOT Member Organisations. Her excellence and outstanding performance throughout her career have had a significant impact on the development and promotion of the profession and education of occupational therapists.

Specifically Inga-Britt Lindstrom is nominated for this award because of her continued contribution to the development of the profession of occupational therapy in Latvia, Russian and Estonia.

Inga-Britt has been the head of the Swedish Association of Occupational Therapists for more than 30 years. Under her leadership the Swedish Association also supported occupational therapy students in South Africa during 1980-1990. Inga-Britt has also worked tirelessly to find support for countries to be represented at Council Meetings and Congresses arranged by WFOT.

After the restoration of the independence of the Baltic countries in the 1990's Inga-Britt Lindstrom was an active participant in the projects, supported by the Swedish government, for the development of health care in the region and she proposed professional education for the "new" profession of occupational therapy both in Latvia, Estonia and in Russia. All the three countries are full members of WFOT.

Inga-Britt Lindström worked continuously and hard to lobby politicians, medical staff and university representatives and was absolutely pivotal in ensuring the development and sustainability of the occupational therapy profession in these countries.

Her contribution in the development of occupational therapy in Latvia has already been acknowledged when in 2001 the Latvian Association of Occupational Therapists awarded her the Title of Honorary Fellow and supported nomination of Inga-Britt Lindström for awarding the Title of Honorary Doctor of Riga Stradins University in 2005. In Estonia she is an honorary member of the Academical Association of Estonia Occupational Therapists. And in 2005 the Russian Association of Occupational Therapists awarded her with the same title, an Honorary Fellow.

In Sweden the profession of occupational therapy has grown exponentially during the period Inga-Britt Lindström has been the president. The profession has grown from being a college education to a University education with a well-established and recognised scientific base.

After taking an active part in this outstanding progress she took that experience and gave the Baltic regions and Russia significant support as demonstrated above. Without her involvement and effort Latvia, Estonia and Russia would never had developed occupational therapy in such a short time and to such an excellent standard that is demonstrated today.