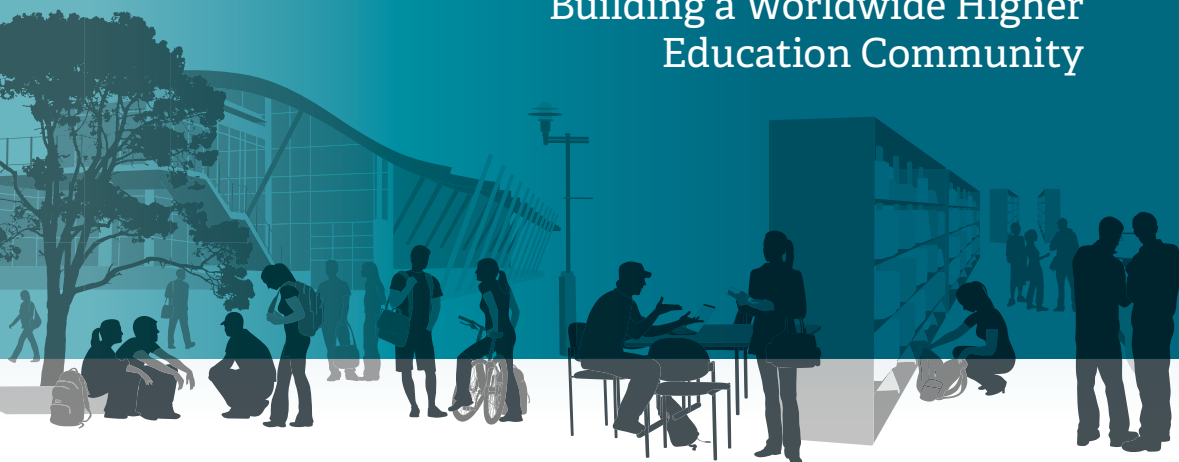


# IAU

## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITIES

Building a Worldwide Higher  
Education Community



# IAU's Mission

Founded in 1950, under the auspices of UNESCO, the International Association of Universities (IAU) is the leading global association of higher education institutions and organisations from around the world. IAU brings together its universities, other higher education institutions (HEIs) and their associations, from more than 130 countries for reflection and action on common priorities.

IAU is an independent, bilingual (English and French), non-governmental organisation offering a variety of services and support to its Members. It acts as the voice of higher education to UNESCO and other international higher education organisations, and provides a global forum for leaders of institutions and associations to discuss, reflect, and take action on issues of shared interest.

IAU upholds the values of academic freedom and institutional autonomy, while promoting greater accountability. It promotes institutional effectiveness, and the ideal of knowledge made accessible to all through collaboration and improved access to higher education (HE).

At the same time, IAU aims to give expression to the obligation of universities, as social institutions, to promote, through teaching and research, the principles of freedom and justice, of human dignity and solidarity. IAU contributes to these principles by strengthening international cooperation between universities and through partnerships between key HE organisations and other stakeholders.

## IAU Pledges to

- Contribute to the development of knowledge, higher education and research in the public interest;
- Strengthen academic solidarity among HEIs and promote cooperation rather than competition;
- Uphold the fundamental principles for which every university should stand: (i) the right to pursue knowledge for its own sake; (ii) to promote and uphold the tolerance of divergent opinion and freedom from political interference;
- Promote equitable access, success and equal opportunities for students, researchers, faculty and staff;
- Encourage the pursuit of diversity and quality while respecting cultural differences.



# IAU Services

## CONVENING

With Members in some 130 countries, IAU has a unique capacity to organize truly global conferences, meetings and seminars on topics of interest to institutional and association leaders in higher education.

## ADVOCACY

IAU acts as the international voice of higher education leaders, elaborating declarations and policy statements that promote their views and collective concerns to international organisations and intergovernmental bodies such as UNESCO, OECD, the World Bank, the European Commission, the Council of Europe, and others.

## RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

Through its quarterly journal **Higher Education Policy**, and research projects such as the Global Surveys on Internationalization and the study on doctoral programmes in sub-Saharan Africa, IAU provides analysis of issues and trends in higher education from comparative and international perspectives.

## INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

The IAU/UNESCO Information Centre on Higher Education, managed by IAU, houses a specialized book collection and maintains an interactive bibliographic database (HEDBIB). IAU acts as a comprehensive clearinghouse of information on higher education systems, institutions, and qualifications worldwide and publishes the world-renowned **International Handbook of Universities**, **The Guide to Higher Education in Africa** and the **World Higher Education Database (WHED) CD-Rom**.

IAU also offers its Members a vast communications service, disseminates higher

education news and information from around the world, as well as news about institutional programs and initiatives, on the IAU website, in the **IAU Horizons** magazine or the monthly **e-Bulletin**.

## CAPACITY BUILDING

The LEADHER programme, the higher education and Education for All (EFA) initiative, the programme on Doctoral Education and others offer opportunities for professional development and capacity building through workshops, seminars and international partnerships and cooperation.

## POLICY ADVICE

Making the best use of its vast network of international experts the IAU offers the Internationalization Strategies and Advisory Service (ISAS) to its Members (at a preferential cost) and other institutions that wish to develop, revise or update their institutional policies and implementation strategies.

IAU also elaborates documents and guidelines to help institutions develop their own policies. These include the *'Guidelines for an Institutional Code of Ethics in Higher Education'* and *'Affirming Academic Values in Internationalization of Higher Education: A Call for Action'*, among others.



# IAU Membership

## + Eligibility criteria and Categories

- **Institutional membership:** open to degree-conferring higher education institutions. Applying institutions are required to grant an undergraduate or first cycle degree of at least three years, have graduated at least three cohorts of students, be public or private, not-for-profit, and recognized by a competent body. These institutions must be dedicated to the study of several branches of knowledge and must be at the level of higher education, as shown by the programmes they offer, the level of qualification of faculty members and the library and research facilities.
- **Observer status is** available to those institutions who do not yet fulfill the criteria spelled out above.
- **Organisational Membership:** open to Associations of universities and other higher education organisations (national, regional or international).
- **IAU Affiliates:** specialised higher education networks and organisations that are not eligible for full membership may apply to become IAU Affiliates.
- **IAU Associates:** individuals may apply to become IAU Associates when their present (or past) career has been devoted to higher education in ways directly related to the mission of IAU and who work to advance research on higher education, public policy in the field of higher education and related areas.

Membership requires a commitment to uphold the core values that define the global academic and scientific community.

## + Membership Fees

Annual membership fees are based on the institution's enrolment rate and on the income category of the country in which the institution or organization is located. Current fees are specified online. For more information please visit the website or contact us at [iau@iau-aiu.net](mailto:iau@iau-aiu.net)

Application Forms can be downloaded on the IAU website: [www.iau-aiu.net](http://www.iau-aiu.net)



# IAU IN ACTION

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↔ **Internationalization of Higher Education** and related issues such as cross-border and transnational education as well as inter-cultural dialogue are a natural focus for the global association. IAU conducts comprehensive global surveys on internationalization, publishes reports and disseminates results regularly. The association frequently holds international conferences and organizes discussions on this topic. IAU also develops and disseminates policy statements in order to encourage HEIs to share and adopt good practices.

↔ **Higher Education and Society** brings together a variety of areas through which higher education contributes to the well-being of mankind. Special projects, such as the one linking higher education and research to United Nations (UN) goals such as Higher Education and Education for All (EFA) and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are part of this priority, as are initiatives by higher education on sustainable development, supporting the UNESCO-led UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development and one on open educational resources.

↔ **Doctoral Education** and its development around the globe is on the agenda of higher education leaders around the world and not least in developing countries. IAU focuses initially on sub-Saharan Africa. Through in-depth surveys, site visits and report it maps out what challenges and opportunities there are; it fosters intra-regional and international partnerships and develops services of relevance for universities to use to develop their programmes further.

↔ **Equitable Access and Success in Higher Education** is an important priority theme for many HEIs and systems. Through its policy statement entitled *Equitable Access, Success and Quality in Higher Education*, IAU advocates a number of key principles upheld and presents a set of recommendations for both higher education institutions and governments.

# Get involved with IAU to

- **Connect** your institution to the leading global network of universities, other higher education institutions, associations and networks in over 130 countries.
- **Build informed partnership** around the globe.
- **Participate** in top-level international dialogue with Heads of institutions and associations, senior administrators and representatives of international bodies including UNESCO, OECD, EU and others.
- **Contribute** to the formulation of advocacy positions on higher education.
- **Be up-to-date** on worldwide trends in higher education through publications such as the quarterly journal *Higher Education Policy*, the association's magazine *IAU Horizons* and the monthly e-Bulletin offering news from around the globe.
- **Gain access** to grant programmes, and prizes offered exclusively to Members and to services at reduced costs to Members.
- **Access** the annually updated World Higher Education Database: an indispensable guide to the education systems of more than 180 countries and detailed information on 17.000 HEIs.

## CONTACT

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